

Minutes of Worcester Canal Group Meeting 14/03/2018

Present: Geri, Dan, Caroline, David, Joy, Peter, Jackie, George, Graham.

Apologies: Margaret, Matt

1. Minutes of last meeting- agreed
2. **Chairs update** – There are concerns about the feasibility of the proposed festival at Perdiswell. There will be a meeting next week.
3. **Easter Wandering Wildlife Survey** – Joy and Graham had attended a meeting about the survey earlier today and updated the group on progress. In general this has been very good, for example there has been interest shown by residents groups in Cathedral Ward and Warndon. An article has appeared in 58. There has been an offer accepted to take part in the family event at Fort Royal on Easter Monday. A call for help through Worcester News photographic club has produced 8 replies. Discussion focused on the Wanderer. Dan and Graham discussed this a week ago and came up with a plan. This has been changed because of the difficulty of turning the boat around at Six Ways. It would be better to take the Wanderer to Tibberton before Easter and then bring her most of the way back on Good Friday. Dan and Graham to continue to liaise with Steve and other potential helms about this.
4. **Canalside Festival** – There has been no progress since our last meeting. This is a concern as there are only three months left to finalise arrangements. There is another meeting scheduled for Friday. Unless there is significant progress it might be that the festival is abandoned.
5. **Update on group activities:**
 - a. Wanderer, discussed under wildlife survey.
 - b. Litter picks, ongoing, there is much less litter than there used to be, especially in the area around Wickes.
 - c. Noticeboards - The St Pauls notice has been raised meaning that the board at Lock 4 now works again. There are lots of notices from Tony Brannon regarding sand martins. Caroline explained that this is to do with the Art Ring project at Oil basin and that Laura Mullholland is keen to find out exactly where sand martins are nesting
 - d. the information board at the brickworks quay is in place.
 - e. Myrtle was uprooted and thrown in the canal. She is damaged but back in place.
 - f. Jackie forwarded information about the Ramblers Association 10 favourite walk, Diglis is nominated, votes needed immediately.
6. **The Arts Ring Project:** Launch tomorrow at Diglis Hotel. Peter and Jane Moorhouse to attend. There are a number of volunteering opportunities arising e.g. guides for Diglis Island visits, helping with the cargo of salt on its way to Droitwich from Gloucester.
7. **AGM.** Monday 14th May at the Guildhall
8. **AOB.**
 - a. On behalf of Tim Booker Caroline mentioned that a dog poo cabinet could be provided at Lansdowne park- agreed.
 - b. Alan Hollis, CRT ranger died recently- agreed that a plaque could be placed on one of the benches in the Arboretum
 - c. Brief discussion of the cutting down of trees at RGS playing fields, this is RGS land not CRT or City Council.

- d. Dan mentioned that there is a hole in the fence at Lowesmoor, to email Caroline with details.

9. **Next Meeting AGM.**