

**Special Meeting held in LUCS Tea Room,
8th November 2017 @ 1:00pm to discuss
The Future of St Magdalene**



A special meeting of the members was held in the Tea Room on 8th November 2017. Given the imminent arrival of St Michael, the sole objective of the meeting was to ascertain the views of the membership regarding the future of St Magdalene.

The meeting (advertised by email, social media, and public notice) was open to all current members of the Society, and was attended by 28 members. Apologies were received from 7 others. In addition, a number of written submissions were submitted to the chairman in advance of the meeting.

The meeting was chaired by Allan Melling, (Chairman) who opened proceedings, emphasising that no motion had been tabled for consideration, and therefore no decision on the future of St Magdalene would be agreed by the meeting, but the views expressed by those present, together with those submitted in writing, would be considered by the committee prior to any decision regarding the future of St Magdalene being made. The meeting should also concentrate solely on St Magdalene, as consideration of other matters would simply detract from the objective of the meeting. The Chairman further emphasised that any decision would not be imminent, since our new boat would not be commissioned for full service for a considerable time after we took ownership of her.

Matters raised from the floor regarding the sale of St Magdalene included obtaining a professional valuation of St Magdalene so that if the decision to sell is ultimately taken, we obtain a realistic market value; she should be advertised UK wide, and restrictions should be placed on any purchaser competing commercially with LUCS. We should also have a clear view regarding the advantages of selling --- balanced against the benefit/cost of retention

Some form of joint venture with other organisations was tabled, albeit further consideration would be required re responsibilities, shared costs etc.

It was further suggested that prior to concluding any decision to sell the vessel, consideration should be given to all other forms of use to which she could be made to the benefit of the canal, and to meet the requirements and objectives of the Society.

The meeting concluded at 2.45pm. Chairman Allan Melling thanked everyone for their attendance and constructive comments and suggestions, and agreed to take all matters raised back to the committee for further consideration at the relevant time.