Canal meeting Tuesday 24th January 2017.

Attendees: David Morgan (CRT) Graham Fowler, Dan Daye,Peter Moorhouse,Joy Squires, Gerry Lowman, Jackie Hollis,Ivan Smith,Mike Doyle, Harley (Cathedral CSO), Julie-May Adams.

Apologies: Jane Moorhouse, David Ritchie.

Police matters:

There have been reports of several canal boats damaged in the Diglis area. Persons unknown have been using an air rifle to cause the damage. There is no particular time of day or night.

Graffiti: Neighbourhood teams are aware in the increase and are working to find out who it is. Some of the graffiti is offensive. Graham Peter and Paul are going to be asked to repair our murals, Duckworth Trust and City Council will work with us on the other areas affected.

ASB- Police are looking at S35 dispersal orders for the area around Wicks. "Safe areas" are a hot potato for any council country wide. Will continue to look at this over the year.

Canal and River Trust:

David Morgan is the Development and engagement manager, that afternoon he had been with Graham and Joy and other interested parties discussing the concept of Worcester Canal Corridor - looking at all the groups that cover the canal from Perdiswell to River Seven, getting them to work together, meet together and apply for funding together to improve the canal and its surroundings. Graham was happy with the meeting as there were lots of good things going on-full circle of wildlife.

David had produced a hand drawn map which showed sites of interest and where some groups were working.

Joy explained that Warwick Neal City Council was looking at a ECIF (European) grant for Barbourne Brooke making it more natural. This was part of a wider group working towards green/blue flags.

Tesco bags,CRT are suggesting that instead of individual groups applying ,that groups join together and apply as one large group. In the application groups would be named in the area that they are applying for, reclaim the space, making it happen etc. There then followed a good discussion on bird boxes and encouraging wildlife and other volunteers. Ivan then asked two questions, what did CRT get from this, they were the facilitator, they would put the right items in the right place. What would we get as a volunteer group, we know the area and could do the work needed instead of contractors coming in and insensitively doing work.

MATT to put out a mailchimp asking all the members which of the areas we would like to put our groups name on.

CRT is offering Leadership Training for groups.

MATT do a mailchimp asking if anyone is interested.

Wanderer:

Dan had attended a meeting on the 11th.He has booked the work boat for the Festival from Wednesday 5th to Sunday 9th July.

The workboat will be in the Worcester area from the 3rd April to 9th July.

Dan can helm on some weekends before that so we can litter pick, wildlife watch ,look at areas for working on and a run to Perdiswell. She takes 6 in the hold +3.

Dates 8th April on canal, 1st June litter pick.

Dan would like to have another helm. Ivan volunteered. Let to discuss training with Dan and CRT.

CRT will dispose of the rubbish we collect.

Welfare work on boat is still ongoing .Preventative maintenance ongoing.

Wanderer now has own website. 'communityworkboat.co.uk'

Canal Festival 2017.

Concerns from last meeting were discussed around the table. City council are thrilled that we want to do the festival again. Helps to provide a positive image of the community and city, welcomes everyone.

Joy has been researching insurance quotes, £490.00 for the three days. She is now liaising with Helen Moule, who organises events for the City Council and may be ale to steer us towards other quotes.

From Ivan and Mike: Ben and Tanya had done a risk assessment of the site on 8th January 2017.

Another project meeting is being arranged. Still looking at various things including Health and Safety, volunteer coordinator for the weekend, music and bar, sponsors, right people helping.

If everything does not come together, could we ,would we consider to move it to next year?

We do need our own gazebo for future events, fund raising and shelter.

Treasurers report.

Ivan reported that we have no increase from the £312.99 as last reported.

Dates of next meetings

Tuesday 28th February 6.30pm at Guild Hall.

Thursday 16th March 6.30pm at Guild Hall.

Meeting started 6.33pm and finished at 8.05 pm.