

**Minutes of a Council Meeting of the
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOAT OWNERS
Held by tele conference at 10.00am
on Sunday 1st September 2019**

Present: Stella Ridgway, Mark Tizard, Helen Hutt, Peter Fellows, Mike Rodd, Phil Goulding, Ken Hylins, David Fletcher

1. APOLOGIES:, Alison Tuck

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

- a. The Minutes were approved from 23rd June.
- b. Matters arising, We have not made progress on or policy document review. Peter has circulated a list and there was a question of adding additional items. Need to reinvigorate this. Peter will circulate again.
- c. Regional director John Horsfall is still in charge for the K&A and Wales.
- d. No other matters arising not on the agenda

3. POLICY DISCUSSIONS: Matters requiring agreement and action from this meeting:

a. Update on meetings with regional directors.

Stella met Daniel Greenhalgh after the events at Toddbrook She has no success to meet with NE director, and this a job for September. The next CRT Council meeting will be September too and also the CRT Annual meeting. User meetings for CRT are now being arranged. Mark was in contact with CRT re the new footbridge at Crick. CRT were blowing hot and cold. Now plan to put in a new bridge on the Wharf House side. A good result. Phil missed the Yorkshire meeting on stoppages and these are now are published.

b. Reservoir failure and future funding

The events of Toddbrook reservoir overtop and failure are current. There has been a good article from Canal Boat discussing the implications. Ruth George MP for area is active. PM Boris Johnson has said that funds would be released. CRT thinking about redesign 3-5 years project. Investigation has started. Stella described the first hand experience of the emergency. There was 2 months rain in 48 hours when the reservoir was already full, and was already being actively drain down the canal. Water was going to the Goyt, and the flow was high. The river flood plane was covered. Older locals remembered a previous event in 1930. Boating and local community all pulled together. Local businesses are getting a boost now because of the visitors. There are many of these type of dams in utility service as well, and Government may consider what is required nationally. We think that the DEFRA will has asked for Armed forces costs will be set side as training. Communications were good for local boaters. Emergency services take the lead on these things so CRT could not act alone. Thursday pm several live aboard boaters moved the boats away from the risk area. United response from services did well. CRT staff supported and also did well. Is there a case for not renewing the dam and back pumping? The role of EA in all this has been interesting. We are concerned for the future because of EA competence. There is a generation of old hands set to leave. Kier

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are involved in the maintenance of the dam. We await the reports. NAG will be advised in September.

c. NABO policies update.

The comments from the last minute refer. Council concluded to divide up the work and each member to look at a small number of the policies, so that we could make progress.

4. Reports on Key issues

a. Navigation issues

- Widebeams. The issues continue. Ken has seen them on the north end of the T&M moving. Also reported on GU and K&A and proving a nuisance on a wide canal. These 12/13 ft boats are large, and are causing a major issue to canal profile and bow thrusters stirring up the mud. Sooner or later there will be a blockage. Should encourage boaters to report. We also have the perception that wide beams are a new hobby of the well off. We identify that there is an issue on reporting, dependant on who responds. We have varied experiences. Mark says posting on CRT FB site gets a response. Mark to draft a letter to send to CRT.
- There is concern about dredging at visitor moorings. David will follow up with CRT at NAG. We are looking for joined up thinking of grass cutting, offside veg and depth of water at VMs.
- Vegetation. David is following up though NAG on grass cutting. There are some mowing options where CRT do not cut to edge. They are supposed to have 10% cut to edge for casual moorings and also for line of site. It is proving impossible to identify where these places are, if at all

b. AGM.

The location is booked at Tamworth for the 17 November. Helen will confirm. The notices and nomination forms are to go into the NN due in September. Stella is saying the health issues are a concern for her, and so will not stand this year. Mark talking about encourage others to join, 3 or 4 meetings to settle in, experience needed. Do as much or as little as want to. Stella will right

c. Red diesel

We have prepared the Red diesel consultation and collected the responses but this has not been sent been yet. Peter has pulled it together. Stella will send it in the coming week and it can go on the web, FB and bulletin.

d. BSS

There was a TC meeting in July and Mike and David were there. This was mainly about progressing the minor updates to the examination requirements. There is quite some pressure to get this done before end 2019, for the next round of examiner training. Any changes would become effective from April 20. These are aimed at improving wording so that inconsistencies are eliminated. I will write a summary in September.

David advised that has become apparent that we could borrow some of the CO data loggers this winter so these have not been purchased as we previously discussed.

council. The main issue is that data obtained from these is all very usefully generally, but unless the peaks can be linked to known events, then it is not much use to resolve issues.. If we take these, then the holder must really be ready to plug the device into a computer every few days, and then record what happened. The loggers are finding readings of up to 10ppm from adjacent exhausts and grills. Alarms go off at 30ppm. It was agreed that we would ask for volunteers in NN.

e. Share the space

Stella reported on experience on the Peak Forest where there are a lot of cyclists, speed is increasing, in proportion to surface. Ken said that cyclists appear have a view that they have priority. There is little consideration, perhaps a reflection off society. Are the cyclists driving away the walking traffic? On the south Oxford, the towpath is so poor that cyclists are not a problem. K&A at the south end it is a race track. Few walkers there. Sustrans realise that they have a problem. There was a recent report in the Guardian where the write was saying that as a cyclist, she did not consider the towpath to be a suitable commuting route.

f. NAG

The next full meeting is on 10 Sept in Leeds, and the agenda has already been circulated. There will be an item on facilites and David will prepare a list of the demises. No doubt there will be something about Toddbrook.

