

MINUTES OF THE 36th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE LINLITHGOW UNION CANAL SOCIETY

Date: Thursday 3 December 2015
Chaired by: Duncan McIntyre
Members present: 35
Apologies: Janet Hayes, Alan Hayes, Edith Kinnear, Anne Thom, Janette Nixon, Stephen Nixon, Graham Nixon, Joy Galloway, Diane Fairgrieve, Ian Walker, Elizabeth Walker, Barbara Mckenzie, Joan Tyler, David Roy, Barbara Braithwaite, Margaret McAllister, Margaret Gunstone, Andy Devenport, Trish McLuckie, Mary Neilson and Audrey Simon.

Chairman's Welcome

Duncan opened the meeting and welcomed everyone along. The secretary read out the apologies for non-attendance. He drew attention to the fact that two members had passed away during the past year, Michael Green and Judith Toleman.

Duncan said the Annual Report contains contributions from all conveners.

Minutes of AGM of 4th December 2014

The minutes were agreed. Proposed: Dennis Franks, Seconded: Mike Smith.

Matters arising from last year's Minutes – No matters arising.

Report of the Committee of Management for the year to 30 September 2014

The Report is as printed on pages 6, 7 and 8 of the LUCS News. There have been a number of highlights in the last year. The driveway was completed as a result of funding from West Lothian Land Trust, Jim and Nuala Lonie of Canal House and a donation from the Society in terms of the electrical points in the driveway.

At the start of the season we celebrated the 40th birthday of the Society with a dinner - invited guests were past chairmen and founder members and past Provosts of the Deacons Court who were also celebrating 40 years.

A plaque was donated by the Institute of Civil Engineers which was unveiled at the basin by Provost Tom Kerr and Roland Paxton of the Institute. A first edition of Thomas Telford's original document was also donated by them.

Refurbishment of Leamington has now been completed and has been a great success. Fun Day was the usual outstanding success thanks to the organisation of Lynne Nelson who has taken this over.

Thanks were also due to John Aitken, Elspeth Ross and David Shirres who have successfully launched our new web site.

St Magdalene was through at the dry dock in Ratho after the season finished. She has passed her two yearly examination. Leamington has also been in the dry dock.

Accounts for the year to 30th September 2015

Douglas Robertson presented the accounts. He pointed out that we are running at a small loss this year. This was due to accrual to Scottish Canals re Leamington.

Nevertheless the Society is in good financial shape. Results are consistent with previous years. The saving of boats in the dry dock as opposed to craning them out of the water was considerable. Lynne Nelson and Douglas had both contributed £500 being a donation from their employers in respect of volunteering. The accounts were

adopted. Proposed: Gordon Beetham. Seconded: Jim Lonie.

Appointment of Independent Examiners for the year to 30 September 2016

Douglas proposed we continue with Philip Bald. This was approved. Proposed: Douglas Robertson. Seconded: Dennis Franks.

Appointment of Solicitors for the year to 30th September 2016

It was agreed that Pagan Osborne be retained. Proposed: Douglas Robertson. Seconded: Danny Callaghan.

Election of Officers and Members of the Committee of Management

(For convenience, the Proposers and Seconders of all candidates are tabulated below). Duncan McIntyre stood down as Chairman.

The following Officers were elected:

Chairman: Duncan McIntyre

Vice chairman: Allan Melling

Treasurer and Company Secretary: Douglas Robertson was re-elected.

Minutes Secretary: Pat McIntyre.

The Chairman sought nominations for the Committee from the floor. There were none. Nominations for ordinary members had been received and were duly elected.

The Committee for 2016 is as follows:

Office	Name	Proposer	Secunder
Chairman	Duncan McIntyre	Allister Mackie	Tony Lyons
Vice-chairman	Allan Melling	E A S Liddle	Bob Wigley
Treasurer	Douglas Robertson	Duncan McIntyre	Allister Mackie
Secretary	Pat McIntyre	Allister Mackie	Alan McAllister
Committee Members	Barbara McKenzie	Pat McIntyre	Alan McAllister
	Lynne Nelson	Bob Wigley	Duncan McIntyre
	John Green	Ronnie Reis	Allan Melling
	Gordon Hewitt	Duncan McIntyre	Allan Melling
	Anne Lennon	Pat McIntyre	Ronnie Reis

David Shirres and Ronnie Reis have both resigned from the committee. Duncan thanked David for his excellent work on the booking system and the website. He also thanked Ronnie for his role as boatmaster.

Proposals for the season 2015

Duncan said that for next year we are looking at the possibility of a new boat to replace St Magdalene. We are in contact with the Northwich Boat Company. This is to be looked at by the committee next year. This is to be a joint effort with LUCS and the West Lothian Leader Fund. We are also looking at using credit/debit cards for hires and charters.

Fixing of subscriptions for 2014-2015

The Committee and membership Secretary discussed the current membership subscriptions and recommended that they remain the same for another year.

Proposed: Douglas Robertson and Seconded: Dennis Franks.

There were no motions proposed prior to the meeting.

Duncan then formally closed the meeting.

Any other business:

Dennis Franks asked about the possibility of having the new boat built in Scotland. Jim Lonie asked about what was happening with St Magdalene. We have been approached by ReUnion in the event of her being available. Mike Smith said that he felt that St Magdalene was still good for a while longer.

John Aitken asked if a boat 10' long would be able to turn on the canal at the winding hole. It was felt that there would be no problem with this.

Stewart Liddle said that one of the hire boat companies down south had ordered a boat from Eastern Europe with a view to ordering more but had cancelled any further orders as they were not completely satisfied with the quality.

Gordon Beetham asked about the proposed boat and asked if this would cost a lot for delivery. The answer to this was no.