

Worcester Canal Group meeting

22nd September 2026, The Dragon Inn

Minutes

1. **Present:** Karen Lewing (co-chair), Clare Harker, Matt Jenkins (Secretary)
2. **Apologies:** Alex Mace (co-chair), Hannah Cooper, Graham Fowler, Bob Whitelaw, Joy Squires, George Squires (Treasurer), Helen Fairest, Jacky Hollis.
3. **Previous minutes:** Approved.
4. **Actions from previous minutes**
 - a. **Clare to contact Joy Hoskins about holding a canal art workshop at the Baptist Church – update** – Joy has confirmed that she can do a workshop in November on a Saturday – need to coordinate with the ARA and the church
 - b. **Trees by Diglis Bridge:** There is an old orchard here that is overgrown with brambles. CRT volunteers plan to clear the brambles. Once done, we can plant 20-30 fruit trees. **10am, Sunday 15th November.** What3words: oils.recent.agenda Bring a spade. **Clare to contact the Friends of Diglis Fields and the Friends of Worcester Riverside to let them know.**
 - c. **Heritage boards:** Permission has been granted by Perdiswell Leisure Centre to run the heritage board consultation. **Karen to confirm a date with Sheena Payne-Lunn and let the CRT know.**
 - d. **Noticeboard flyer:** **Matt and Karen to design a flyer about the canal group.**
5. **Projects/Events**
 - a. Tree planting by Diglis Bridge on Sunday, 15th November, starting at 10am.
 - b. Bulb planting by Gregory's Bank bridge. Sunday October 11th at 10.30am CRT will supply 2500 bulbs. We will need volunteers to help plant them please bring a spade.
 - c. Bench to commemorate the allotment shop. A location in Lansdowne Park, near the mural, has been agreed. Bench cost will be covered by the allotment group and coordinating with WEG and city council for installation.
 - d. The football canal mural by St George's Lane has been completed.
 - e. Cllr Karen Lewing has asked for two new benches with two trees are to be planted in the play areas in Lansdowne Park. This will be paid for from councillor funds, with maybe some funding from the ARA. City councillor will be look at costs.
 - f. A bee hotel (made by Men Sheds) has been paid for by Councillor Karen Lewing. This can be installed at the southern end of the park, by the bushes planted previously. We will also see if the city council are happy for us to plant some hardy flowers, such as foxgloves.
 - g. Lansdowne Park and canal fruit trees: These need some maintenance and pruning. Thanks to Bob for adding the bark. **Clare to ask the orchard workers, Mike and Tony, to do this.**
6. **Treasurer's Report**

- a. We have **£915.16** in the bank account and **£0** in petty cash, giving us total funds of **£915.16**. **£250** is earmarked for the Heritage project. **£337.20** is earmarked for plans. **£112.72** is earmarked for fruit trees. **£215.24** is available for general use.
- b. A query was raised about what plans the £337.20 was for – clarified it is for the planters outside of the Chestnut Pub.

7. AOB

- a. Carols in the Pocket Park. We need to check with the new vicar when this will happen
 - b. Eco Lunch: Wednesday, 30th September, 1- 2 pm, at the Community Garden.
 - c. Apple Press: Saturday, 10th October, 11am – 3pm, at The Chestnut Inn.
 - d. Matt to add our events on the website and Facebook
 - e. Matt to update the photos on the website with more recent ones.
 - f. Litter pick this Saturday at 10.30am by the tree in Lansdowne Park (last Saturday of every month)
- 8. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 20th January, 7:30pm. Upstairs at The Dragon – all welcome**