

Derby and Sandiacre Canal Society

Annual General Meeting

Held at 8pm on Tuesday October 25th 2016 at the Wilmot Arms, Borrowash.

Present 27 members

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed members

2. Apologies

Brian Daly, Mike Wood, Tony Cashmore, Ian Bowley, Paul Turner, Mike Bardill

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the 2015 AGM

They were agreed as a true record, proposed by Roger Ashmead, seconded by Paul Birtles, carried unanimously

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Treasurer's Report

Accounts for the Financial year ending 31 March 2016

Income:

- No grants received by the Society in the year.
- Of the donations £2,000 was from one source in respect of scrap equipment disposed off.
- Membership income received by the Society is for the Trust.
- Meeting income (entrance fees and raffle) down by £200, but increased profit of £250 (up by £90) as we negotiated a £10 per meeting room hire saving.
- Merchandise sales and other show income down by £220.
- Advertising revenue up by £230. Speaker fees static.
- Barn dance led to a profit for the year of £120.
- Work party costs in income is a refund from the Trust
- IWA raffle ticket sales remitted in full to the IWA.

The final income item is repayment by the Trust of its loan from the Society.

Expenditure:

- Packet and publishing costs covers 3 editions of the Packet and 10,000 new leaflets.
- Postage and stationery has risen in this year as postage had to be paid on the final edition of the Packet in the year. Previously postage had been kindly donated to us. Some additional postage for new membership and merchandise sales.
- Work party costs included Health and Safety kit, replacement chainsaw bar and chain, fuel, a trailer and the material to fence under Derby Road bridge, Draycott the latter being reimbursed by the Trust.
- Merchandise purchases much reduced over the previous year.
- Training Costs - £687 for chainsaw training, £70 website management.
- Other show income cost was the £50 prize for "Spot the Kingfisher".

- The Society had the opportunity to purchase a trail boat that it hopes to use for fundraising at some point.
- The Society did not make any donation to the Trust in respect of the financial year ended 31st March 2016. The intention is that the Society would make a donation at a later date as part of match funding of grant application by the Trust.
- As the financial position of the Trust is greatly improved the Trust repaid its loan of £1,682 to the Society and also passed across all Draw Income it had received.
- Total income for the Society in the year therefore exceeded expenditure by almost £3,000.
- At the year end the Society had a balance in the bank of £5,783.59.
- I would welcome the Chairman calling for a vote to accept the Society accounts for the year ended 31st March 2016.

Accounts are attached to these minutes.

Proposed by Anne Madge, seconded by Eileen Holland, carried unanimously

6. Report on Other Activities of the Society during the Year

a. Social Meetings

Anne reviewed the speaker programme for 2016 and circulated the planned timetable for 2017

b. Working Parties and Events

Eddy presented slides of the year's working parties and events attended

c. Chairman's report

Update from the Trust

- Water Abstraction has now been registered, but no bill has yet been received.
- Derby Arm ideas are continuing to attract attention. Peter Brett Assocs have been appointed to undertake a costing appraisal to be followed by a benefits analysis. Mike Wingfield has the support of RR apprentice programme to produce a model for display and an animated video of the river is being prepared.
- We have had meetings with Christine Durrant Deputy C/E and Martin Rawson Deputy Leader at DCC to discuss Riverside proposals.
- Land at Spondon is currently up for sale and may lead to development – possibly with a section of canal accommodated.
- Paul Bayliss (past Labour Leader of DCC) has produced a draft Marketing Plan. Mark Tittley had introduced him, but has now resigned from the Labour Group and this will probably upset the relationship with Paul and provide a gap in representation at DCC Labour Group. We are looking to fill the gap.
- Sandiacre Lock has progressed. Soil samples in the Lock have shown asbestos and heavy metals and costs are rising due to disposal costs. We still plan to progress this but it will be much slower.
- Derbys CC have offered to transfer two stretches of land at Sandiacre and Borrowash, but this again is slow progress.
- There have been many reports of a Tram connection from Derby to Toton (HS2). One track is the A52, the other our route. We have not responded to these publicly as we want to get the land transfers through. We will ask DCC whether they support this plan later this week.

