

# MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY MEETING

## 3 September 2024

**Present:**

M Fuller	J Gwalter	Mrs G Thomas	A Tremlett	S Blackford
G Walker	Mrs V Fuller	T Morris	C Morris	

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Apologies: L Willicome, A Williams, A Ellis, Mrs S Ellis, M Davies, D Howells, J Gravelle, L Goodenough, A Grenfell</p> <p>2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted with no matters arising</p> <p>3. Treasurers Report</p> <p>a. Unrestricted funds show an increase from the £28k reported last month to over £34k. An increase was to be expected as there has been a marked increase in canoe hire income in the last few weeks, also CRT has reimbursed the Society for the cost of the stained-glass Swansea Canal Seal, and we have benefited from a recent generous donation of £5k.</p> <p>b. There will be a review of how certain grant expenditure items have been allocated in the accounts as it is believed the unrestricted balance may be overstated to a small degree.</p> <p>c. Canoe hire income is receivable from Swansea Council for the series of group hires they engaged the society to provide in the school holidays; invoice to be issued shortly.</p> <p>d. The Pirates event grant is accounted for separately at the moment but, subject to Trustees' agreement, the net balance of £2k will be incorporated into general funds.</p> <p>e. To date, there has only been a negligible sum received via Lotto Abertawe but this will hopefully build over time.</p> <p>f. As previously reported, c.£13k of the unrestricted funds has for some time, been noted as "reserved" in case required to reimburse other monies that have been diverted for the Hebron Road Canal Centre project. Trustees will have seen the very recent note issued by the former Treasurer confirming that this sum should have been used for Hebron Road, and he requests Trustees' agreement to make an adjustment to the accounts. If agreed, this sum will be formally "applied" to the Canal Centre budget head, reducing the level of Unrestricted funds.</p> <p>g. Payment of the fourth SPF grant claim (for quarter ended 30th June 2024) was received by the Society in mid-August and duly paid over to our contractors in settlement of invoice dated 9th July (valuation no.4). The balance of the SPF grant for Clydach Lock not yet claimed, therefore currently stands at £510k with a balance of £23.8k remaining from the WCVA "Landfill grant" which is used for the required 5% match funding</p> <p>h. And finally, the mains electricity supply at Hebron Road has been connected with the supply being provided by EON Energy. A direct debit is in place, although it is anticipated that there will be relatively little ongoing cost due to the limited amount of mains power likely to be used.</p> <p>4. Education Officers Report</p> <p>a. No Bookings in August</p> <p>b. Several bookings already in the diary for September.</p> <p>5. Grants and Funding</p> <p>a. Heritage Led Activities. Sharon spoke with the council and proposed walks along the towpath and back through Clydach. Any further ideas to Sharon soonest.</p> <p>b. Windfarm Community Strategic Fund has up to £100K available. Need to do an expression of Interest for it. Shron spoke with CRT and they have agreed to go into partnership for this grant. The grant to be used as part payment to replace the lock gates at the Mond lock.</p> <p>c. There has been a very kind donation from the Delffordd Divas who raised £90.00 at a cul-de-sac event on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August.</p> <p>d. Funding seems to be very difficult to find for the completion of the Canal Centre and the Slipway projects. Any assistance or funding suggestions greatly received.</p> <p>6. Canoe Hire</p> <p>a. Going well, had 55 Adults and 8 Children from the council hire during the summer holidays..</p> <p>b. Canoe hire has been going very well, with takings up on last year.</p> <p>c. Dates for next year are:<br/>Easter Bunnies – April 20<br/>Summer Fun – June 29<br/>Pirates – August 31<br/>Spooky – November 2</p> <p>7. Clydach Lock.</p> <p>a. Bottom end of the canal has been very nearly completed. The large blocks are in place.</p> <p>b. A decision was taken to move the by-wash back into the canal at the end of the lock, with the bit that is left being available for running a turbine in the future.</p> <p>c. Drawings for the Lock gates have gone to Mikk Bradley for approval.</p> |  |
|--|--|

8. Hebron Road.

- a. Is looking very nice. However, the garage area needs more cleaning.
- b. GW to discuss with the contractor getting the Solar Panels and batteries connected
- c. Need a price for the security fencing and drop kerbs for the in and out route.
- d. A subcommittee has been formed of AT, SB, VF to look at the opening of the centre and the lower end of the Lock site, with a date of October 25<sup>th</sup> for both events.

9. Work Parties.

- a. Tuesday work parties working well. Next week at Bridge 8, pointing and filling in wash holes

10. Web site and social media

- a. Nothing to report

11. AOB

- a. Had an enquiry from Vale Old Age about hiring the room at Hebron Road. It was decided to charge £20.00 for room hire
- b. It has been suggested that a shipping container be purchased for at the back of the canoe store as extra storage. GW to get a price, and do drawings to build a lean too at the back of the store.
- c. It was suggested that a map of the canal be painted on the side of the canoe store, but after discussion it was decided that this would be left to go green with climbing plants.
- d. The two green single kayaks that are letting in water are to be scrapped.
- e. It has been suggested that the society has merchandise that can be sold in Hebron Road. Pocket money prices, such things as friendship bracelets, key rings, pens, pencils, erasers. SB and VF to investigate
- f. The secretary has had a random enquiry about someone in the canal company from 1805. The response has been sent directing the person to the Swansea Archives.
- g. A key safe is to be purchased for Hebron Road.
- h. A new sign above the Canoe Store will be investigated
- i. There is a grant of up to £300 available through the community council for the purchase of bulbs and plants. This to be investigated

12. DONM.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1900 at Hebron Road, Swansea Canal Centre.

*Signed on Original*

M FULLER  
Secretary