

**Worcester Canal Group**  
**Notes of meeting 6 May 2014 at the Chestnut Inn**

**Attendance**

Joy Squires, Ivan Smith, Graham Fowler, Paul Brohan, Meg Brohan, Julie-May Adams, Deborah Merrick, Matthew Jenkins, Nathaniel Pitt, Adam Scott.

**Apologies and Intros**

Mike Doyle, Alan Gordon, Suzanne Byrne, Ken Moller, David Ritchie.

1. **Notes of meeting** on 1<sup>st</sup> April accepted as true record.
2. **Matters arising:** Following discussion on the Worcester/Birmingham and Droitwich Canal Society, GF referred to an imminent meeting of the Waterways Forum at Avoncroft. He and Julie-May agreed to attend so we could meet other groups and raise our issues.  
  
City life summer edition has passed its deadline so we agreed to do a piece in Autumn.
3. **Website** development, updates required to keep it lively. The membership list is on mailchimp, and we need a bit more information to be stored, with a new data base. Paul agreed to help Adam with Data Protection compliance.
4. **Links and Partnerships**
  - i. Recent discussion over Perdiswell developments referred to, with objectors to sports development there citing concern over the canal's amenities. Discussion over conservation area status of canal, but it was not thought that this would be affected.
  - ii. St Pauls hostel, volunteers are being sought to do bridge painting, Nick Worthington from CRT is involved.
  - iii. St Modwen is being asked by WCC to look at the broken railings near Wickes.
  - iv. The developer of St Georges Lane is to be contacted by Joy on behalf of WCG so we can have an input.
  - v. Community Safety was a concern after a recent attack on a walker and frequent reports of drug dealing. It was agreed we should establish links with the Neighbourhood Policing, inviting them to a future meeting (AS to contact).
  - vi. It was hoped we could have a presence at the Worcester Show on 17<sup>th</sup> August, perhaps by piggy-backing Transition Worcester. (AS)
5. **Projects**
  - i. Paul updated us on the progress of proposed benches at Wolverton, where CRT has quoted £2500 to install memorial benches. This wasn't quite what we had in mind and Paul will contact the Trust to discuss. It poses question of how CRT works in partnership with local groups, Meanwhile the paths in Lansdowne Park are to be replaced, Deborah M

checking details. The planting along the Wolverton verge was now unlikely due to complications that emerged in discussion, and the need for extensive documentation. The City Council will undertake works to the fence.

- ii. No consultation yet received on planning applications (AS to chase again!)
- iii. Future of Cavalier pub now uncertain.
- iv. Wildlife survey still a good idea, there has been an approach from Richard Delaware which we need to see more details of, the Worcs Wildlife Trust may have good ideas.
- v. Nat reported on arts projects being planned for 2015 around the Worc/Droitwich ring. An event was planned for 31 May in Worcester Art Gallery to seek ideas. Also Meadow Arts are being commissioned to produce some rural sculptures which may be relevant.

**6. Promotion.** Ideas for distributing the leaflet: Deborah to put in at the parks notice boards, Commandery. Matt, the Countryside Centre, Perdiswell Sports and St Stephens Church. Graham F, the Hive and other local groups. Adam, Worc Community Centres, Diglis area businesses, Sustrans. Joy, the Guildhall and councillors pigeon holes.

Also door to door drop to households, to be co-ordinated at a later date.

Any other organisations (walking groups, U3A etc), pass out but let As know where they have gone.

Logos for WCG to be developed. Ideas to be considered at future meeting (Nat volunteered)

**7. Treasurer's report** Ivan reported on a balance of £811.60 plus £15 cash in, a total £826.60. £85 had been spent on the leaflet.

**8. Membership** nothing further to report

**9. AOB** – none, except to thank the Chestnut for their hospitable welcome.

**10. Next meeting – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00 in The Chestnut**