

# THE WHITCHURCH WATERWAY TRUST

A Company Limited by Guarantee, Charity Number 701050, Company Number 02280683  
[www.whitchurchwaterway.uk](http://www.whitchurchwaterway.uk)



Minutes of The Annual General Meeting of The Whitchurch Waterway Trust held at the Dodington Lodge Hotel, Dodington, Whitchurch SY13 1EN on Wednesday 22nd September 2021

Present :

Helen Brockman (Secretary)  
Karl Elsmore  
Lindsay Green (Member)  
Ken Green (Member)  
Ray Hatton (Trustee)

Paul Millington (Member)  
Paul Radcliffe (Trustee)  
Arthur Skitt (Member)  
David Smith (Member)  
Bob Sumner (Trustee)

## 1. Electing Chair of the Meeting

As the Chairman was absent, those present elected Paul Radcliffe to chair the meeting.

## 2. Proxy Votes

The Secretary announced that 1 proxy vote from Mike Byrne had been received, appointing the Chair of the meeting as proxy.

## 3. Mistake in Total Current Assets figure in 2019 Accounts as Presented in AGM Notice

The Secretary apologised for an error in the AGM Notice, which had been created using the Notice for the 2020 AGM (which had been cancelled due to coronavirus restrictions) as a starting point. Following circulation of the 2020 AGM Notice, a member had correctly pointed out that the Total Current Assets figure in the Balance Sheet of the 2019 Accounts should have been £30,978.39, not £0. While this error was corrected before the 2019 accounts were filed at Companies House, the secretary had omitted to apply this correction to the Notice for this AGM.

## 4. Apologies for Absence

Alan Allman, John Burton, Claire Butler, Ian MacTavish, Mike Byrne, David Torrens, Joan Crump, Brian Crump, Chris Chambers, Julia Mortimer

## 5. Approval of the Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes of the 2019 AGM were approved.

The minutes of the 2019 EGM were approved.

## 6. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous AGM

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 2019 AGM.

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 2019 EGM.

## 7. Report of the Management Committee

The past 18 months have been taxing due to the effects of the coronavirus pandemic and associated lockdown measures.

The Whitchurch Canal Festival was cancelled in 2020 and again in 2021 due to uncertainty about what restrictions might exist at the time and the desire to avoid a half-hearted event.

The towpath improvement in spring 2021 by community volunteers was a high point and has made a vast difference for walkers / cyclists and boaters alike. Paul Millington and Dave Smith were thanked for their work in making this happen, also all who helped with this.

Although income during the pandemic has reduced we are still in a relatively comfortable position financially.

We have met with the Canal and River Trust to renegotiate WWT's Moorings Agreement with them. CRT currently take 40% of our moorings income, which CRT have agreed to review. This reflects

the Whitchurch Arm's use of the water which CRT supply. We have settled our outstanding payments to CRT and CRT have granted us a fee-free grace period from April 2021 to January 2022 when a new Moorings Agreement will commence. We are awaiting CRT's response.

#### **8. Treasurer's Report**

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Secretary read out a report from the Treasurer :

The Balance Sheet as of September 15<sup>th</sup> and the Profit and Loss account for the period from January 2020 to September 2021 ( over 20 months) are available by emailing treasurer. The accounts are done in a free online system called Quickfile which can produce all manner of reports. An example being list of all membership fees or mooring fees received. These can be useful for cross checking by the person dealing with membership or moorings.

We have increased our assets in a period with relatively little activity.

As our policy needs to be to gradually accumulate funds in case of another dredging job or similar then we are doing OK but can also feel we can afford to spend on improving the arm and doing essential repairs.

Although discussions with CRT have not resulted yet in any change in mooring fees paid to them, if we continue much as we have done in future our reserves and finances are sufficient to cover likely liabilities.

We are now holding more assets in COIF since it provides good income but a significant balance in the current and savings accounts.

#### **9. Receiving the Accounts**

The accounts for 2019 and 2020 were received with no comments or questions.

#### **10. Special Resolutions**

The Management Committee recommends conversion to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

1. **Special Resolution 2021/1** To Convert The Whitchurch Waterway Trust Charity Number 701050 Company Number 02280683 from a Company Limited by Guarantee to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)  
The resolution was passed (10 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions).
2. **Special Resolution 2021/2** To adopt the Proposed Charitable Incorporated Organisation Constitution on conversion of The Whitchurch Waterway Trust Charity Number 701050 Company Number 02280683 to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).  
The resolution was passed (10 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions).

#### **11. Election / Re-election of Trustee / Directors**

Mr Paul David Radcliffe was re-elected ( 9 for, 0 against, 1 abstention)

Mr Robert Joseph Sumner was re-elected (10 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions).

#### **12. Resignation of Trustee / Directors**

Mr David Allan Smith resigned as a Trustee on 13Sep2021 for personal reasons.

The Whitchurch Waterway Trust urgently needs new Trustees, as it is currently 1 step away from not being able to operate since it now has the minimum number of Trustees allowed by its constitution. We really are in a relatively concerning position as far as Trustees go and all members are seriously asked to consider if they could donate a small amount of time to WWT and consider becoming Trustees.

Anyone who would like to become a Trustee should contact the Secretary.

#### **13. Nominations for Trustee / Directors from the floor**

There were no nominations from the floor.

The meeting closed at 2000.