There is a plan for a veg meeting in early October. CRT have promised updated mowing plans. David has checked mowing on the canals he has cruised this summer. There is a problem on country towpaths where CRT do not want to cut to edge. They have since 2007 promised to cut a portion to edge [10%] for mooring, and also for line of sight. Now we can see their maps we find that they do not do this at all. Looking at the detail from the water we conclude they are not attempting to do this with any intelligence. some way to understand why the cutting on the T and M is so bad.

g. Recruitment

Ken, Phi and David have been dishing out leaflets. There is the potential of someone on the Fens helping too. David will attend the shared boat show in Cheshire with Linda French of Ownashare. 12 letters were sent to affiliates to try and recruit some more. We have no resulting applications, and one polite letter saying no. Ken continues to leaflet boaters as he travels around.

5. Finance

Helen reported that the annual accounts are final and presented copies. Council expressed their appreciation to Helen for the excellent work done in a timely manner. Also presented was a budget comparison for this year. It was noted that there is no depreciation allowance, as there is nothing left to depreciate. Helen discussed the expectation on membership income.

Balances on 1st September are:

Barclays community £1,232.76

Barclays deposit £4,617.09
PayPal £109.31
Redwood deposit £15,202.50
Stella advance £100
TOTAL £21,261.66

Helen noted that members less members are using cheques. Providing the facility for cheques does not go well at the moment, they are often late, and it takes a long time to get through the post and into the account. So we should consider advising members that we cannot take them any more. Perhaps we should consider at the AGM.

The PayPal account is currently frozen and PayPal are asking for updated identity for Helen and David. We will attempt to clear this next week.

6. Web

The web site is running on the latest software in all categories and backups have been done. The membership software has been updated since last report and there are no issues. The bulletin sending software updated in June is not working well with the membership software. This has caused some database updating errors. I have resolved this with a work around, but this requires further study to refine. There are occasional log in problems with members. These are always members problem and never software issues. The software is standard Joomla, and it is used every day.

The new ISP is running well and there have been no issues on uptime. The email services are also running well with all mail configurations done as recommended. There continue to be occasional and inconsistent rejections, but I believe these are caused by recipients rather than our system. We should now think about taking advantage of improved email delivery to cut on paper mail.

I have checked again the 30 email addresses that we know have not previously responded. About ten have now responded. The others have been deleted from our system as as far as we are concerned, they are no longer valid.

All members who have not agreed to our privacy policy have had another letter. There is a limited response. David will report on numbers at October meeting. All life members have had a dummy renewal so they are aware of the data we hold.

There is no progress on other GDPR work because of the summer events.

7. .Nabo News

This is the first pass at the list.

Safari park. 3rd party

CO alarms David

Red diesel Stella Mark

AGM Notices.

Incident reporting Mark

Toddbrook reflections Stella

8. A.O.B

- Marple. CRT have a revised application in for development of the heritage wharf at Marple. Local objections are being made. To clear why what the revised merits of the development after the previous rejection.
- There was a recent lock sinking of a Canal Time boat on a wide lock at the top for the Shroppie. Apparently the boat was not secured properly and it drifted back onto the cil.
- Ken is meeting welfare and support offices at CRT Wigan, get to know you meeting..

Meeting concluded at 12.10pm.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Sunday 13th October at Tamworth.

Helen provided a six month budget report.

Balances on 13th October are:

Barclays community £1,208
Barclays deposit £4,617
PayPal £214
Redwood deposit £15,202
Stella advance £100
TOTAL £21,342

6. Web

The web site is running on the latest software in all categories and backups have been done. The membership software has been updated again since last report and there are no issues. The bulletin sending software updated in June is working better now and there are no issues.

David has reported elsewhere on GRDP. The next task is to launch the data holding survey and this was agreed. This then enables us finalise the list of holdings, procedure, and then any risk assessments and other supporting documents.

The document package from Richard has been received and this will be worked on. As a policy we will try and retain one copy only of the NN back copies plus an electronic copy. Peter is holding those from 2016.

7. .Nabo News

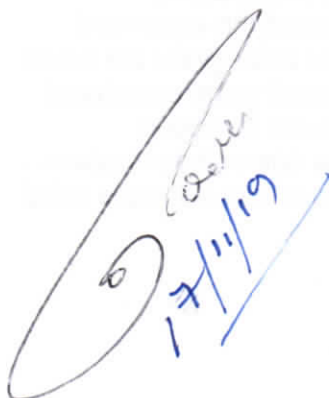
The next edition is not until after the AGM, so there is no action needed.

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- Marple. CRT have a revised application in for development of the heritage wharf at Marple. Local objections are being made. To clear why what the revised merits of the development after the previous rejection.

Meeting concluded at 3.00pm.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Sunday 17th November at Tamworth after the AGM.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, possibly 'D. Hill', is written above the date '17/11/19'. The signature and date are enclosed within a large, hand-drawn blue oval.