

# MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY MEETING

## 6 May 2025

**Present:**

G Walker	M Fuller	A Tremlett	M Hobbs	T Morris
S Blackford	A Ellis	J Gravelle	P Rapsey	

1. Apologies: L Willicome, Mrs S Ellis, L Goodenough, M Davis, J Gwalter, D Howells
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted, with the following points  
 5b The wind farm have announced who had had funds, unfortunately we were not successful MF to chase up WRG for the summer camp later in the year.  
 All other actions completed

3. Treasurers Report

- a. The volume of financial transactions has once again been quite low since the last report. The only payment of note has been £542 to the Society’s solicitors in respect of work relating to the Transforming Towns grant and the related Land Registry changes. There has also been one significant income item (£4.3k) which was a refund for work paid for in advance last year, but which was no longer required.
- b. At the time of the last meeting, there remained a balance of £83k payable in respect of the new boat basin. This was the proportion that was being funded via a Transforming Towns grant and it has now been paid directly to our contractors by Swansea Council.
- c. The Unrestricted Funds figure has remained at a relatively low level and is currently £10.9k. This reflects the fact that the Society continues to temporarily bear £10k of the match funding paid in respect of the Clydach Lock scheme. This will be “repaid” from the remaining element of the Landfill Disposal Tax grant which will hopefully be claimed in the next month or so. Once the remaining £10k Landfill grant is received, the Society’s available funds will return to a more comfortable level of c.£20k but in the meantime it is necessary to minimise unnecessary / non-urgent expenditure.
- d. The Restricted Funds include some relatively minor (historical) balances which no longer need to be treated as restricted. These smaller sums will now be used to fund other related expenditure. The vast majority of the remaining restricted funds (£19.9k) relates to the slipway project which has an estimated shortfall of c£20k
- e. For information, the following table shows the electricity charges incurred for Canal Centre for the 9 months since it was connected to the mains supply – total £850. This would suggest a projected annual cost of £1,000:

Aug '24	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan '25	Feb	Mar	Apr
£41	£25	£63	£177	£173	£144	£111	£79	£37

- Water charges are approximately £150 per annum.  
 f. Last years’ Accounts are with the accountants for auditing.

4. Education Officer’s Report

- a. Nothing to report

5. Grants and Funding

- a. In accordance with the update attached.
- b. GW to donate £5K from his council environmental funds towards the canoe store extension. This to be placed in Unrestricted funds.
- c. The Windfarm grant application is to be re-submitted for the dredging of the canal, with the windfarm being contacted about the application.
- d. The Blue Plaque application with NPT unfortunately cannot go ahead.

6. Clydach Lock

- a. Progress – still lots to do. CRT need a drawing to show where the lock would be cutting into the main canal. The hinges for the lock gates are with Richard Dobbit awaiting collection.
- b. Trip Boat – Originally to run from Lock 7 boat basin, but now from Hebron Road. The question was raised whether until the canal is dredged from the Mond Lock to Hebron Road could the trip boat run from Lock number 7’s boat basin? Further questions were raised about licences, skipper’s qualifications, permission from CRT to run the boat, manual handling of the boat, and insurance. The responses to all of these questions will be investigated.

7. Mond Lock Project

a. The Society has £216K for refurbishing the Mond Lock. The work needed is to remove all debris and sediment from the bottom of the lock, and refurbish the sides of the chamber. Then replace the gates. CRT have been emailed with full details of what is proposed, but the society is awaiting a response and a possible meeting to discuss.

8. Coed Gwilym Park Slipway

a. It was decided that, yes, we need the slipway, but it is not a priority. The Canal needs to be dredged prior to the slipway being installed.

b. It was decided to review this project in 2026 once the Mond Lock Project is completed

9. Social Media and Website

a. The Policies have been put on the web site but need translating. It was agreed to use Google Translate then pass them to Leanne Walker for checking

10. WRG Camp

a. Nothing further to report.

11. AOB

a. Canoes – A list of group hires has been sent out to all concerned. There has been a change of request from the school attending the Rock Climbing who also wanted canoeing. A trial run will need to be completed to make sure that canoes can run from Hebron Road.

b. Hebron Road – There is still a lot of snagging to be done by the contractor. Hopefully by the end of the week.

c. There is a leak on the aqueduct, it has been reported to CRT but nothing has happened as yet.

12. Date of Next meeting

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 at Hebron Road.

*Signed on Original*

M FULLER  
Secretary