



LINLITHGOW UNION CANAL SOCIETY

Honorary President The Marquess of Linlithgow
Honorary Vice-President The Earl of Mar and Kellie

Notes from the Linlithgow Union Canal Society Strategic Development Meeting held at the Canal Basin Tea Room on 11th March 2019 @ 7:00pm

Present

Stuart Rennie (SHR) ~ Chairman & Notes
Mike Smith (MS) ~ Vice Chair
David Shirres
Chris Hunt
Ronnie Reis (RR)
Lynne Nelson (LN)

Item No.	Item	Action
1	Introduction & Apologies SHR explained that this was a meeting to address future strategy, and was in lieu of the standard monthly committee meeting. Members of the Strategic Development Group had been invited. Apologies were tendered by Douglas Robertson, Andy Eaglesfield, Chris Mathieson-Dear & Danny Callaghan SHR welcomed all others to the meeting	
2	Financial Status & Summary	
2.1	Reserves Policy Discussion was given to the subject of our Reserves Policy which is stated as ... <i>“The reserves policy of the charitable company is to maintain unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately at least six months unrestricted expenditure.”</i> After considerable discussion it was agreed that this should be set at a financial level of £40,000.00. David Shirres confirmed that due to recent non-typical spend our current balance was circa £42,500, but we were about to enter the summer season when historically income exceeds expenditure. No further action was deemed necessary, but it was obviously incumbent on the treasurer to review our future spend profile in relation to this agreed reserve policy.	

3.0 Current Initiatives

3.1 Victoria Refurbishment

- 3.1.1 Leader Update ~ SHR confirmed that we had withdrawn our application to Leader for funding the Eco Friendly Victoria project due to the volume of information Leader were looking for, and our inability to produce same timeously.
- 3.1.2 Current Work & Anticipated Costs ~ Mike Smith confirmed that work was progressing well with the urgent repair to the hull steelwork, and it was scheduled to be complete before the start of the season, and the opening day flotilla. The estimated cost of the works was circa £4,500.00 the major part of which was the crane costs of some £4k.
- 3.1.3 Additional works for 2019 season ~ It was agreed that we would continue to monitor required maintenance work during the season and attend to as required to keep the boat in service. It was noted however that considerable attention / work was needed throughout the vessel to maintain her as our flagship on a longer term basis
- 3.1.4 Future Works ~ Consideration is to be given to alternative proposals to the postponed "Eco Friendly Victoria" project, including alternatives to the "Hybrid" proposal. MS undertook to progress this. **MS**

4.0 Initiatives for Consideration

- 4.1 Slipway Modification ~ Due to the penal cost of crane hire to lift vessels from (and return them to) the water it was agreed to investigate whether modifications to the slipway could be undertaken to facilitate this. CH undertook to investigate this **CH**
- 4.2 Joint Marketing Initiatives ~ SHR suggested we could benefit from Joint Marketing initiatives with other organisations, mutually benefitting from each other's marketing exposure. This was unanimously agreed and SHR undertook to progress the concept **SHR**
- SHR would speak with A Mackie re formalising the **Building & Premises Group** **SHR**

5.0 Any Other Business

- 5.1 U66 Proposals ~ Proposals to display the remnants / artefacts reclaimed from U66 are to be progressed. DS undertook to produce sketches showing how the hull section and rudder could be displayed attached to the slipway quay wall. SHR undertook to discuss the proposals with Scottish Canals. **DS / SHR**

6.0 Dates of Next Meetings

Next Committee Meeting : 8th April @ 7:00pm
Next Strategy Meeting 12th August @ 7:00pm