

HISTORIC NARROW BOAT CLUB

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at 11:00 am on Saturday 12 January 2019 at the Samuel Barlow, Alvecote, B78 1AS

PRESENT: Richard Booth, Clair Butler, Sue Cawson, Kathryn Dodington, Mike Harrison, Nick Grundy, David Lowe, Iain MacTavish, Norman Mitchell, Val Roberts, Rupert Smedley, Laura Sturrock. David Daines,

1. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies had been received from Phil Prettyman, Ros Prettyman, Bernard Hales, Paul Hunter, Ian McCarthy, Michael Pinnock, Alison Smedley, Amy-Alys Tillson, James Tidy, Sarah Edgson Sarah Levick, Penny Ross

2. INTERIM CHAIR

Nick Grundy was appointed interim chair in the absence of Phil Prettyman. Nick asked that we think of Ros as she recovered from her indisposition

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Saturday 17 November 2018 were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

4. AGM 2019

1. Please note the earlier start time of 10:00 at Whittington
2. Reminder that we need a presentation for the Keay and Hemelryk awards –
Action: Phil and Paul
3. Motion to increase membership fees to £18 and £22 needs careful presenting. New fees to start January 2020. Membership fee needs to provide for sustainable club. Those present voted 12:1 in favour of the increase in membership fees.
Action: Laura to send her motion to Val
4. Eric McDowall
Action: Mike to contact Eric McDowall to see what equipment he requires
5. Labels will be required
Action: Penny to produce Word file of labels for Val
6. Voting tea/coffee
Action: Clair to bring coloured paper for voting and Sue to bring tea, coffee, milk, cake, biscuits etc
7. Proposed speakers at future events Tam and Di Murrell and Tony Condor with his Railways and Canals presentation were suggested.
Action: Kathryn to contact Tam and Di Murrell (Post meeting note: Tam & Di are delighted to have been asked but don't feel able to commit as they spend so much time in France)
8. Nominations (Nominations papers still need to be completed):
 - i. Chair: Phil
 - ii. Vice-Chair – no nominations received yet – we need one urgently as witnessed by Phil's absence today
 - iii. Secretary: Kathryn
 - iv. Membership Secretary: Penny (Note - Laura offered to help Penny if a change of Standing Orders is required)
 - v. Awards: Paul
 - vi. IWA: Alison
 - vii. Minutes Secretary: Ros
 - viii. Press Officer: Amy & James

- ix. Area Reps: Much discussion took place especially around CRT's slowness to reorganise themselves; agreed to review at the June committee meeting.

Action: David D to draft motion for the AGM to 'authorise' current area reps to remain in place until CRT reorganisation complete.

David's proposed motion is as follows:

In the light of the present ongoing re-organisation taking place within CRT, with the consequent uncertainty of regional boundaries, the re-election of Club Area Representatives shall be placed on hold, and all present Reps shall be deemed to be remaining 'in post', provided of course they are willing to do so, for a further year.

5. FUTURE MEETINGS:

Future meeting dates were reviewed, and the following dates proposed.

1. Saturday 15 June at 11:00 at Alvecote – booking pencilled in
2. Saturday 28 September at 11:00 at Alvecote – booking pencilled in
3. Saturday 16 November at 10:30 at Whittington for autumn social – booking made

6. BOAT INSURANCE

Members are still receiving refusals to renew from some insurance companies. Kathryn has spoken to Michael Stimpson who is happy to help. A set of questions were devised but Michael Stimpson thought that submission of them would be, in his opinion, fruitless and not elicit any reasonable answers. Therefore, proposal is that a small article will go into the next magazine advising anyone with insurance problems to contact Kathryn who will put them in touch with Michael Stimpson. During the meeting an e-mail was received from member John Francis who has managed to place his insurance through Michael when directed to him via contact with the club. It was agreed that the club should not be seen to be associated with any insurance company or broker.

Action: Kathryn to write small article for the next newsletter.

