

Worcester Canal Group: Minutes of meeting held 3rd November 2021, 7pm Corner Café, Like U Community Centre

Present: Graham Fowler; Cllr Joy Squires (Chair); George Squires (Treasurer); Clare Harker; Jackie Hollis; Tomasz Jarecki

Apologies: David Ritchie; Cllr Jenny Barnes; Helen Fairest; Gerry Lowman; Margaret Rowley; Cllr Matt Jenkins

1. Joy welcomed everyone to the meeting. In presenting David Ritchie's apologies, Joy explained that David had decided to give up his role in Worcester Canal Group but would continue to attend litterpicks when he could. The Group expressed their thanks to David for all his (often frustrating) efforts to keep noticeboards up to date.
2. **Minutes** of last meeting and matters arising not on agenda: Minutes approved. No further update on Matt's bench. Matt to liaise with Gemma Hessey (CRT).. Graham reported on the Cathedral Eco Group's highly successful visit to Bramblewood.
3. **Treasurer's Report: Current position** - £504.07 total in the bank account, of which £226.92 is ring fenced for trees. Nothing in petty cash.
4. **New project: Charting the History and Heritage of the Worcester Canal.** Contact still to be made with Sheena Payne Lunn as Joy had not provided her email address to Graham! Matt is updating the website. Joy to look for pictures of Barkers Brickworks and send to Matt
5. **Updates:**
 - a. **Fruit trees project** – Graham, Clare and Jenny had visited Walcot Nurseries in Pershore and had ordered a variety of trees for planting in February.
 - b. **Litter picks** – ongoing and well supported.
 - c. **Workboat** – Helms – CRT appear a little lukewarm about taking on new helms. Matt continues to liaise with CRT on this and we reiterated the interest shown by a couple of Canal Group members in becoming helms
 - d. **Noticeboards** – to be discussed at next meeting.
 - e. **Wilder Worcester project** – Joy and Graham had liaised with Liz Yorke, the project officer for the Wilder Worcester project and a programme of activities had been agreed, starting with a Winter Walk and Talk on 4th December. Arrangements for this were discussed. See below for further details of what is planned by way of events shared with Worcester Canal Group.
6. **Any Other Business: None**
7. **Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 12th January 7pm venue to be announced

Wilder Worcester/Worcester Canal Group Projects

February 2022: Tree Planting;

March 2022: Wildflowers and Pollinators (seed sowing and wildflower planting)

April 2022: Slow Worm day

May 2022: Canal Community bio-blitz (World Biodiversity Day)

June 2022: Wilder Allotments

August 2022: Hedgehog Street (workshop)