

Minutes of LUCS Management Committee Meeting held in the Tearoom at the Canal basin on Monday 10 March 2014

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

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

2. Apologies – None

3. Adoption of Minutes from previous Meeting - The minutes of the last meeting were adopted. Minutes proposed by David Shirres and seconded by Barbara Mckenzie.

4. DAMS: There were no DAMS.

5. Correspondence received: None

6. External Meetings: Mike and Duncan had attended a meeting with Hannah Cairns of West Lothian Council and a local policeman. She attended last year's Fun Day and was concerned at the size of the crowd. Traffic will now be diverted away from the canal basin between 10 am and 5 pm. West Lothian College has an events management course and we could use students to help with stewarding. We will keep in touch with her re this. LCVG meeting still has not yet happened.

Pat Bowie feels that the £250 Douglas was offering them should go to someone else. Douglas will take Stewart Liddle's advice on the disposal of the money.

7. Committee Reporting Structure Update: Management of the Fun Day is still being run by Chris and Karen Hunt. Barbara to speak to them re next year and a team should be arranged for this.

ACTION BM

8. Conveners' Reports

Marketing (DM)

The Taster Day is on Sunday 13th April and a leaflet is being prepared for this. Duncan had a meeting with ADS at the basin which consisted of an interview and a video. 20,000 leaflets are being printed for the coming year. There is a meeting this Wednesday re the opening of the John Muir Way which is taking place on 24th April. St Magdalene to be made available and the tearoom could be opened. On 15th June the Queen's Baton Relay is coming to Linlithgow. Victoria may be used. Duncan to contact Mark Stephen and Euan McIlwraith of Out of Doors to take part in the cardboard boat race. The subject of cruise ship passengers visiting us is still being discussed.

ACTION DM

IT and Social Media: Allan has received an email from Scottish Canals

apologising for the problem we had with BT identifying phone lines. Information will be available to let people using the canal know where WiFi is installed.

Social Media: David had a meeting regarding voluntary organisations. There is a web site on google to help voluntary organisations . This may be something we can tap into. He asked if we should be looking at mobile enabled web sites. David to monitor this and find out exactly what is involved. David to meet with John Aitken and Elspeth. One of the most popular items recently on facebook was the one about the seat covering.

ACTION DRS

Treasurer (DSR)

Douglas provided the following figures:

The balance in the Bank of Scotland account is £52,596.28
Savings Account is £58,823.11

Ronnie Kelly has applied for a grant of £100 from his old employers. Douglas feels we could apply for tax back on donations. He will look into this.

ACTION DSR

Boats, etc (RR)

Boats: Ronnie reported that St Magdalene has had her scan done. Andy Milner has been along and she has passed out of water inspection. Excess water has now been pumped out. New gear box has been installed and propeller repaired and returned. She is going back in the water on Saturday 15th March at 9 am. Douglas suggested photographs should be taken when she is out of the water. Allister Mackie has acquired new headlights for St Magdalene. It was decided to purchase electric coolboxes for St Magdalene as the fridge is not working. Andy Devenport to be contacted re Edinburgh Canal Festival on 21st June re which boats we should be sending.

David said that Fun Day drivers should be nominated by the committee and a pool of drivers should be put together. There should be a meeting before fun day with all drivers regarding duties, etc.

Driver Training: Ronnie and Allan to sit test on 24th March.

New Boat: Mike has been in touch with Northwich Boats and is waiting for them to get back to him.

ACTION MJS

Tea Room

Allister Mackie has covered all the benches and Anne Mackie has ordered pads for the chairs. Tea room rotas have been sent out.

Bookings, Education, Funding (DAJS)

Bookings: David reported that he is busy booking out our own boats for various festivals. Stephen Cole has asked for a booking for the MGC. Mike to speak to him.

There are already a few education bookings in for this school session. An application is in for an Arts Grant for Fun Day and we should hear in April. David has been to a meeting with SCVO., David to speak to Mike Vickers re our membership of this. He was also invited to a debate on how independence would affect the voluntary sector. Fiona Hyslop is coming here

on 21st March to speak re our inclusion in tourism funding. We need to have a brief ready to speak to her. David to put a fact sheet together including school visits. There should be no more than five people from LUCS. Elspeth – Museum, David Wood – Education, Mike, David and Duncan. She should be here for 1 hour. This should be discussed this Saturday. David to visit West Lothian Gateway in Bathgate for discussion with them. ACTION DRS, MJS

Premises (DM)

Regarding the driveway Duncan has spoken to James Timmins, who is a prime consultant for the council. James will come along on Saturday to have a look at what is required.

Workshop/Health and Safety (AM)

Workshop: Allan had nothing specific to report at this time.

Museum/Events/External Talks

Museum: Elspeth Ross has asked that the Marches Day costumes be removed from the museum as she needs to sort it out for the new season. Space needs to be found for this. Duncan to ask if these can be moved to Bob Wigley's garage. ACTION DM

9. Any Other Competent Business

Mike said that there were still some LUCS News to be delivered. We should speak to Alan Hayes re putting this on line in the future with hard copies available for those not on the internet.
Ronnie said that he could not print a membership form from the web site. Allan to ask Elspeth if this could be made available.
Allan asked if LUCS would be involved in Earth Hour on Saturday 29th March. ACTION MS,

AM

The next meeting will be on Monday 14 April at 7.30 pm.