

**Minutes of LUCS Committee Meeting
11th June 2024
Manse Road Basin**

1.0 Chairma's Welcome and apologies for absence.

Chairman David Shirres welcomed Peter Lewis, Ian Gray, Ronnie Reis, Mike Smith, Lynne Nelson, Douglas Scott. Andy Eaglesfield abroad.

2.0 Minutes of the previous meeting

Accepted on a motion by PL and RR.

The Chairman thanked and congratulated all involved in the weekend of the Revolution Festival at the Falkirk wheel. Whilst a bit chaotic from the operational/communication standpoint, it was a very successful and largely enjoyable event. Whilst final accounts are not yet to hand, it was also lucrative.

A significant donation had also been received from the Winchburgh Marina Developers in recognition of our role in the Opening.

3.0 Boat Operations and Status

3.1 BML Issues: Tom McPhie's BML Test is scheduled for 14th June.

First Aid Training to be extended to remaining BMLs. Derek Ure to be pproached.
Action

DSH

3.2 Battery Boats: no current action, pending tentative discussions with other potential users and with SC.

3.3 Technical / Certification / Dry Docking

There are no 5-yearly inspections this year. Both the big boats will need in-water inspections , and St Magdalene is scheduled for Dry Dock at Ratho 7th September.
MCA Inspector to be arranged. Action DSh

3.4 Special Cruises

3.4.1 Falkirk Explorer Cruise series. Very disappointing take-up: concern that publicity at Falkirk Wheel not effective. (It was mentioned several times by passengers during the Revolution Festival that they had not been aware of any publiciy for that). Strangest of all is that there are no takers for the Wheel-Kelpies cruises, which would have been thought a really attractive outing. It was decided to interest the membership in this and run it as a LUCS event, From Wheel to Kelpies on 9th July, Keplies to Wheel 10th July. Also, the outbound Manse Road to the Wheel on Sunday 7th July will be available. Info to be posted on Basin Banter, and other means as appropriate. Action DSh/PL

3.5 Boat Status

St Magdalene: A new PA Amplifier/Player has been odered, and an inverter supplied by T McP.

St Michael: The continual inverter problems are being addressed. WI looking into cannibalising the two un-functional units to make a useable one.

The need to revise the after-deck hatch (to make safe and easy to handle, to prevent water draining into the engine-space) and re-arrangement of the battery space and mountings in the intersts of accessibility and safety of maintainers is accepted, and will be enacted as public-free time is available)probably mostly post-September.

Meanwhile, Joe is fabricating a channel to fit under the hatch lip, to collect and discharge drainage overboard as a Wed/Sat mornings job. It is recognised that this will require

discussion with MCA, to ensure that Trim and Fire Security are not unacceptably affected.

The toilet floor requires repair: what can be done when to be discussed.

Victoria: Repairs to the cabin wall and window are in hand after collision damage.

Colin G: Engine stripped and repaired. Welding of the hull leak to be arranged as opportunity to haul up the slip arises. Welders to be contacted when planned.

Slateford: Requires cleaning and fettling in good time for Fun Day. Subtle coolant leak diagnosed and fixed.

4.0 Basin Operations

4.1 Staffing: In hand

4.2 Facilities status issues: yard, roofs, gutters, Museum leak - watering system unserviceable. All works in progress or under planning.

4.3 Mooring protocol: To be finalised, and promulgated to all who might moor boats, however infrequently.

4.4 7-day operations will run from 1st July to 9th August.

5.0 Promoting Heritage

Held over.

6.0 Projects

6.1 *Victoria Refit.* Scope to be refined, with any significant trade-offs identified.

Works necessary to accommodate electric drive which are specifically associated with the electrification, but not provided by the Supplier (e.g. significant works carried out by LUCS, or by other contractors, to amend stern gear, engine mounts, battery supports, shore facilities, etc.) to be estimated to meet requirements of some potential funders.

Sub-group MJS, RR, AE, AM, TMP, LD et al., to review and collate.

