

MARPLE LOCKS HERITAGE SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting held at Top Lock Marine on Wed 7th October 2009

Present: Peter Clarke, Paul Woodhead, Alison Allcard and Malcolm Allcard.

ACTION

Apologies: Bob Woodgate

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report

Malcolm reported a balance of £802.14 with no outstanding bills. The recent quiz nights had raised £154.50. Membership remains the same.

Lock 17

The dedication had been well attended on a fine sunny morning on 20th September, many of Gordon's family had been there to see Barbara unveil the plaque. There had been a picture in the Stockport Express. Paul would put this on the display board. **PW**

Marple Wharf Development

Talks are still ongoing, the warehouse may remain as offices, a finance company are interested, New Horizons may be housed in the wet dock below, there is a possibility of a Elsan and rubbish disposal area below the toll cottage. There will definitely be some housing at the end and maybe a children's nursery in the middle section. There is another meeting of the steering group on 26th October. Alison met David Wooley and Gillian Postill last month when they had gained access to the Toll Cottage which is bigger than at first thought and would make an ideal small heritage centre. BW are in favour of the idea. Frank Galvin, from SMBC had been supportive in offering help with grant applications, although there would be no money directly from the Council. It was suggested that the renovation could be undertaken by young offenders, for example, with careful regard for some of the historic aspects of the interior, such as the original Victorian fireplace and gas lamp bracket. It was suggested that local artists could be asked to paint a mural depicting canal history. We can not move this forward until the final decision on the Wharf project is made.

Picnic Site

Alison and Malcolm had met on site with Matt Taylor from BW; they plan to put two basic reconstituted plastic picnic tables at Lock 6, we offered to provide a wheelchair access one as well. At Lock 4 where the tables have rotted, BW would provide one and we would try for funding for another. After some discussion at the meeting it was considered that we could buy the materials and using plans from Peter's pub tables, we could make our two. Matt Taylor is handing this project on to someone else, as yet unknown, so Alison will run this idea by them. **AA**

Task days

Progress is slow due to the poor state of the lock beams, we are currently working on Lock 5. Future dates were fixed as 17th and 26th October and 2nd November.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 4th November at Top Lock 2.pm