

MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY MEETING

7 November 2023

Present:

J Gwalter	M Fuller	G Walker	Mrs G Thomas
A Tremlett	Mrs S Blackford	JA Davies	J Gravelle
A Ellis	Mrs V Fuller	D Howells	P Rapsey

1. Apologies: L Willicome, A Williams, G Thomas, Mrs S Ellis, C Morris, A Grenfell, JA Davies, M Davies, T Morris
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.
3. Treasurers Report
 - a. The accumulated depreciation figures have been reviewed, with £11K excess depreciation which can now be recovered to the unallocated surplus.
 - b. The accounting standards under which the society operates required all grants to be reflected in the accounts, to that end the latest SPF grant has been added to the accounts. This raises the total income for the year and the societies gross assets to over a million pounds requiring the society to be fully audited this year. This will increase the auditors' costs.
 - c. The bank is stating that as a charity the society must have a charity bank account instead of a business bank account. Further details of any change over will be provided at the next meeting.
4. Education Officers Report
 - a. A number of local schools have been contacted.
 - b. A walk along the Canal was arranged with St Joseph's years 1 and 2. Thanks to Gill and Christina for their assistance.
5. Grants and Funding
 - a. John Gwalter has been asked to take on the position of Funding Officer, as John Andrew Davies is stepping down from the work on the Hidden lock site, but will continue to raise funds for the Canal Centre. Our thanks go to John Andrew Davies for all the hard work he has done over the years in raising funds for the society.
 - b. The society is applying for £50K from the People and Places Grants. A telephone conversation cross examination went very well, so this looks promising. The society will hear within the next 12 weeks.
 - c. The society has applied to the National Lottery for some of the match funding that is required.
 - d. The society is applying for slipway funding through the Canoe Foundation.
 - e. VALE has stated it would like to donate towards the Canal Centre.
 - f. A meeting is to be set up with John Davies so the trustees understand what funding has been gained and where it has been allocated to.
 - g. A database is to be set up so that the trustees know who is asking for funding and where it is to be allocated to.
6. Canoe Hire
 - a. The canoe hires stats have been sent out. It was a very successful year despite the weather.
 - b. A Log is to be made of the new equipment.
 - c. It was suggested that the old buoyancy aids be given to the Scouts, with covering letter, if they can use them. After discussion, one member was against this, as a health and safety matter, but the remainder at the meeting agreed for this to happen.
7. Clydach Lock.
 - a. The meeting last Friday was very useful. Funding will be given once a month, on production of invoices. Logos are to be added to the signs. There will be four people on the lock committee, Gordon, Alan, John Gravelle and Sharon. The documents for the lock site are to be available for trustees on the website. A monthly meeting is to be set up with Lukash. Andy to investigate the setting up of the document on the website.
8. Coed Gwilym Slipway.
 - a. An application is been made to the Canoe Foundation for extra funding. If received the slipway can be started.
9. Hebron Road.
 - a. Going well.
10. SC225
 - a. Exhibition now at Craig Y Nos. There has been no feedback as to the number of people attending. It is being moved again this weekend, being returned to Hebron Road.
 - b. Lighting up the canal on Saturday November 18th. The workshops were a great success, with approximately 80 lanterns being created. There will be about 12 Marshalls along the canal

towpath with torches to try and prevent anyone falling into the canal. The Pavilion now has a liquor licence so will be selling mulled wine on the evening after the parade. The timing will be Music first, then parade to the carved tree, turn around and return to the pavilion. This is likely to be filmed by Tantrum Film Company.

c. Book Launch. The long-awaited book on the Swansea Canal will be launched at the National Maritime Museum on 1st December 2023. The cost is £45.00. The society will have 500 books for sale.

d. CRT have enquired about a legacy from the anniversary year. Suggestions have been -Stained-glass window in the canal centre, blue plaques at various bridges, Bridge 8, a wooden sign in Coed Gwilym Park pointing the way to the canal. Any further suggestions to Alan.

11. Work Parties.

a. Tuesday work parties working well. Next week back at Riverside removing trees.

b. Sunday Work parties have re-commenced, with a view to being every other week. The signs on the insides of the doors have been removed and are being redone. There are a range of jobs that need to be done over the winter months.

12. Web site and social media

a. Nil

13. AOB

a. EV Chargers. Need a 7.4Kw charger. They are small devices of £500 each and £500 to install, with flood lights. There are grants available, but only up to £350. Car parking space will need to be by the outside wall from the garage, next to the door. Duncan to continue investigating.

b. Updating of safety measures and induction. Need to collate all the current information. Mrs VF to create and bring to next meeting. Possible to create an induction pack for new joiners. Ronnie and Gill to investigate.

c. NPT Local Development Plan. The line of the canal from Trebanos to Pontardawe is designated a green corridor and needs to be protected. It does not show in the latest LDP. This length is 800m with two locks. The piped section of the canal needs to be 16ft wide. A letter is to be sent to NPT Council and an email to Jeremy Miles for support.

d. The Society has been invited to apply for a Green Flag again this year. It was suggested that we get some A4 size flags for putting on the side of the Canal Centre.

e. Update on Parking in CGP. There is to be a meeting tomorrow and a survey of the room for further parking.

14. DONM.

Monday 11th December 2023, 1900 at New Inn, Clydach.

Signed on Original

M FULLER
Secretary