

MARPLE LOCKS HERITAGE SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting held at Top Lock Marine on Wed 24th February 2010

Present: Peter Clarke, Alison Allcard, Malcolm Allcard, Bob Woodgate Brian Nash, Carole Baggott & Rod Shreeve.

ACTION

Apologies: None.

Peter welcomed Carol and Rod as new members of the Committee
Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report

Malcolm reported a balance of £910.32. The insurance premium had been paid and there had been some membership fees paid in. Membership was down by 9 on last year, now 45 paid up members.
Peter had spoken to Avril Marsh about an article in the next Review to try to boost membership.

Marple Wharf

There had been a presentation at the library putting two options forward, Option A showed 7 houses, a nursery, mooring for New Horizons and boaters facilities; Option B showed what could be done if Regeneration were involved with Heritage Lottery Funding with no housing, instead there would be an outdoor activities centre, canoeing etc. The funding would not be available until 2013 so this could be an issue. Both options would include the toll cottage as the Heritage Centre. Malcolm felt that BW would look favourably on any scheme which came with maintenance funding and he would speak to Steve Burns, head of Regeneration, and put our thoughts to him.

MA

Picnic Site

Peter and Alison had had a very positive site meeting with Nick Smith from BW and it is hoped this will soon move forward. Nick had sent details of their preferred benches in re-cycled plastic which had disabled options. Brian would find out if there was likely to be any Area Committee funding this financial year, if so Pete would apply for a grant for one of the benches, we would buy the other out of funds.

BN/PC

Task days

On the first task day of the year we had finished cutting the hedge at Lock 14, oiled Locks 12 – 16 and repainted the closure marks on those locks too. The grit bin had been retrieved from the pound and Brian would ask if the council would refill it. Bob would lead the task day on Monday 1st March at which we could resume painting at Lock 6 if the weather allowed. Towpath Tidy day would be 10th March, we would carrying out litter picking along the flight, and continue painting. Alison would invite Andrew Stunell to attend again.

BN/AA

Further dates – 20th and 31st March. Alison would circulate.

AA

Locks Festival

Possible dates for this were either 3rd or 10th July 2011, Bob would let Alison know when Whaley Weekend was so as not to clash. After some discussion about a theme, it was noted that 2011 is the centenary of George V's coronation – we would look into using that as the theme, there could be a link with the History Society. Alison would ask Rubber Duck Theatre Co if they would like to do a play like the first festival.

AA

Blue Plaque

We now have permission from BW to erect the plaque and they have provided strict guidelines for this. We will survey exact the site on 4th March at 12noon. Pete will collect the plaque from BW Offices. We could get some newspaper coverage of the 'unveiling'.

PC

A.O.B.

- a) No progress on the lavender planting, ball is in BW court
- b) Rod agreed to take over the publicity from Paul, Alison would ask Paul to contact Rod to give him some guidelines of what was involved.

AA

Date of next meeting Wednesday 24th March 2010 2.00 at Top Lock.