

MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY MEETING

7 May 2024

Present:

G Walker	Mrs V Fuller	M Fuller	J Gwalter	Mrs G Thomas
A Ellis	J Gravelle	A Tremlett	S Blackford	

<p>1. Apologies: L Willicome, A Williams, Mrs S Ellis, C Morris, A Grenfell, M Davies, D Howells,</p> <p>2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted with following matters arising:</p> <p>a. Artefacts from Clive Reed – it has been decided to purchase the Map book and the Pig iron.</p> <p>b. History Fair, Waterfront Museum, 28 September, it has been agreed that we should attend and try to sell some of our books.</p> <p>3. Treasurers Report</p> <p>a. There has been relatively little significant financial movement during the first month of the new financial year.</p> <p>b. As previously reported, the Landfill Grant for £50K, had a deadline of March 2024. Following discussions with WCVA a request for an extension until January 2025 has been submitted formal confirmation is awaited.</p> <p>c. The income from canoe hire and craft sales from Bunnies on Easter Sunday is now reflected in the accounts, along with income from subsequent hire days.</p> <p>d. As a reminder, the remaining £42K of the SPF grant is for external work at Hebron Road Canal centre. The balance sheet has been adjusted so that this sum has been deducted from the estimated deficit, bringing it down to approximately £36.5K.</p> <p>4. Education Officers Report</p> <p>a. In April 2 more Water Safety education sessions have been given, one to Neath Beavers</p> <p>b. Attended training in Clyne Gardens for the Nature Walks, using the I Naturalist Training Ap</p> <p>c. May is busy with 2 Primary Schools and 2 Beaver groups for Water Safety</p> <p>d. 2 Primary Schools and a Secondary school are to be invited to witness the opening of Bridge Plaques by CRT, with emphasis on bridge building. These will be at Pont John and Trebanos on 15th May, and Bridge 8 on 21st June.</p> <p>e. Undertaking a talk in Pontardawe Library on 30th May for OAP's</p> <p>f. The Green Gathering is taking place at Riverside on 9th June, with lots of different Environmental groups, and a walk from Pontardawe to Riverside with Mike Clarke leading the walk.</p> <p>5. Grants and Funding</p> <p>a. There has been no movement on funds for the slipway.</p> <p>b. An application for £50K is to be made to the National Lottery to finish the restoration of Hebron Road, as a ball park figure to include contingencies if required. The income stream for the application should be the hire of the facility at £20 per hour.</p> <p>c. Swansea Bay Foundation Grant – SB to apply for fixtures and fittings for Hebron Road.</p> <p>d. We have been informed that we may apply for extra funding at the next meeting with Swansea City.</p> <p>6. Canoe Hire</p> <p>a. Going well. It has been suggested that we hold more themed days. To that end it has been proposed that we hold a Summer Fun Day on 30th June, Pirates on 25th August and Spooky on 27th October. These were approved.</p> <p>b. Group hire requests keep coming in, we have held four so far.</p> <p>c. A question was raised about further publicity for the canoes. This to be investigated further.</p> <p>7. Clydach Lock.</p> <p>a. Progress is a bit slow, but it is hoped to have some of the blocks laid this week.</p> <p>b. The oil leak has been contained and NRW are happy with the containment.</p> <p>8. Coed Gwilym Slipway.</p> <p>a. No progress until funding has been secured.</p> <p>9. Hebron Road.</p> <p>a. Various items have only been partially completed, but need to be invoiced for £79,027.80 of work awaiting payment and completion.</p> <p>b. Tiling completed and Kitchen has been fitted. Lots of hard work has been achieved – well done all concerned.</p> <p>10. SC225</p> <p>a. CRT have purchased plaques to go on some of the bridges across the canal. These will be put on the bridges at Pont John, Trebanos and Bridge 8. A ceremony will be held to officially unveil the plaques, these will be at Pont John and Trebanos on 15th May and at Bridge 8 on 21st June.</p>	
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11. Work Parties.

- a. Tuesday work parties working well. Next week at Bridge 8.
- b. there is a quantity of painting to be done, Pontardawe's railings and the railings by the Mond. These will be programmed in due course.

12. Web site and social media

- a. Contacted lots of Railway and Canal Societies about the book but have had no responses.

13. AOB

- a. There will be a Cultural and Heritage Fair in Neath on 1st June. AE has said he will attend.
- b. It has been reported that David Rooke's grandson has passed away. It was suggested that the society purchase a card and send to him. Passed unanimously
- c. CRT are aware that the groups who have used the canoes have been issued with 225 Certificates and would like to publicise this fact. The school have been contacted for comment.
- d. There has been an email about the merger of the Heritage Network meetings and NPT CVS meetings. General consensus was they should remain separate.

14. DONM.

Tuesday 11th June 2024, 1900 at the Pavilion, Coed Gwilym Park.

Signed on Original

M FULLER
Secretary