

MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY MEETING

14 October 2025

Present:

G Walker	M Fuller	A Tremlett	J Gravelle	A Ellis
J Gwalter	S Blackford	M Hobbs	L Goodenough	

<p>1. Apologies: L Willicome, Mrs S Ellis, M Davis, P Rapsey, T Morris,</p> <p>2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.</p> <p>3. Treasurers Report</p> <p>a. Some minor historical balances have been cleared down since the last report simply to reduce the unnecessary items which clutter up the accounts.</p> <p>b. As was agreed at the June meeting, a sum of £8k has now been informally set aside as a Financial Reserve to meet any unforeseen future eventualities - as shown on the Balance Sheet.</p> <p>c. The Unrestricted Funds figure therefore stands at a fraction over £22k (with the Reserve of £8k also available if any urgent or unforeseen need arises.)</p> <p>d. The SPF grant for the Mond Lock renovation project is not yet showing in the accounts but the first claim in respect of this grant has been submitted to Swansea Council (for the period ended 30th Sept 2025).</p> <p>e. The grants received from the Co-op and TESCO for Canal Centre "fitting out" have now been almost entirely used up with only a small balance of £161 remaining from the TESCO grant</p> <p>f. The income and expenditure report for year to date shows an operating surplus of over £13k, however, as was reported last month, there are some significant costs to be met over the next few months, including:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Insurance premium – estimated £3.5k (December)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Accountancy fees – estimated £500 (December)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Works to the canoe store at Coed Gwilym Park – (to be met by the £5k restricted grant)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Any unforeseen, non-grant funded costs associated with the Mond Lock project.</p> <p>g. Swansea Council has finally confirmed that rate relief has been granted in respect of the Canal Centre, Hebron Road with the £13k rate bill now cancelled</p> <p>h. £2K has been received from the Morgan Trust. It was suggested that we spend this money on a Bench dedicated to the Morgan family and an information board. Andy to email to discuss with the family.</p> <p>i. The money left to us from Alan Williams was used for the WRG camp. A letter of thanks to be sent to Mrs Williams explaining what the money was used for.</p> <p>j. Income. This year the society is receiving about £65 monthly from Lotto Abertawe, approx. £1K annually from room hire, £900 from book sales and about £7K from canoe hire, which was an exceptional year.</p> <p>k. The energy supply is to be investigated with a view to gaining an income from putting energy into the grid from our solar panels.</p> <p>4. Education Officers Report</p> <p>a. On 4th Sept I attended a training day for CRT Explorers at Hatton Locks.</p> <p>b. On 10th Sept I attended a meeting with CRT and other volunteers about the Mon and Brec 225 celebration. They are hoping to run a "Light up The Canal" event similar to ours.</p> <p>c. On 19th September I delivered a water safety assembly to the whole of Ynystawe Primary School.</p> <p>d. Will contact the local schools with reference to tree planting in the spring/summer terms.</p> <p>5. Grants and Funding</p> <p>a. Application has been put in for Mynydd Y Gwair for £2K for picnic benches and path around the side of the boat basin. This to allow the society to hold education visits outside safely.</p> <p>b. Funding has been approved for the community garden, work on which has commenced. Lance to put together words and pictures, for trustees' approval, for a presentation board,</p> <p>6. Clydach Lock and Trip Boat</p> <p>a. With the exception of the Paddle being put into the gates, nothing further has happened. Gordon to discuss with James about further progress.</p> <p>f. Trip Boat. Work on the trip boat has been place in abeyance for the time being.</p> <p>7. Mond Lock</p> <p>a. Contractor is in, with silt removal commencing next week. A curtain has been made to</p>	<p>AE</p> <p>MF</p> <p>GW</p>
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<p>catch particles below the bridge. The Archaeological survey will take place before the gates are put back in.</p> <p>b. Tow path closure - Gordon has had numerous calls about the closures of the towpath. If anyone else receives calls please refer them to Gordon. A license to close the tow path has been received from Swansea Council.</p> <p>8. Web Site</p> <p>a. WIFI is up and running.</p> <p>b. The website events calendar can take bookings, and/or print tickets for Quiz night on 11th December</p> <p>9. WRG Camp</p> <p>a. The camp was good, with more done than expected, especially with the weather.</p> <p>b. Very grateful for our participation.</p> <p>c. Discussions to be held ref a camp next year. Where on the canal, which week etc.</p> <p>10. AOB</p> <p>a. Work arty next week in Pontardawe between the bridges.</p> <p>b. Christmas meal at the Old Glais Inn has been cancelled, a new venue is being sought.</p> <p>c. Insurance os due for renewal in December. Treasurer and Secretary to go through the paperwork, but may need personnel to get qualified in various aspects. This to be investigated.</p> <p>11. Date of Next meeting</p> <p>1900 on Tuesday 4th November 2025 at Hebron Road.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>JGr and MF</p>
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Signed on Original

M FULLER
Secretary