

MARPLE LOCKS HERITAGE SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting held at Top Lock Marine on 11th March 2008

Present: Peter Clarke, David Hoyle, Alison Allcard, Bob Woodgate, Malcolm Allcard, Paul Woodhead and Brian Nash

ACTION

Apologies: None

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Matters Arising:

Membership stands at 40, half paying by S/O. Bob would like to change the 'couple' category to 'family' to encourage younger members – this was agreed, price to remain the same. Members under 18 would not be covered by insurance to work on Task Days.

The AGM had been a good, well attended meeting with a very interesting speaker, Bill Bates on the Stockport Canal.

Lock 17:

Malcolm had had a site meeting with Mark and Adrian and it had been agreed to raise the stone sides of the lock and backfill with soil. This work can be carried out by the Parks Dept. but would have to be done to coincide with re-planting. Malcolm will contact Craig regarding the stone from the ECO centre. Pete will talk to Stuart Mills to schedule the plaque event and Malcolm will speak to Mark on the same subject.

PC/MA

Task days:

Lock 10 – no report regarding the by-wash grid, Iain had sent a copy of the e mail to Ian Johnston and Jeff Smith but no response had been sent to us.

Picnic Site at Lock 6 – Pete had met with Mary Lee from Mersey Valley Basin Campaign who are keen to develop waterside projects. Mary had applied for funding, waiting for results. The Society would be involved in clearing the site, hopefully the grant will pay for the benches and fencing which BW had agreed to erect for us.

Pete and Mary had also discussed the possibility of creating an observation area below the Aqueduct, there were a number of parties interested in this project. Pete would look into the effect of the conservation area on both these projects.

PC

Dates fixed: 31st March, 12th April and 21st April – primarily for greasing and oiling prior to the start of the boating season. There was also painting to be done later in the summer.

Treasurers report:

There had been a few membership fees in but otherwise no change since the AGM.

Locks Festival:

The date for this was fixed as 5th July 2009 subject to it not clashing with other local events – Bob would find out when the Whaley Water festival will be.

BW

The traditional crafts and games theme was thought to be good enough to repeat. Alison would ask Sue if she would consider bringing the horse-drawn boat again

AA

Malcolm would ask the Business Forum if they were prepared to do the food again.

MA

AOB:

Heritage Open Days this year were 9th –14th Sept, it was agreed to do the walks again on 13th and 14th as in previous years, Alison would ask Alison Farthing if we could have a banner for Possett Bridge as this made a big difference to numbers the first year. Brian thought we could have two lamp post banners as well. Paul would do the publicity, posters etc.

AA/PW/BN

Blue Plaque – This has not yet been put up on the aqueduct, Pete understood that listed building consent had to be granted but this was 18 months ago. Alison would e mail Iain Weston.

AA

Next meeting: Wednesday 23rd April 2008 2 pm at Top Lock Marine.