7. REPORTS

1. Chair – nothing to report
2. Secretary – as per report submitted. Fabian Hiscock request to be passed to David L with suggestion that display is moved around the country.
Action: Kathryn to contact Fabian
3. Treasurer – Approval of accounts unanimous. Money from Tombola agreed to be donated to LHCT. Money from autumn social was £200 (Tombola) and £30 (teas and coffees) plus £270 from club funds to make a total of £500.
4. Archivist – nothing to report.
5. Newsletter – next issue deadline date is 01 February. Quiz to be further publicised on Facebook with results at AGM.
Action: Amy and James to publicise of Facebook.
6. Shop – nothing further to report – see item 12
7. Navigation – Sue will be attending CRT's 'Developing the Trust's Vision and Strategy for Boating' meeting on 30 January.
8. Press – need ideas for the future. Report on Awards suggested
9. IWA – Alison attended the West Midlands Customer meeting recently.

8. AREA REPS

1. West Midlands – nothing to report
2. East Midlands – as in Kathryn's secretary's report. Mike nothing to report.
3. K & A as in Nicks report but in addition Semington Lock closure, which was 'until further notice' is now until 15 March.
4. London – Michael will send a report as soon as he can
5. Manchester, Pennines, Potteries – as submitted
6. North East – as submitted
7. North Wales and Border – as submitted but in addition mentioned the buttressing on one wall of Hurlston Lock.
8. North West – considered vacant
9. South East – David had nothing to say!
10. South Wales and Severn – Gloucester Docks being dredged
11. Thames – nothing to report
12. East – nothing to report

9. ELLESMERE PORT MEETING

Sue advised that the meeting is coming together well. There will be no 'Ray Butler Singalong' this year but that will be replaced by an evening of canal related films. A compère for the evening was required; Mike volunteered for the position.

On the Friday night there will be a presentation by Margaret Harrison and Mike Carter to talk about the boats in the store. There will be visits to the boat store during the weekend.

Action: Sue to arrange for information to be passed to Val for the next newsletter.

10. HEBDEN BRIDGE GATHERING

Mike advised that he had received 26 bookings so far; the cut-off date is 02 Mar (AGM date). Convoys will be a 'loose arrangement' and lock restrictions will be in the boaters' pack.

The guest speaker is proposed to be Mike Clarke.

Action Clair to contact Mike to see if he is available.

Organ recital

Action: David L to investigate the possibility of giving an organ recital

Sunday night food was discussed at length and the proposal needs to be resolved. Sandra Green needs assistance; a specific mooring has been arranged and the boat will be moved across to the other side during the day. Mike is not aware of any other disabled requirements. The bar will be run by the local theatre group, beer from the local brewery and there is a Risk Assessment in place.

Action: Phil to mention stair access to the meeting room at the AGM.

11. VICE CHAIRMAN

Nick reiterated that there is a real need to find a vice-chair and that we should look outside the committee. There was a possibility that the responsibilities of chair and vice-chair could be split. There was a suggestion to place the current committee at the front at the AGM facing the membership.

12. CLUB SHOP

Sales are declining – see Clair's report. It was noted that the feeling of the meeting was that the club should have a stand at events.

David tabled a suggestion that the club shop stock could be sold through, for example, the museum in Stoke Bruerne and/or Audlem. It was suggested that it probably wasn't worth running the club shop as it is but maybe club publications, Christmas cards etc should still be sold through the club. It was suggested that all second-hand books could be discounted at the AGM by 10% and then second-hand books to be further discounted to half price and new ones by one third at the November Social. No new stock to be purchased. The current value of the stock is £1,600.

13. KEAY AND HEMELRYK AWARDS

1. Kathryn has the small plaques.
Action: Kathryn to send two small plaques to Paul for engraving.
2. Trophies – Sue has collected the award from Ade Polglase.
Action: Kathryn to e-mail Bernard to ensure the award is returned by Steve Bingham/Dudley Canal Trust.
3. Committee wished to know the names of the two boats that Paul is considering.
Action: Paul to advise the committee as requested.

14. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ACTION LIST

1. Phil to mention First Aid training at the AGM – available through local Red Cross and St Johns' Ambulance and reclaimable from the club for those attending Hebden Bridge Gathering – need to control numbers.
2. Need to add 'pinchpoints' to the next agenda
3. Obituary required for Dr Thompson – Val has request help from Brenda Ward and requested a copy of the eulogy. Michael P can you assist if Val draws a blank?
4. Audlem event:
 - i. Event application completed
 - ii. HNBC (Sue) to approve
 - iii. Ensure HNBC only is made known
 - iv. Club only boats.
Action: Sue to ask Peter Sylvester to send a list of people he proposes to invite to the 2019 gathering to Clair to check they are members.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing was recorded.

The meeting closed at 16:00

Phil Prettyman
Chairman