Action MJS to convene.

Suppliers to be approached for updated Quotations, to reflect movements in the technology available and potential trade-offs between performance and price, if funding should become clearly insufficient.

6.1.1 *Funding.* Ian reported that applications to the total of £19k were out there awaiting replies, and Edinburgh Airport Fund would be approached again, their previous refusal seeming less than adamant. There are still potential donors not yet approached.

Increased breakdown of contributory cost elements would be helpful. **Action MJS/AE**

6.2 *Website revision:* nothing to report.

7.0 Health and Safety

7.1 *Accidents and Incidents:* (A) No formal report of the scalp wound inflicted when exiting Victoria via the aftercabin stern door at Winchburgh has yet been received. It is known that the incident showed inadequacies in the contents of the first aid kits to treat such injuries. It was agreed that signage would not be a means of preventing similar events, since caps obscure the field of view. Injury mitigation requires padding to underside of doorframe. *Formal report awaited.* **Action GH**

(B) Collision between laden St Michael and moored Victoria when the former was attempting to dock. Victoria was moored further South than her normal position (See 4.3 above). Repairs to Victoria's cabin wall and window are in hand. No injuries reported..

No formal report has been received, but initial observations suggest that Drivers, Crews and Shore-hands will require to study how the event unfolded, to prevent future recurrence. Has implications for rope-handling training. See 7.2 below. Formal report awaited.

Action GH

7.2 Training Shore party/ crew rope training under way at a one-on-one basis. Training aids made by Ian Walker proving very useful. It was queried whether LUCS could / should aim to by a RYA Training Centre? To be discussed with Steve Braes / Ian W?

7.3 LUCS position with respect to in-house qualifications and those obtained elsewhere to be kept under review.

7.4 HSE Policy and Manual. Awaiting return of **AE**

7.5 Other policies - in work. Safeguarding, Data Protection, Volunteers anti-exploitation Policy, Equality, Inclusion, Diversity, etc. Notably absent so far is Workshop Safety Docs.

Action MJS

8.0 Events

8.1 Civic events: (A) Perambulation: staffing and provisioning of Tea Room required for evening of 12th June. Timing to be confirmed. Action Lynne, Peter
(B) Deacons' Night: Provision of refreshments, BBQ, boat required. D Shirres as Deacon will host Deacons' Court . Timing tbc. (Concern that BBQ not yet returned from Falkirk resolved just after meeting). An Appeal for volunteers to share the load to be circulated.

(It was noted that "My Lord" sash was missing...anyone know history)?

(C) Marches. There will be no Float entered this year, though a LUCS Party will parade with suitable dress and emblems (with not-too-subtle reference to Victoria's greening fund).

Litca'Lore Trophy to be engraved and returned to Deacons' Court.

8.2 Fun Day (4th August)

Start time 13.30, Cardboard Boat Race at 15.00.

The elements in the build-up chart are all on track, and interest from stall-holders and performers is being organised. **Peter is convening a meeting on Weds 19th am to collate activities.** Sound system being provided by John Barker. General request for greater volume, especially on North side. It was agreed that a Piper to welcome the Gala Queen and cover Victoria's berthing would be good. Discussions as to whom and for how long were not fully resolved. The possibility of a wandering accordionist was discussed.

Action: IG, PL et al.

8.3 *Halloween Cruises:* Held over.

8.4 *50th Anniversary Celebrations:* Thinking Caps On!

9.0 Marketing

9.1 Black Bitch: to make much of the Wheel Activities done, but especially those to come. PP and DSh to liaise to gain best effect.

9.2 Basin Banter: in work

10.0 General Management.

10.1 *Treasurer's report:* situation sound. The huge success of the Afternoon Tea Cruises was noted and praised. Insurances to be renewed shortly.

10.2 *Booking System:* one or two glitches of unclear origin, but generally ok.

10.3 *BML Allocation System:* nmo issues raised.

The meeting closed at 21.15hrs

Date of Next Meeting: 9 July