

Minutes of LUCS Management Committee Meeting held in the Tea Room at the Canal basin on Monday 14 September 2015

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

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

2. Apologies – Lynne Nelson sent her apologies – she is on holiday.

3. Adoption of Minutes from previous Meeting – Minutes proposed by Ronnie Reis and seconded by Barbara Mckenzie.

4. Correspondence received: Duncan has received a call from a new volunteer who will be joining us this week.

5. External Meetings: There have been no external meetings.

6. Reporting Structure Update/Membership Database David said that the database should be used for distribution lists and emails. There should be a spreadsheet that everyone can access. Allan said we should ratify the database with membership lists. Douglas suggested we have someone to look after the database and membership. This is to be looked at before the end of the year. Duncan to speak to Dennis Franks. **ACTION DM**

7. Website/Webcam: There has been a 50% increase in hits on new website compared to old one. We should ask John Aitken to give us an update on what information is used on website hits. John Aitken has put in a proposal to Linlithgow BID to raise funds for new webcam through Pride and Passion. He is to continue to pay the relay service and reclaim this back from us. He has asked the committee if Pride and Passion can continue to publicise through the webcam. This was agreed. We will wait for the result of the BID Group before taking the webcam forward.

8. Pricing Structure: This needs to be looked at before the new leaflets are printed. Hire of Leamington to be £150 for whole day and £80 per half day (see website for Terms and Conditions). For charters it should be see website at bookings.org.

9. Conveners' Reports

Premises: (AM)

A new water heater has been fitted in the toilets. Allister Mackie has costed the replacement sideboard for the MGC. The cost of £1250 was approved by the committee. Allan to try again to contact Andrew Stevenson from Scottish Canals who is coming to look at the quayside. **ACTION AM**

Marketing (DM)

Duncan has attended a meeting with Peter Wilson re cruise ships docking at Queensferry. It is hoped to organise tours of Linlithgow including the canal centre.

ACTION DM

Tea Room:

During the winter it is proposed to change the sink to have the draining board on the opposite side from the present arrangement. This should stop bottlenecks when drying dishes. A very busy and successful Fun Day. A new urn has replaced the one which was faulty.

Boats (RR)

The engine on Colin G has been tested. This was successful and a new rudder has been made. The inside door panels for Leamington are ready. Ronnie to speak to Gem Engines re overhaul for Victoria. The generator on St Magdalene is not working. This has been sent back to Beta Marine. Two new batteries have been installed. We need a battery starter pack especially for Wheel trips. Slateford was used on Fun Day with a new roof canopy fitted. The engine has been serviced in accordance with the warranty. Ronnie has replaced the ring on the aqueduct that had been torn out. St Magdalene is going to dry dock on 9th October. MCA survey is to be carried out on 15th. Leamington is going in the following week. Duncan to speak to Low Port re hire of mini bus.

ACTION RR, DM

Bookings (DS)

Bookings are starting to tail off a bit due to the time of year. There have been a few more volunteers coming forward to help. David intimated that he will be resigning as bookings secretary at the AGM. David has had a meeting with John Aitken to discuss draft terms and conditions as to 'no-shows' for boat bookings. He has put together a draft specification for the use of credit card bookings. John Aitken feels that the current system is unsuitable and we need to get someone on board to revamp the booking system. There is to be a meeting next Saturday to discuss this.

Treasurer (DSR)

The following figures were given by Douglas.

The balance in the Bank of Scotland account is £61,517.82

Savings Account is £59,203.17

Fun Day: (LN)

In the absence of Lynne it was agreed that this had been very successful. Douglas has sent out a note re takings on the day.

10. Any Other Competent Business:

Allan said that he has not heard from Willie McMartin re first aid kits and eye washes. Extendable ladder has been replaced.

David spoke about St Magdalene replacement. David suggested that we get an MCA ruling as to the minimum size boat we can have under current regulations.

Duncan suggested we send £250 to Bluebell for help given on Wheel trip days. The committee agreed to this. Duncan to invite them to come at Christmas.

Duncan mentioned that under new regulations the local authority will not be planting flowers in Learmonth Gardens. Burgh Beautiful has asked if we could fund some plants on the towpath and embankment. The committee agreed not to become involved.

Duncan has spoken to Northwich Boats. He will arrange for their technical director to visit us. David asked if we could invite MCA to attend. Ronnie to invite Douglas Temple. Duncan has spoken to Mike Vickers re funding for the project.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY 12 OCTOBER 2015