

Minutes of LUCS Management Committee Meeting held in the Tea Room at the Canal basin on Monday 10 July 2017

Revision 03: Dated 02 August 2017

Item	Business Matters	Action
1.	<p>Present: Allan Melling, (Chairman), Johnny Green (Vice Chairman) David Shirres, (Treasurer), Norman Foulner,(Secretary), Lynne Nelson, Stuart Rennie, June Green, Gordon Hewit</p>	Noted
2.	<p>Chairman's Introduction: The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees.</p>	Noted
3.	<p>Apologies: There were no apologies.</p>	Noted
4.	<p>Adoption of Minutes from previous Meeting held on 15 April 2017 1. Minutes proposed by Johnny Green, and seconded by Gordon Hewit</p>	Noted
	<p>Adoption of Minutes from previous Meeting held on 08 May 2017 1. Minutes proposed by June Green, and seconded by Stuart Rennie.</p>	Noted
5.	<p>Premises 1. Noted that prices for a replacement oil fired boiler is still pending. 2. Noted that cleaning of the quayside setts is ongoing. 3. Noted that advice regarding the 'recipe' for appropriate lime mortar to be used on 'historic' stone walls is ongoing. 4. It was agreed that all other matters are covered elsewhere in the meeting notes.</p>	<p>AM Noted AM</p>
6.	<p>Update on St Magdalene Replacement: 1. Reported that an invoice has been received from A L Gordon. The Invoice appears to be premature as the 'milestone' has not been reached. Johnny will query this with A. L. Gordon. 2. Reported that the MCA are due to inspect on 19 July 2017. Written report of the inspection is anticipated. 3. Because of the above comments, the 'Milestones and payment dates will be clarified. 4. Reported that Scottish Canals have agreed to a</p>	<p>JG JG GH Noted</p>

	<p>mooring location for the new boat. This is proposed as 'doubling-up' with St Magdalene.</p> <p>5. Reported that Scottish Canals have agreed to issue a licence for the new boat.</p> <p>6. Invitations for a boat name have been issued. Several good suggestions have been received. A protocol for sifting the suggestions has now to be proposed. More suggestions will be invited.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted/SR</p>
7.	<p>Convenors' Reports:</p> <p>It was agreed that all matters are covered elsewhere in the meeting notes.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
8.	<p>Tea Room:</p> <p>1. Noted that a cash reserve is required. Agreed that £400 is appropriate.</p> <p>2. Agreed that a new fridge will be arranged at a cost of circa £150</p> <p>3. Agreed that wood covers for table menus will be arranged. Noted that the text should include reference to our Twitter and Facebook pages.</p> <p>4. Reported that wheelchair access is satisfactory.</p> <p>5. Reported that investigation into alarm system for toilets/tearoom is ongoing.</p> <p>6. Reported that radio music in the Kitchen is ongoing.</p> <p>7. Agreed that glass tops for tables should not be provided but tops will be replaced as required.</p> <p>8. Noted that Volunteers for Sunday duty are in short supply. Efforts will be made to improve on this.</p> <p>9. Reported that there appears to be 'shrinkage' in Tearoom stores. Better lockfast security will be arranged.</p> <p>10. Reported that a Quiz Night has been arranged for 28 July 2017.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>June</p> <p>June</p> <p>Noted AM</p> <p>June AM</p> <p>June</p> <p>June</p> <p>June</p>
9.	<p>Fun Day:</p> <p>1. Reported that arrangements were broadly in place.</p> <p>2. Reported that a Bouncy Castle is arranged.</p> <p>3. Reported that there will be no 'Arts Tent' this year</p> <p>4. Reported that the Gala Queen is arranged.</p> <p>5. Stuart agreed to look after Mr Jim Carlin who will be opening the proceedings.</p> <p>6. Noted that boat drivers need to be arranged.</p> <p>7. Noted that 200 burgers @ £2 each will be arranged.</p> <p>8. Noted that all our normal advertising is in place.</p>	<p>Lynne</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>SR</p> <p>JG</p> <p>Lynne</p> <p>Noted</p>

<p>10.</p>	<p>Bookings :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted that the modification of the booking system to accept pre-payment is still under consideration. Agreed that this will be revisited during the September 2017 meeting. David has agreed to lead on this. 	<p>DS</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Treasurer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The following figures were given by David. 2. The balance in the Business Account is £130,465.53 3. Cash is - Museum Float --£40.00 Tearoom Float --£110.00 Other-----£114.42 4. Noted that direct payment to the coach driver for wheel trips has now been arranged. 5. Agreed that a debit card will be arranged for Tearoom expenditure. 6. Noted that sales were generally on the increase. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>DS</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>Any Other Competent Business:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agreed that the proposed consideration of a new '5 year plan' and also the previous '5 year plan' should be on the November 2017 Agenda. 2. Noted that actions arising from the 'Drivers and Crew' briefing prior to the new season will be allocated by Allan. 3. Noted that a replacement Membership Secretary is pending. 4. Noted that Douglas Robertson has agreed to be the new Webmaster. 5. Noted that the proposed database consolidation is ongoing and is suitable for selective listing. 6. G Harvie will come and explain about the Lowland Canals Association (LCA). 7. Letter of complaint from Stewart Liddle. Agreed that there was no action required from the committee. Norman will reply to Allan setting out the circumstances. Agreed that a review is required regarding handling of incoming mail addressed to individual members. 8. Noted that there is a clash of dates regarding the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and the Linlithgow Folk Festival 9. Noted that consideration should be given to the operational duties regarding the 'St Magdalene 	<p>NF</p> <p>AM</p> <p>AM</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>AM</p> <p>NF/AM</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>AM/JG</p>

	<p>replacement' and St Magdalene. The membership at large will be consulted.</p> <p>10. Noted that we have 2 new volunteers with gardening interests also Tearoom. Their skills will be put to good use by the Society.</p> <p>11. Proposals for Victoria refurbishment have been received and are given at Appendix 'A'</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>All</p>
13.	<p>Next Meeting Agreed that the next regular meeting is to be on 14 August 2017 at 19.30 hrs (7.30 pm)</p>	Noted
14.	<p>Future Meetings Proposed dates for future meetings in 2017 are as follows:-</p> <p>11 September 2017 9 October 2017 13 November 2017 AGM 7 December 2017</p>	Noted
15.	<p>Distribution</p> <p>Allan Melling By email David Shirres, By email Johnny Green, By email Norman Foulner By email Lynne Nelson, By email Stuart Rennie By email June Green By email Gordon Hewit By email</p>	
16.	<p>Appendix 'A' Victoria Report / Proposal By Allister Mackie</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Victoria</u></p> <p>Let me first make clear this is NOT a request for funding, it is simply a request that the committee consider the following for discussion and consultation. I do not expect a response in the short term but hopefully it will be the basis for longer term consideration.</p> <p>Hopefully the replacement for St Magdalene is well under way and Lochrin will soon be handed over to start its duties on the Forth Clyde.</p> <p>This leaves us with an opportunity to look forward to what</p>	

should be the next project that the society could consider.

Victoria is now 42 years old and has done remarkably well for a boat constructed from scrap steel. Unfortunately she is showing some signs of her age and will need remedial work done in the short and long term.

Obviously we could consider replacing the boat with something newer but I sense that most people feel that she is part of the image of the society and as the oldest boat on the canal is worth preserving.

Assuming she is to be preserved there are a number of areas of concern that will need to be addressed .

1- the exterior panelling at the stern and port side are rotten (two large holes had to be filled this spring).

2- some of the white planking round the roof is in very poor condition or broken.

3- the engine is leaking oil and requires topping up every two weeks.

4- the drive shaft from the gearbox to the propeller shaft is worn and the two bearings are very worn (one has a broken mounting)

5- the cutlas bearing at the stern of the boat sheared off last year and had to be welded back on, probably due to vibration from worn drive shaft.

6- the bottom plate of the hull has already had two leaks and is of variable thickness.

My thoughts are as follows:-

Short term-

Replace rotten woodwork and repaint.

Medium term:-

Consider having the boat taken out of water and a detailed examination of the hull plating carried out.

This would certainly I feel see the need to re plate the bottom of the boat.

Medium to Long term:-

Consider replacement of engine, drive shaft and propeller

shaft. This may be best considered at the same time as the new bottom plating as they are attached to the plating and would have to be removed to carry out plating.

The more radical of my proposal would be to replace the engine with a hybrid drive. This would allow all the town trips to be completed solely under electric drive with little noise. This would allow more interaction with the passengers. The boat would be capable of reaching the aqueduct and part way back on electric motor but would simply revert to the Diesel engine for longer journeys.

I realise this is a fairly unconventional proposal but there may be marketing value in having the oldest boat on the canal as a hybrid. We may even be able to attract external funding.

Sorry this is so long but I hope you can give some consideration to my thoughts and perhaps put the question of Victoria's future out to wider discussion. Thank you for your time.

Allister