

Minutes of LUCS Management Committee Meeting held in the Tea Room at the Canal basin on Monday June 8 2015

Present: Duncan McIntyre (Chairman), Allan Melling Vice Chairman, Pat McIntyre (Secretary), Barbara Mckenzie, David Shirres – Richard Millar, Scottish Canals

1. Chairman's Introduction – The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed Richard Millar from Scottish Canals.

2. Apologies – Douglas Robertson, Ronnie Reis and Lynne Nelson

Duncan welcomed Richard Millar who is Director of Heritage, Enterprise and Sustainability with Scottish Canals. Richard said he would like to see canals and environs improve. Towpath improvement is paramount. He also spoke about the educational side of the canal.

He was asked about the pontoon at Bridge 49 and if this was likely to happen. Richard said there were concerns from Historic Scotland.

David spoke about lack of signage on the canal and if there was anything we could do to help in this respect. Richard said that this is moving forward and additional funding is being sought. Richard to talk to Scottish Waterways Trust and put them in touch with us.

The Kelpies Visitor Centre is to open 1 October. David thanked Richard for the excellent help we had received on our recent Kelpies trip.

Allan asked about the Living on Water Project and asked about positioning of pontoons. There are 90 residential moorings and this has been especially successful in Edinburgh.

David spoke about maintenance boats in winding holes. We have difficulty in turning at some places when these boats are parked. Richard to raise this with Billy King.

Our workboat Colin G is now operational that this could be used with younger people. Richard said that someone is starting with the to look after the deployment of younger people on the canal. He will arrange for us to be put on the list of visiting work parties.

David asked about promoting us at the Falkirk Wheel. Richard said that LUCS could be mentioned on their new web site. He said he would talk to the Wheel Team to see what could be done. He feels we should get together on a yearly basis and on our part we would welcome any of his team to come here and have a boat trip. Richard to look into this. Richard then left the meeting.

The meeting continued with a few items being discussed.

New Web Cam: John Aitken had suggested that we replace the webcam. Before any decision is made, Allan to investigate costs, etc.

French Student: We had been asked if we could utilise the services of a French student who wanted to work here and learn the language. It was felt that our opening hours would not be sufficient to be of help. Duncan to reply to them.

Data Protection: David has looked into this and distributed a statement. We should look at this at the next committee meeting.

Kelpies' Trip: David distributed a breakdown of the Kelpies' Trip.

Credit Card Payments: Allan and David to discuss credit card payment in advance for bookings.

Members' Database: David is to look at tidying up the email addresses on the database as we have two sets on record. It was suggested that we write to members as we do not have email addresses for all and also use this as an appeal for volunteers. Replies to go to marketing@lucs.com

David asked who deputised for John Aitken. This should be put into place. To be discussed at the next meeting.

David asked about the potential scrapping of U66. It was agreed to scrap it and bring back the rudder.