

Minutes of LUCS Management Committee Meeting held in the Tearoom at the Canal basin on Monday 14 July 2014

Present: Mike Smith (Chairman), Douglas Robertson (Treasurer), Duncan McIntyre (Vice Chairman), Pat McIntyre (Secretary), Barbara Mckenzie, Ronnie Reis, David Melling and David Shirres

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

2. Apologies – No Apologies.

3. Adoption of Minutes from previous Meeting. Minutes proposed by David Shirres and seconded by Allan Melling.

4. DAMS: There were no DAMS.

5, Correspondence received: Following an email from Caroline Thompson's agent (MSP with responsibility for volunteering) Pat to arrange for her to come along to the basin some Wednesday. **ACTION PDM**

6. External Meetings: Mike had attended a Lothian Canals Volunteers Group meeting in Falkirk last week. They are still trying to organise voluntary activities along the canal. Ronnie Rusack is now chairman. They are proposing trips to the Kelpies and want to train people to operate the locks. Mike asked for a list of people who would be interested. This would be an opportunity to learn how to operate the locks. Douglas, Allan and David are interested. Mike to respond to Ronnie Rusack to say we are interested. **ACTION MJS**

7. Committee Reporting Structure Update: No change on this meantime.

8. Conveners' Reports

Marketing (DM)

Duncan had a call from 1940 canal group to say that Bluebell has now been repaired and will come along to the basin to supplement aqueduct trips on the Falkirk Wheel days. Stuart Ness from Linlithgow Bid came along and explained the workings of Linlithgow Bid. The Society is in favour of joining this. Fun Day cardboard boat race application forms are now online. Volunteers from the Bank of Scotland are coming along to help out. Chris to have a meeting soon on this. Canal artist is going to be inside the gates with his works. Mike and Ronnie took Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway volunteers to the aqueduct and we are having a return meeting to them soon. St Magdalene has been full for the past two Saturdays. Mike is meeting up with the BBC this week in connection with a railways and canal programme featuring Michael Portillo. They are looking to do a leg from here to the Falkirk Wheel. They are coming here on Friday to meet Mike. There has also been a call from Channel 4 who want to do a programme on canal journeys. They are coming here on Wednesday afternoon.

IT and Social Media: Allan has nothing to report this month.

Social Media: David reported that we have a new picture on Facebook.

Treasurer (DSR)

Douglas provided the following figures:

The balance in the Bank of Scotland account is £55,107.80
Savings Account is £58,859.62

Douglas reported there has been an increase in takings lately. He has received £36 back from Tax Relief.

Boats, etc (RR)

Boats: Planking has now been fixed on Victoria. New cool box has been put on St Magdalene and the new generator is working. New updated Passenger Certificate is now on board. The damaged boathook on Leamington has been replaced and the tiller tightened. Slateford has now had the canopy cleaned. The motor is to be test driven. The trailer has been refurbished. A new launching bar is required for the trailer for the cardboard boats on fun day.

New Boat: Mike to circulate a report from the Northwich Boat Company and to put together a list of various options. David asked if we need to do a refurbishment on St Magdalene. Mike feels that this should happen anyway and be decided soon. David suggested this should be looked at in the 5 Year Plan meeting in August., Duncan and Les Duff are looking at updating Leamington and they are going to Jaggie Thistle to look at her fit-out. Douglas asked how much we would spend on this. Duncan to come back when they have priced materials. **ACTION RR, MJS and DM**

Tea Room:

The tearoom is now open on weekdays and visitor numbers are very good.

Bookings, Education, Funding (DAJS)

Bookings: Bob Wigley has been coping well with the bookings in David's absence. David has been looking for a successor as booking secretary. Mike to speak to someone. David handed out an analysis of the bookings.

ACTION MJS

Education: Quiet at the moment due to school holidays.

Funding: Mike had a meeting with the funders re Alex Inglis a few weeks ago and we should put some wording on the boat re funders.. Douglas to ask Barbara Braithwaite if she would like to paint the new name on the boat.

ACTION DSR

Premises: No further progress on the driveway. Forms to be filled in. The pictures in the tea room need to be changed. Mike to speak to Martine re new pictures, to set up a discussion with tearoom and premises staff.

ACTION MJS

Workshop/Health and Safety:

Workshop: The workshop tidy-up has started.

Health and Safety: Fire extinguishers have been inspected. Six had to be scrapped and we have been supplied with new ones with two still to arrive this week. New first aid kits have been bought.

Museum/Events/External Talks:

Museum: Mike said that the new layout of the museum was very much improved and was receiving many good comments from visitors.

Events: Mike spoke about a flotilla going to Glasgow in September. Duncan said that there is to be a food festival in Linlithgow in September. Can St Magdalene be used for cooking on board. Pat to find out about this.

ACTION PDM

External Talks: Nothing on this at the moment.

9. Any Other Competent Business:

Ronnie asked about drivers for fun day. Jack Adair, Provost of the Deacons' Court would like to open the fun day . His contact details have been passed to Chris and Karen.

Barbara spoke about a damp smell from a cupboard in the tearoom. Duncan to investigate.

ACTION DM

The next meeting will be on Monday 11 August at 7.30 pm.