

MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY MEETING

10th March 2026

Present: G Walker A Tremlett J Gravelle J Gwalter L Goodenough
J Daley (part meeting)

<u>1. Apologies:</u>	<u>Action</u>
<p>S Blackford; M Hobbs; M Fuller; A Ellis; M Davis; L Willicome, Mrs S Ellis.</p>	
<p><u>2. Previous Minutes</u></p>	
<p>The minutes of the 10th February, Strategy Meeting were accepted.</p>	
<p><i>Note:</i> <i>The order of the Agenda items was changed with Mond Lock being brought forward to avoid keeping JD longer than necessary.</i></p>	
<p><u>3. Mond Lock</u></p>	
<p>At the most recent project meeting CRT Planning Team had stated that they were confident that planning approval was not required, however Swansea Planning Dept were not prepared to confirm any decision on that point.</p>	
<p>JG reported on the various discussions and options available and it was agreed that the planning application already submitted should be allow to take its course. JG to confirm to Swansea Council, JD to confirm with CRT Planning.</p>	
<p><u>4. Treasurers Report</u></p>	J Gravelle
<p>The report, and related documents already circulated, indicated relatively little activity since the February report.</p>	J Daley
<p>The current level of Unrestricted Funds of £19.2k and Financial Reserve of £8k, indicating a healthy financial position, were noted.</p>	
<p>The proposal for arrangements to be made to have a second Trustee acting as cover for the Treasurer in the event of their absence, was agreed and to be progressed by the Treasurer. Financial Procedure Rules to reflect this.</p>	
<p><u>5. Education Officers Report.</u></p>	J Gravelle
<p>The report circulated in advance by SB was noted and accepted. GW thanked SB on the excellent work being undertaken.</p>	
<p><u>6. Grants and Funding</u></p>	
<p>a) An application for funding for lock gearing, paddles etc has been submitted to the Mynydd Y Gwair with a decision likely in April 2026.</p>	
<p>b) A further application to M-y-G for £2K for picnic benches and path around the side of the Hebron Rd boat basin, and associated works has been submitted. This would allow the society to hold education visits outside safely. GW to price up materials in anticipation of a successful outcome.</p>	

<p>c) Funding Officer stated that the 400 mixed trees obtained via Woodland Trust would need planting promptly once received, with decisions required as to locations. Discussion to take place with “Gardening Leads”.</p> <p>d) After discussion, it was agreed that given the pressures of completing existing projects the Funding Officer should not actively seek further grants for the “stone barge” canal wall or other major projects, for the time being.</p>	<p>G Walker</p> <p>L Goodenough</p>
<p><u>7. Canoe Hire</u></p> <p>Training Day / Refresher, for canoe hire volunteers arranged for 29th March. Two additional workparty volunteers have confirmed that they are prepared to supplement the canoe hire rota, when available.</p> <p>Consideration on options for additional canoe storage were ongoing. GW to also explore options.</p>	<p>Canoe Hire Team</p> <p>G Walker</p>
<p><u>8. Clydach Lock</u></p> <p>The measurements for the remaining timbers have now been provided to the contractor who will proceed to source same. Once installed the remaining ancillary work can be progressed by SCS and contractor as appropriate.</p> <p>Birchgrove Comprehensive School workparty attended site on 5th March and worked on lining the By-wash. They will continue this work over the next couple of weeks. (SCS workparty also worked on this task this week)</p>	<p>Contractor & SCS officers</p>
<p><u>9. Social Media</u></p> <p>The report had been circulated in advanced of the meeting. The encouraging increase in book sales activity was noted and the report accepted.</p>	
<p><u>10. WRG Camp</u></p> <p>It was agreed that given the number of projects / initiatives, currently ongoing with the Society it was not practicable to look for another significant project at this time. Consequently, no application would be made for a WRG workcamp in 2026.</p>	
<p><u>10. AOB</u></p> <p>a) GW flagged the additional equipment and safety clothing required for any tree removal activity with an estimated cost c£300. Agreed that funds were available and GW to purchase as required.</p> <p>b) Treasurer reported that the Insurer’s Annual Questionnaire needed to be completed asap, but there were queries on equipment and training records. JGr to circulate as appropriate</p>	<p>G Walker</p> <p>J Gravelle</p>
<p><u>11. Date of Next meeting:</u> 14th April 2026 at Swansea Canal Centre</p>	

Signed Electronically: J Gravelle