

Minutes of LUCS Management Committee Meeting held in the Tea Room at the Canal basin on Monday 14 November 2016

Present: Duncan McIntyre, (Chairman), Douglas Robertson (Treasurer). Allan Melling, Vice Chairman, Pat McIntyre (Secretary), Barbara Mckenzie, Lynne Nelson,

1. Chairman's Introduction – The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone along.

2. Apologies – Apologies received from Johnny Green.

3. Adoption of Minutes from previous Meeting – Minutes proposed by Allan Melling and seconded by Lynne Nelson.

4. Correspondence received: Allan has received an email re closure of canal from Scottish Canals informing us that the Avon Aqueduct will be closed from 9th February for 4 weeks and intermittent closures at Linlithgow embankment from 5th December with actual work being undertaken on 9th January for 6 weeks. We have suspended bookings for that period and the only other event to be affected by this is the Christmas lunch cruises. They say they will try to accommodate us regarding this.

5. External Meetings: Duncan attended a meeting re the Falkirk Wheel proposing to use one boat for foot passengers only. This would take place sometime in 2018. Mike Smith and David Shirres are going next week to the Wheel to discuss this.

6. St Magdalene Replacement: Duncan handed out copies of Johnny Green's proposal that we go ahead with the new boat replacement after being awarded £70,000 from the Leader Fund. It was agreed to purchase a replacement for St Magdalene from Elton Moss Boatbuilders at a cost of £125,000 plus VAT. It is hoped to place this order at the end of January. It was proposed to keep the present working group going until the end of the project.

7. AGM Committee Nominations: Nominations are now in for next year and have been passed to the Secretary for distribution at the AGM.

8. Six month reserve funding policy: It was agreed with the accountants to change the present three month reserve funding policy to six months in terms with the profile of the running of the Society.

9. Conveners' Reports

Premises: (AM)

Scottish Gas are coming this week to look at putting a gas line in. New Christmas lights for outside have been purchased. The grotto boards are up and lights to go up on Wednesday. We are now able to operate the central heating for the tearoom remotely.

Marketing (DM)

300 Christmas leaflets are to be distributed at the Advent Fayre on Saturday 26 November.

Tea Room:

Worn table tops to be replaced before the start of next season. The Christmas rota has been organised.

Boats (JG)

St Magdalene: With the arrival of new life jackets everything now in place for the MCA to carry out the 'in water' inspection.

Victoria: Good working order and remainder of painting to be carried out before and after Christmas.

Leamington: All injectors being replaced with new ones. Drive shaft coupling being replaced with new one. Re the suggestion that fenders be fitted to the sides of the boat - advice to be taken from Mike Smith re the feasibility of this.

Colin G: No issues with the boat but weather has stopped clearing of branches, etc.

Slateford: Steel front panel to be assessed and replaced during the shut down period.

Bookings (AM)

Graham Scott and Gordon Hewit are both dealing with bookings for next year. Allan has already started a handover. Allan to send out requests for drivers and shore crew to cover the Christmas weekends. Santa will arrive by boat on all four days. Bookings have already been received for next year but Allan has accepted them on a provisional basis because of the canal closures already mentioned.

Treasurer (DSR)

The following figures were given by Douglas.

The balance in the Bank of Scotland account is £70,931.17
Savings Account is £59,508.59

Douglas to speak to Richard Miller re accrual that we owe for Leamington. Douglas has been through the accounts and hopefully these will be agreed this week. We are to ask the accountants for a soft copy as well as the hard copies we already receive.

Fun Day: (LN)

Lynne has started to contact people for next year.

10. Any Other Competent Business:

It was suggested that the Annual Report be done online next year with hard copies available as required.

Duncan spoke about the speaker system for fun day. Peter Nixon has purchased a new one but we need a better set of speakers. Approval was given by the committee for Peter to purchase these.

NEXT MEETING IS THE AGM ON THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2016

Subject: Monday meeting

From: Johnny Green (info@johnnygreen.org.uk)

To: duncan_mcintyre2000@yahoo.co.uk;

Date: Sunday, 13 November 2016, 13:31

Hi Duncan,

Please accept my apologies for my absence as work again takes me away.

Could you put forward a proposal on my behalf please to the committee for consideration?

I would like to propose that we go ahead with the new boat replacement that we have agreed with Artie Chambers and Elton Moss Boatbuilders at a cost of £125,000 + VAT. The other quote from AL Gordon is much higher at £139.00 + VAT.

We have received the funding from Leader and we should now show progress on what we have promised and order the new boat, meeting our speculations as soon as a build slot is available.

I will be in touch with Elton Moss/Artie this week so that they can answer any questions that may arise about the specifications, timescale and milestone payments.

Also:

Colin G:

The boat has been idle for a while as the weather does not help us clearing branches and weeds for Scottish canals, however there are no issues with the boat and we hope to use it frequently as we approach the new season in 2017.

Slateford: