

Manchester & Stockport



Canal Society

Hon President; Ian Moss

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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Saturday 10th October 2015 at Stockport Labour Club commencing at 10:30am

Present and apologies

6 members as in the attendance register. 3 apologies were received & accepted also as in the attendance register.

Minutes of the AGM held on 11th October 2014 & matters arising.

The minutes were approved and adopted unanimously. There were no matters arising.

Annual Reports-

The Chairman reported that we now planned a total of 10 heritage plaques of which four had been erected on various buildings with six more to follow including the recent approval by Network Rail for a plaque on the aqueduct over the railway near Gorton station..

Manchester University Civil Engineering students had devised an ingenious diversion of the canal via Gorton Lower reservoir with a southerly lock to the Reddish arm fed by water from the upper reservoir.

The 21 cohort of students would be designing a replacement aqueduct to cross the Marple to Piccadilly railway at North Reddish..

In the meantime Moss Naylor Young (MNY) Canal Consultants were about to publish an economic report on the possibilities of a sustainable income for the canal if re-opened in stages. Initial indications are that income would go some way to supporting major capital expenditure, but that to complete full restoration to Lancashire Hill could take from 20 to 25 years because of buildings across the line at the southerly end.

The Secretary reported that approvals for further plaques at Oasis Aspinall Academy, A57 Hyde Rd, the Dry Dock Bridge near Paprika Close, Gorton Station, Gorton Aqueduct had been received and that planning permission for the plaque at bridge 11A on the Ashton when our canal starts was in hand. The structure is listed. Application for grants were being made to Manchester City Ward Improvement Fund, donations from members and the IWA Manchester had been and are being sought to complete the programme which is expected to be completed next spring. Following that we expect to undertake the publication of an Education pack for Primary Schools which will deal with the history of the canal and its effect on the surrounding area. The website was being upgraded by Bill Bates and in co-operation with FORSS, The Railway and Canal Society and Friends of Clayton Hall plus Community organisations at 5 Fun Days along the canal had been active during the year. A number of members had to be thanked for their part in all this work and for the plaque programme. DS/PS

Membership The secretary reported that there were 28 members but some had still been paying into the old HSBC account. He and the former treasurer were attempting to sort this problem out, to close the old account and send the balance to the Hollinwood Society following the closure of the Limited Company and the Charity.

Treasurer Report and Annual Accounts for year ending 30th Sept. 2015

The annual Accounts of the unincorporated Society had been circulated previously.

Income was £4070 and Expenditure £2410.71. balance at Bank £1659.29 with an outstanding £1,000 final payment for the MNY Report. There were no question and the report was adopted unanimously.

Annual Accounts to 30th Sept 2015 of the 100 Club Supporters Lottery

The accounts had been circulated previously Income had been £1557.45 and disbursements £1337.60. The treasurer recommended that three prizes of £50 each be drawn and that £180 be donated to the Society's main account for 2016.

The accounts were adopted unanimously and the Treasurer's recommendations approved.

Election of Two Officers by rotation.

The Vice Chair and treasurer posts were up for election. Margaret Burns and Gwen Scott were willing to stand again. They were the only nominations and were approved unanimously.

Honorary President & Patrons

It was recommended by the officers that Ian Moss be elected Honorary President and that Richard Sym of Broadstone House and Andrew Bradburn of Roger Hannah be elected patrons of the Society in the light of the services they had rendered to MSCS.

The proposals were accepted with enthusiasm.

Report of the Trustees of Charity 1116484

The Charity was finally dissolved in Sept 2015, but the six trustees still have responsibilities for a further three years. The reports had been circulated previously. There had been no activity by the Charity in the past year. The report was accepted by those trustees present. PS

100 Club Draw

The draw was made by Hon. President Ian Moss. The Winners were: -

First prize £50 Michael Chase

Second prize £50 Robert Twigg

Third Prize £50 Michael Chase.

GS

Future Projects

The secretary briefly reported on two courses he and Roger Bravey had attended to enable proper planning and financial and legal controls at societies who wished to undertake restoration.

Firstly we needed some succession planning for leading members to ensure continuity over a period which might last 25 years. He recommended that the officers look out for suitable persons now and from time to time. This was agreed. PS

He also recommended that directly we wish to commence restoration we set up a charitable company again & appoint a qualified Company Secretary and a corporate lawyer to advise us in tricky times and that the officers immediately seek people with appropriate skills in these areas. Agreed.

PS/DS

Secondly It was suggested to a meeting next year of stakeholders private and public sector and interest groups to kick start restoration. To prepare for this the Jacobs reports for BW & the Jacobs report on Developments alongside the canal which could bring in what was called S106 money to be examined by Roger Bravey, Andrew Bradburn (of Roger Hannah), & Jacobs and perhaps MNY to establish up to date costs and the prospects for regeneration projects in the east Manchester/Reddish area

Also agreed by the members.

PS.

Thirdly it was suggested that we revive our project for an Education Pack for primary schools. Approved.

PS/MB

Finally it was agreed that we would make a new drive for more 100 Club members.

GS

AoB

Various notices were read out for IWA branch meetings, A Facebook link to Clayton hall friends as requested by them. Contact WRG about the proposed stakeholders meeting next year. Circulate photos of the Mellor Hydro project. Thank the deputy Mayor for the Houldsworth unveiling and send off the photos to those concerned. Ask Liz Watson to set up a facebook account to link with Clayton Hall and others.

PS

Chairman declared the meeting closed at 11:52am.