

MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY MEETING

3 October 2023

Present:

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|------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| J Gwalter | M Fuller | G Walker | M Davies |
| A Tremlett | Mrs S Blackford | JA Davies | J Gravelle |
| A Ellis | Mrs V Fuller | T Morris | P Rapsey |

1. Apologies: L Willicome, A Williams, G Thomas, Mrs S Ellis, C Morris, Mrs G Thomas, D Howells, A Grenfell

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

3. Treasurers Report

- a. September was even quieter than August financially.
- b. The society has not yet received any formal documentation for the SPF grant, with the hold-up at Swansea.
- c. £2K has been allocated for the Opening Ceremony to take place on 6 October. Whatever is not used will be returned to the General Funds.
- d. James Daley Homes has continued to undertake work for the society, but now has run up a bill. The trustees are concerned about this and have instructed the Chairman to discuss this with James and ask him to wait until we have further funds available before continuing.

4. Education Officers Report

- a. Emailed all schools to introduce the new education officer.
- b. DBS has been obtained
- c. The team undertook a visit to Craig Felon School while the Education officer was away.

5. Grants and Funding

- a. The society was not successful for the Post Code Lottery grant.
- b. The society needs to do some serious fund raising, however there will be some very good publicity coming up which could assist with the fund raising.
- c. There is a possible £7K from the Coal Field Regeneration Trust.
- d. The society was not successful with the GWR grant for the slipway.
- e. The policies required for some of the grants have been produced and sent off for checking. These will also need to be sent to the Charities Commission.

6. Canoe Hire

- a. Thank you to all those who have assisted with running the Canoe Hire this year.
- b. There is one group hire still to undertake. This for JAC Lewis Foundation on 4 October.
- c. The society will run a "Spooky" on Sunday 29 October, with customer in costume going free.

7. Clydach Lock.

a. Opening Ceremony for the boat basin and part of the canal on 6 October. Lifting mechanism has been tested, with the MP given an axe to cut the rope, to open the water flow. There will be plenty of VIPs and volunteers. AT will act as master of ceremonies for the day. Will need 2 parking attendants, the ladies assisting with the food and drinks. There will be a work party on Thursday morning commencing at 10 AM to put up some screens against the fence. The portaloos will also be arriving. The society needs one Canadian canoe and two kayaks to be available on the portage ramp.

8. Coed Gwilym Slipway.

- a. The full amount is not available at present. There is approximately £21K available, but work is not to commence until after Lighting up the Canal in November.

9. Hebron Road.

- a. James Daley to be asked to stop work as the funding is not yet available to pay him.
- b. The interior design is waiting for approval, the interior will be painted white, with vinyl flooring.
- c. The society has been informed that there is a load of copper slag available which would go on the front wall.

10. SC225

- a. Waterfront Museum exhibition was a great success. Now moved to the Welfare hall Ystradgunlais until the 13th when it moves to Pontardawe Heritage Centre.
- c. Lighting up the canal on Saturday November 18th. This event will take place in the evening, commencing at 6.30PM where it is planned to have lights (lanterns) lighting up the canal towpath at Coed Gwilym and the canal. 4 very large lanterns (horse, Swan etc) are being made by contractors and there will be five community workshops for people to make lanterns for the event, with a view to creating 200 lanterns. Music and small eats will also be available
- c. Bridge 8 – The scaffolding design was not approved by CRT. This has been postponed until next

March/April.

d. Gala Dinner has been cancelled

e. Stained-glass window still being investigated. To be discussed at a later meeting.

f. Book Launch. The long-awaited book on the Swansea canal will be printed and ready for a launch on 1 December. The launch to occur at the waterfront museum. The society will have 500 books, at an unknown cost per book.

g. Audio request. There has been a request from CRT for volunteers to be trained to take audio memories of the canal. So far there have been no volunteers come forward.

11. Work Parties.

a. Tuesday work parties working well. Next week back at Clydach to pull weed and cut down vegetation from the Mond Lock towards Pont John Bridge. There has been a letter from the Clydach Councillors to CRT complaining about this area of the canal.

b. Morriston Bridge is also in need of a clean.

c. Sunday Work parties will re-commence in the near future. There is plenty of work to undertake

d. It has been suggested that we have a forward programme for work parties. Any suggestions should be emailed to Alan.

12. Web site and social media

a. Nil

13. AOB

a. AGM to be held on Tuesday 9th January 24

b. Christmas dinner to be held on 1st Tuesday in December

14. DONM.

Tuesday 7th November 2023, 1900 at New Inn, Clydach.

Signed on Original

M FULLER
Secretary