

THE WHITCHURCH WATERWAY TRUST

www.whitchurchwaterway.uk

Charity Commission No : 701050



MINUTES of a Committee Meeting held on 21Feb2023 at The Wheatsheaf (back room of), 19 Green End, Whitchurch SY13 1AD

Present:

Helen Brockman	(WWT Secretary)
Angie Hotchkiss	(Whitchurch Town Council Representative)
Mark Lacey	(WWT Trustee and Chair)
Kath Oldham	(WWT Trustee and Membership Secretary)
Hilary Seward	(WWT Trustee)
Bernise Tasker	
David Torrens	(WWT Trustee and Treasurer)

- 1) Apologies for Absence
Giles Sullivan, Simon Tasker
- 2) Minutes of the Previous Meeting / Matters Arising
The minutes of the previous two meetings were approved and signed by the Chair.
- 3) Bernise Tasker and Simon Tasker as were unanimously voted in as new Trustees.
A warm welcome to Bernise and Simon.
- 4) Organisation chart
ML circulated an Organisation chart for WWT showing who is doing what in 2023
HB suggested that she should be shown as "Secretary" rather than "Company Secretary", since WWT is no longer a company.
- 5) Draft Profit and Loss and Balance Accounts for 2022
ML circulated draft Profit and Loss and Balance Accounts for 2022.
HB suggested it would be useful to split Donations Income and Grants into 2 separate items.
The figure for Canal Festival income needs to be checked, as it did not agree with the figure ML had circulated after the Festival.
- 6) Frequency of Committee Meetings
It was agreed that we would have quarterly committee meetings.
- 7) Budget for 2023
We will have a budget for 2023.
ML to discuss budget with the Treasurer.
- 8) Current issues
 - a) Funding Applications
ML had applied to Veolia for a grant up to £15,000 for doing an Environmental Survey of how the 3 parts of the Country Park could be used for environmental advantage, but this had not been successful.
AH to confirm whether Whitchurch Town Council will be granting WWT a regular annual amount for maintaining the canal and Country Park.
 - b) Country Park
The issue of the transfer of the Country Park to WWT had taken a circular path in Shropshire Council, having been referred to Shaun Burkey in the Outdoor Recreation department, who had asked us some years ago if we knew what was happening with it.
ML will be speaking to Whitchurch Town Council at their March meeting
 - c) CRT Mooring Fees Agreement

CRT had offered us a reduction from 40% to 32% in the percentage of long term mooring fees they receive from WWT, however we would have to pay round £2000 in legal fees for a new agreement, which would mean it would be several years before WWT would be better off as a result.

ML has asked CRT to vary the current agreement with a letter stating the new rate instead of a new agreement, and we are awaiting an answer. The issue has suffered from lack of continuity due to personnel changes in CRT.

d) Neighbour Dispute / Boundary issues

We had received a letter from the owner of a property adjoining the path to the long term moorings who felt that the removal of a concrete block which had been obstructing the path had caused a crack in the retaining wall of her property because it had been done with a sledgehammer. We believe that the crack existed before the work was done. ML has since met with the resident and hopes to build an amicable relationship.

The path is narrow in some parts, which compromises its safety.

ML has told the canal maintenance team to consult him before they undertake non-routine jobs.

e) Canal Festival Meeting

A date of Tue 14Mar2023 was set for the next Canal Festival Meeting (review of 2022 festival/ changes for 2023)

9) Any Other Business

a) Copies of Bank Statements

DT to send KO copies of the WWT bank statements for the last few months so she can reconcile membership payments

b) Membership Offer

HS and **KO** to produce a proposal for our membership offer, considering corporate membership and advertising and circulate the proposal by email.

c) Shropshire Radio / BBC have requested someone to do an interview

No-one to do the interview has yet been arranged.

10) Date(s) of next meeting(s)

Tue 14Mar2023 1800 Canal Festival Meeting at The Wheatsheaf

Tue 18Apr2023 1800 WWT Committee Meeting at The Wheatsheaf