

DERBY AND SANDIACRE CANAL TRUST Minutes of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Tuesday November 28th 2023 at 7.30pm

Held at the Canal Cottages Draycott

Present: Chris Madge (Chairman)
David Savidge
Paul Turner
Mike Snaith
Derek Troughton
Anne Madge (secretary)

18 other members attended.

Apologies: Chris ReesFitzPatrick
Alan Jeffries
Dave and Carol Wood
Dave and Carol Eley

Chris Madge welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

Item	Minute	Action
1	Adoption of the Minutes of the last AGM The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted unanimously, proposed by Gary Harding and seconded by Mike Snaith.	
2	Matters Arising Any matters arising will be covered in the reports.	
3	Treasurers Report Derek presented the annual accounts, up to the end of March 2023 and the current cash position for the Trust. His report is attached. He identified one major change – because of advice we have been given, the ownership of the cottages and café should be moved out of the Trading Company and into the Trust account. The riverboat will remain in the Trading Company account. The current cash position – total funds in the Trust account amount to £372,191.06. The total funds in the Trading Company are £20,147.03. Chris thanked Derek for all the effort he has put in this year.	
4	Annual Accounts Adoption The accounts have been circulated prior to the meeting and are available on the website. Adoption of the accounts was moved. Proposed Paul Turner Seconded Sarah Cresswell Carried unanimously.	
5	Reappointment of the Registered Accountants – CA Plus There have been a few issues with the accountants this year. Although it took a long time to get through this year, next year the accounts will be simpler. CA Plus are a not-for-profit organisation and a charity and they cost less than half of anyone else. Derek recommended staying with them.	

	Proposed Chris Madge Seconded Paul Turner Carried unanimously	
6	Chairman's Report Chris gave a presentation covering what has happened over the past year. This is attached.	
7	Trust Priorities for 2024 Paul has been working on acquiring land in Breaston. He is in discussion with Sustrans to buy the canal bed to the east of Hopwell Road. This has taken 2 years, and he is very close to concluding the deal. The land will include the winding hole. There will be potential to dig this out which will help to alleviate flooding in the area. Paul suggested building towpaths through Breaston to encourage more people to use the canal line eastwards beyond the Navigation. Apparently, funding is more readily available for towpaths and volunteers would prefer to build these than clear vegetation. It is important to maintain the canal line. He is also in talks with Nancy Godwin at Swarkestone. The water vole management and Draycott dig out is a top priority. It was agreed that it is important to finish projects like this and the riverboat pontoon in Derby. Moving the sewer in Sandiacre. We should receive a further £100k in funding from section 106 money and Chris noted that the new leader of Erewash Borough Council and his group are very supportive. Paul has links with Breaston Parish Council. Pride Park – the Derby Arm. Building some resilience to prevent more flooding. Looking at the benefits a canal can deliver, using climate change to our advantage. Working more closely with Severn Trent and Network Rail. Looking at control of the bullrushes, this may need to be done from a boat. There will be a need to look at practical issues, where to keep one etc. It was noted that membership has fallen slightly recently. It was agreed to make a list to take to the next director's meeting for discussion.	
8	Kate Birtles award This was awarded to Peter Warmingham in recognition of his work over the past year. He is now producing the Packet, which is more professional and readable, as well as publishing in the DE72 magazine for the Trust and talking to local organisations. The trophy was presented by Paul Birtles who spoke about his late wife, Kate.	
9	Appointment of Directors The directors required to resign by rotation were Chris Madge, Chris ReesFitzPatrick and Paul Turner. Each offered themselves for re-election. No further nominations were received from the meeting. Proposed Roger Ashmead Seconded Mike Snaith All were appointed by a unanimous vote.	
10	Appointment of Officers Chairman Chris Madge Vice Chairman Mike Wingfield Treasurer Derek Troughton Secretary Anne Madge Proposed Paul Turner	

	<p>Seconded Charlie Forbes Carried unanimously. It was moved to formally appoint Chris Richardson as a director. Proposed Roger Ashmead Seconded Gary Harding Carried unanimously.</p>																			
13	<p>AOB Peter Ball asked if the directors could review and clarify the mowing policy, David said that this should be resolved next year. This year has been very wet. There is now a mowing policy on the website which is more wildlife friendly. Peter's concern was noted, he was thanked for the work that he does, and it will be reviewed at the director's meeting. Anne asked for more copy for social media. David reported that 2990 working hours had been achieved by volunteers on working parties in 2023. He has 90 people on his email list and would like more to turn up in person. The following speakers have been booked for next year's members meetings.</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="203 730 1161 951"> <tr> <td>January 23rd</td> <td>The life of James Brindley</td> <td>Cliff Lea</td> </tr> <tr> <td>February 27th</td> <td>The Friargate Line</td> <td>Keith Blood</td> </tr> <tr> <td>March 27th</td> <td>The Woodland Trust</td> <td>Gerald Price</td> </tr> <tr> <td>April 23rd</td> <td>The Ilkeston Tramway</td> <td>Stephen Flinders</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 28th</td> <td>The Carlisle Ship canal</td> <td>David Ramshaw</td> </tr> <tr> <td>June 25th</td> <td>walk</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Chris thanked all for their support and closed the meeting at 9.25pm</p>	January 23 rd	The life of James Brindley	Cliff Lea	February 27 th	The Friargate Line	Keith Blood	March 27 th	The Woodland Trust	Gerald Price	April 23 rd	The Ilkeston Tramway	Stephen Flinders	May 28 th	The Carlisle Ship canal	David Ramshaw	June 25 th	walk		
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