

MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY MEETING

14 December 2021

Present:

G Walker	J Gwalter	C Reed	M Fuller
A Ellis	Mrs G Thomas	Mrs V Fuller	A Tremlett
Mrs S Ellis	T Morris	J Evans	

1. Apologies: L Willicome, J Donovan, JA Davies, A Williams, M Davies
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.
3. Treasurers Report
 - a. Overall financial situation has not changed
 - b. Gift Aid – we are now fully registered with HMRC for Gift Aid. If you have made gifts in kind, these are not eligible for gift aid. However, if you legitimately claim expenses for anything you can give the society the amount as a donation which can then be claimed as gift aid. Claims can be made on donation over the past four years.
 - c. The changes to signatories and email destinations decided at the September's meeting are still to be completed due to technical difficulties.
4. Education Officers Report
 - a. Visited Glyncollen School in Morriston to deliver a session on the canal and industrial Swansea in late November.
 - b. I completed two sessions for CRT, one a canal walk in Brecon with a school from Cwmbran and the other a talk on water safety at Pembroke dock.
 - c. Scheduled to go to St. Joseph's Cathedral School in Greenhill on Thursday 16th December to deliver a similar canal and industry session and briefly introduce the 225 celebrations.
5. Grants and Funding
 - a. Clydach Lock – We have £99K for the hidden lock site, with planning permission so work can commence in the New Year.
 - b. Hebron Road – John Weaver has given quote for the work to be done. There is £70K available to be spent. With £17.5K for a pitched roof.
6. Canoe Hire
 - a. "Spooky in the park", was a great success. The three teams worked well together to ensure that although the weather was not good, the customers had a very good experience, whether undertaking the heritage quiz, eating dogs and burgers or going out on the water. A big thank you to all for making a day a great success.
7. Clydach Lock.
 - a. Planning permission granted, but need soil samples prior to commencing work.
8. Coed Gwilym Slipway.
 - a. Towpath from Trebanos to Coed Gwilym Park is being tarmacked and nearing completion. The work should include the diversion around the slipway and disabled access. There is now £42K available for this project.
9. Hebron Road.
 - a. The painting has been slowed down due to the rain.
10. SC225
 - a. The team has met every month for the past six months.
 - b. The banner has gone to Ystalyfera, Ystradgunlais and Godre Graig. Where it is being worked on by local sewing teams. Jan Williams is making a Welsh Costumed Lady and Dragon for inclusion in due course.
 - c. Jewel – The Horse – The family has been contacted and have given permission for us to use the story. A meeting with Lighthouse will be planned for the new year.
 - d. A video is being produced, using this to take to schools, meet with history groups, showing what events can happen during 2023. It is planned to take it to schools in the new year.
 - e. Museum Display – Waterfront Museum has offered the Red Gallery and another Hall for an exhibition. JD visited on 6th December. Hoping to get Western Hall all through the summer of 2023 for our exhibition. The model of Clydach Lock in the Heritage Centre and two other models that CR has in his possession can be made available for the displays.
 - f. David Morgan is looking into the CRT archives for any useful information, and Swansea University have offered assistance with the 225 projects.

11. Work Parties.

a. To remain at Ynysmeudwy for the time being removing debris from the canal. Next work party should be 4 January 2022.

12. WRG Sumer Camp.

a. Awaiting decisions from WRG.

13. Web site and social media

a. Website needs tidying but beyond the capabilities of AE. Needs someone else to look at it, with a possible cost of between £500 and £2K

14. Historical Brief

a. Steve Hughes has so far reconstructed 70 pictures for the book. These are to go to the copy editors and printers, with hopefully a book print in Autumn 2022.

b. Super School. CR has circulated letters between himself and NPTCBC. He is awaiting a response from the council.

c. Godre Graig Lock and Boat yard. The stables have illegally fenced off the boat yard and could fill in the locks. CR has written to CADW, who have passed it back to NPTCBC. Need to discuss with Alan Llewellyn.

15. AOB

a. Green Flag Award. Discussions were held over whether the society should invite The Friends of Coed Gwilym Park to join with the society when applying for this year's Green Flag Award or to apply for our own and assist the Friends if they wish to apply. The consensus was to apply for our own and assist the Friends.

b. The flag pole at Hebron Road has been taken down and will be re-instated in due course.

c. The Hire of Canoes in 2021 has recorded an increase of approx. £1k, making this a record season, raising nearly £5K.

d. The invoice for the insurance is nearly twice as much as normal. This is due to the purchase of Hebron Road, the acquisition of the canoe store's lease, increase in stock and increases in insurance rates.

e. BBQ on 21st December. All persons attending are to have a Rapid Flow Test (Negative) prior to attending. Gill to contact all personnel with regards to the BBQ.

f. John Allen – John one of our litter pickers is having to give up as his sight is deteriorating.

16. DONM.

Tuesday 11th January 2022 at 1900 in the Vardre Rugby Club.

Signed on Original

M FULLER
Secretary