

MINUTES OF WORCESTER CANAL GROUP MEETING 23.10.17

Present: Margaret, Gerry, Jackie, David, Matt, Graham

Apologies: Joy Squires, Jane Moorhouse, Peter Moorhouse, Caroline Kendall

Activity since last meeting

1. Litter picks - continue. Recently they have not been well attended. The ARA have a litter pick on the same day with an overlapping area. St Pauls are litter picking on the stretch they are adopting. There is also at least one regular CRT volunteer. There is also someone who is getting bikes etc out of the water and leaving them on the canal side. Overall, the canal is much tidier than it used to be. Next: Saturday 28 October.
2. Canal Corridor - report back from Margaret, Jackie and Graham who were all at the last meeting last week. It was agreed that the document produced by Roisin of the Duckworth Trust which will form the basis of the final policy will be put on our website. There was discussion about the idea that pending work should be identified collectively so that any of the partner organisations can undertake it and then report back on completion or progress. This was agreed to be a step forward, for example it might help the litter pickers to extend their activities. The CRT have agreed to provide materials and equipment.
3. St Pauls adoption of the stretch from Wickes to the Commandery. This is going ahead. Currently waiting on a risk assessment of the pocket park at lock 4. Contractors have been there clearing without regard for the work Julie May is doing.
4. Art projects- Geri has emailed Manda at the Arts Ring project.

Extending the Canal Groups adopted area up to Perdiswell.

This has been under consideration for some time. It was agreed to aim at a resolution in the spring. In the meantime we can see if it might be possible to arrange a trip on the Wanderer from Bilford locks north. Also, to look at the experience of others adopting stretches of canal under the latest contracts, for example St Pauls and WBDCS at Droitwich. Also to include the idea in the newsletters put out by Matt and Joy. Information from WBDCS goes through Tony Brannon. (later - email address tonybrannon@talktalk.net)

Worcester Canalside Festival

There is a seven strong steering group, none of whom were present at this meeting. It was agreed to make this a major topic at our next meeting. It was also agreed to put the steering group on our mailing list and invite them to our meetings. In the meantime reported back as far as possible from information given by Joy at the corridor meeting. The intention is to have a festival in Lansdowne park on 29, 30 and 31 June 2018. This will be more of a community festival than the one we had two years ago.

There is another festival planned for the following year. This is to be run by the Inland Waterways Association and to be held at Perdiswell.

WBDCS and WWUF

Volunteers to attend the meetings asked for. Margaret attends WBDCS and can update us. The Worcester Waterways Users Forum meets quarterly at the Ketch. Matt to go on the mailing list. Geri to attend if possible.

Plans for the coming year

- A festival
- Extension of area covered
- More murals
- Work on the areas identified in the corridor meeting
- Extension of membership.

Next Meeting

7.15 on 11December at the Cricketers.