Timescales are likely to be around 20 years so we are looking to get canal stretches in place as quickly as possible.

- The most obvious first candidate is the Draycott section. We have received a quote for £350k to complete a full kilometre. Conversations have started with the village to gauge support levels ahead of a planning application and fundraising.
- The Executive Group managing all this progress has seen some considerable change. We lost David Hayes, a most able secretary, early in the year. Steve Jeffery suffered a serious illness that has seen him reduce his involvement in his business and the Trust. Fortunately we have seen Mike Wingfield (RR) and Duncan Inwood (ex DCC Planner) and David Savidge join the committee, together with Roger Ashfield being seconded from the Society. This stronger team means we have been able to advance on the many fronts above, but our progress will be affected by Paul Turner's resignation as Chair of the Group. At present I have taken on that role and we are looking for a secretary to take minutes in my place.

Society Report

- We have already heard how Working Parties have accelerated in numbers and scope. Borrowwash has become a DIY section for the Society and substantial progress has been made. Thanks are particularly due to Keith Johnson, who has undertaken the new Weds group at Borrowwash, working alongside Nigel Dagley's Team. Altogether we have seen up to 15 people attend and a number of very welcome new faces.
- We have invested in Chainsaw (me) and Knotweed (Eddy) training, which will earn funds to cover the training and progress the project..
- Anne has highlighted a very varied and well supported set of Members Meetings during the year. We discussed earlier this year moving the timing to 7.30pm and I'd like to take a vote on that.
The meeting voted on a motion to move the start to 7.30pm, 22 were in favour, 3 against and 2 abstentions. The proposal was carried and the earlier start time will come into effect from November 2016.
- We have attended 9 events at Nottingham, Trent Lock, Breaston twice, Draycott Xmas, Chellaston, Spondon, Hayworth Park, Swarkestone Lock Through. Overall these have been manned by a selection of 9 stalwarts.
- We have provided talks to the public – 8 this year, and already have 5 planned to March next year.
- Emma has continued to manage our Website development and Social Media, despite spending a lot of time working abroad and preparing for a house move. With her guidance we have been able to respond to questions and post reports, etc. very promptly.
- We have written, edited and distributed three Packets of good quality at a cost of around £2,000 last year including printing and postage. We had only a 20% take up in electronic format. I am concerned that this method of communication is slow and ineffective for members. I would like to move to an electronic distribution, which could be produced more regularly, easily and with great cost savings. The efforts of editors and distributors and the cost incurred in printing and posting are reducing the focus on restoration efforts. I am never sure how many people read the Packet as we get very little feedback. Perhaps this is proven by the lack of response to the request for help in the September Packet!

I would like to obtain the support of the membership to remove the automatic right to receive a Packet and with your support will send out an electronic copy to all those with an email address.

There was some discussion in the meeting, with David Hayes, Peter Brookes and Emma Keeling providing reasons to retain a hard copy Packet. Derek Hathaway proposed that only 2 Packets a year would be printed; the monthly newsletter to continue to be sent by email and that all members with an email address will now receive the Packet electronically, but may also request a hard copy. The meeting provided general approval, but without a vote being taken. The Committee will review the position with a view to implementing changes in the January Packet.

