

WORCESTER CANAL GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING 26th September 2018

Present: Joy Squires, Jacky Hollis, Matt Jenkins, Peter Moorhouse, Dan Daye, George Squires

Apologies: Margaret Rowley, Graham Fowler, David Ritchie.

1. Minutes to last meeting agreed
2. Chairs update:
 - a. IWA update: IWA festival likely to come to Worcester in 2020.
 - b. Living Waterways awards: The winners of the 2018 Living Waterways Awards were announced at a gala ceremony in Birmingham. The Living Waterways Awards seek to recognise the most exciting and inspiring waterway-based projects across the UK, which are transforming where we live and enriching our lives. Members from our group were present. The Wanderer Community Workboat was a joint runner-up in the “Engaging the Community – small scale” section. A video promoting The Wanderer Community Workboat can be found on the CRT’s YouTube channel here: <https://youtu.be/z7oCSTMLZPw>. **Action: Matthew to add link to this video on our website.**
 - c. Canalside Festival: A group has been formally set up to organise the festival called the Chestnut Community Action Group. They have their own bank account set up and progress is being made in organising the event next year. The date is: 28th – 30th June 2019.
3. September’s Gheluvelt Park Wildlife Survey:
 - a. This was considered a good event with around 20-30 people taking part. Graham has produced a report of the findings and of the wider significance of the wildlife corridors in the area. Graham and Joy will take findings to the next Worcester Canal Corridor Project Group meeting on 10th October with a view to developing the project further.
 - b. **Action: Matthew to add report to website.**
4. Update on canal group activities:
 - a. The Wanderer: Dan had hoped to use the boat in October, but unfortunately it has been booked and so will not be available until Spring.
 - b. Litter picks: Matt reported that these have been continuing successfully, with usually around 8 or 9 people attending. The next litter pick is on 27th October.
 - c. Extending to Perdiswell: Matthew recently met with Caroline Kendall from CRT to update the adoption paperwork as it was due for renewal. As part of that we agreed to extend our adoption area up to the Bilford Road lock. Our area is from bridge 8 Lowesmoor to bridge 16 Perdiswell. The section from bridge 8 to The Commandery is looked after by St Paul’s Hostel.
5. Other projects:
 - a. As we now have a new area to cover up to Perdiswell it was thought to be a good idea to try and look at a project in that direction. As a result we plan to organise a walk from Lansdowne Park up to Perdiswell and then back again. People will be free to join en-route. The date chosen was Saturday 13th October, starting from Lansdowne Park at 10am. The purpose of the walk will be to identify potential areas for work as well as carrying out another wildlife survey. **Action: Matthew to speak**

to the Friends of Perdiswell group to get them involved, and Matthew to promote the event.

6. Date of next meeting: 28th November (venue to be arranged)
7. AOB:
 - a. Matthew raised the fact that there are other venues for holding our meeting that do not charge. It was agreed that he would look at other possible venues, e.g., The Paul Pry and The Dragon.

At the Cricketers, £6 collected, plus £2 from petty cash, to pay for room hire for this meeting.