- The Committee has been very effective and dedicated this year as always. I would like to thank all of the Committee members for their help - Chris, David and Roger have fulfilled their Society responsibilities well and have also been very effective on the Trust. Eddy has been my go to wing man organising publicity, Working Parties and Events Merchandise. Anne has covered the other wing and always been on hand to encourage when I feel I've had enough – and made woolly animals and even co-opted Elizabeth to help. Mark has taken on the Editorship of the Packet with Eddy's support and Doug has been there to supply information and pictures whenever asked. Emma has continued to improve our website and social media and Paul and Jackie have supported us at events and with the meeting programme handouts despite Paul's illness. And of course Eileen has talked to everyone about us (whether they want her to or not), been behind the stall selling merchandise, organising the meetings with Anne and Elizabeth and singlehandedly got us a three page exposure in Waterways World. Thank you all.
- However despite this support it is becoming increasingly difficult for me to keep on top of everything. We have real options for restoration progress, but we are struggling to keep up the momentum. We have therefore discussed in Committee how we can manage all the activities going forward. Should we refocus our Society activities with emphasis on restoration and drop some activities or can we get more help from you, our members? I have received no feedback from the pleas in the last Packet so it is my intention to do the former unless I get volunteers at the meeting.
- With this in mind we will aim to reduce the time spent on events and talks and the Packet. This will enable me to step back from the Society and focus on pushing forward the restoration by the Trust. I therefore intend not to stand again in 2017 as Chair and to pass this on to a member of the Committee. I will use the coming year to effect the change and move my focus. Thank you all for your support.

7. Election of Officers

The following offered themselves for reappointment.

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|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Chairman | Chris Madge |
| b. Vice Chair | Eddy Case |
| c. Treasurer | Chris ReesFitzpatrick |
| d. Secretary | Anne Madge |
| e. Membership | Roger Ashmead |
| f. Events/ Social Coordinator | Vacant |
| g. Media | Emma Keeling |

h. Committee Members David Savidge, Eileen Holland, Keith Johnson, Keith Taylor

The new committee was proposed en bloc by Chris and all were elected by unanimous vote.

8. Kate Birtles Award

Paul presented this to David Savidge in recognition of the tremendous impact he has made across both organisations since he joined the Committee around a year ago. He has become as an active member of the Society committee attending most events and working parties. He is now our health and safety officer, which he takes most seriously and has distributed around 6,000 society leaflets locally requiring us to reprint them. He has also joined the Trust Development Group and has taken over specific responsibility for the Draycott restoration.

9. AOB

The raffle was drawn

The meeting closed at 10. 20pm

Derby & Sandiacre Canal Society

Accounts for the Financial year to:

	31/03/2016	31/03/2015
Cash and Bank b/ f	£2,887.75	£3,049.32
Income		
Donations	£2,908.30	£509.49
L A Grants	£0.00	£0.00
Membership	£50.00	£38.00
Draw Income	£1,068.00	£1,080.00
Meeting Income	£671.48	£887.80
Merchandise Sales	£1,249.44	£1,509.94
Speaker Fees Rec'd	£220.00	£212.26
Advertising Revenue	£625.00	£396.00
Packet & Publishing	£0.00	£0.00
Costs		
Work Party Costs	£162.12	£0.00
Other Show Income	£155.00	£110.00
IWA Raffle Tickets	£90.00	£70.00
Barn Dance	£553.00	£0.00
Loan Repayment	£1,682.00	£0.00
Total Income	£9,434.34	£4,813.49
Expenditure		
Draw Payments	£448.00	£731.00
Meeting Costs	£424.00	£726.00
Packet & Publishing	£2,130.00	£1,099.82
Costs		
Work Party Costs	£415.52	£46.27
Postage and Stationery	£152.76	£40.21
Show Attendance Costs	£90.00	£24.00
Website Costs	£90.00	£70.00
Merchandise Purchases	£665.90	£1,147.76
Subscriptions	£5.00	£0.00
Training Costs	£757.00	£0.00
Miscellaneous Admin	£190.33	£0.00
Trust Donations	£0.00	£0.00
Other Show Income	£50.00	£0.00
IWA Raffle Tickets	£90.00	£70.00
Membership	£50.00	£38.00
Trail Boat Costs	£500.00	£0.00
Barn Dance	£430.00	£0.00
Total Expenditure	£6,538.50	£3,993.06
Increase in Trust Loan		£982.00
Cash and bank c/f	£5,783.59	£2,887.75
Trust Loan Balance	£0.00	£1,682.00
Total Society Assets	£5,783.59	£5,551.75