



BRIDGEWATER CANAL WATCH

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Bridgewater Canal Watch AGM Minutes

The AGM Meeting took place on 14th March 2023. There were six apologies and fourteen people in attendance.

Chairman's Report

Peter Parkinson welcomed everyone back after a three year absence due to covid. As this was the first meeting for three years no minutes or matters arising were discussed from the last meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the current balance of £478.82 was now held in a frozen Nationwide Building Society Account. The Society had now decided that they would no longer hold society accounts due to recent money laundering regulations.

The Treasurer was asked to look at opening a new bank facility, possibly with an internet bank account. It was agreed that Mr Barry Greenough, Mr Ken Bromley and Mr Chris Wareing would be signatories on the new account.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary apologised for having to cancel the December meeting at short notice but it was cancelled with everyone's safety in mind. She was aware that not all members were in agreement with this decision by the emails she received.

She also mentioned that during covid she tried to keep everyone updated via a Newsletter Update and stressed not all reports to her could be reported on as they were not reported to the police and no incident number was available. For the Bridgewater Canal Watch group to succeed we need to all work together and report



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all incidents to the police, BCC and the secretary of Canal Watch, as well as to get an incident number when they are reporting it to the police.

Bridgewater Canal have a new web page and are looking at the possibility of having a Bridgewater Canal Watch page to make it easier for all members to access reports quicker.

Election of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary

Peter Parkinson explained to members that it was felt that as Chris Wareing was now Enforcement Officer for BCC it would be more sensible for him to take this position so Peter resigned as Chairman. A vote took place and it was a unanimous decision for Chris Wareing to be elected as Chairman.

As no one else put forward for Treasurer or Secretaries positions so Barry Greenough was elected as Treasurer and Phyllis Greenough agreed to continue as Secretary for the coming year.

Incidents

Cheshire Police

Lymm PCSO'S sent a report regarding an incident that took place near Spud Wood car park entrance to the canal, where a male described as white British, 6ft tall, dark curlish hair and around 40 years old wearing all black clothing was abusive towards a dog walker and her dogs. He was in an orange/red boat with a blue covering on it.

GMP Police

Not present

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Chris Wareing report he was now in charge of a team looking after the enforcement on the canal. He stated changes will be taking place in the near future and hoped everyone would see these changes. It was pointed out that some changes for the better had already been noted by those at the meeting.

Worsley Cruising Club

It was reported that after a meeting on Nov 9th 2022 members returning to their boats found that a few boats had been broken into while the meeting was taking place. The boats that were broken into had invertors and TV's stolen these were being loaded into a vehicle on the other side of the fence and the thieves drove off when they saw the members returning to their boats. On checking camera's etc that were available the thieves were recognised by the police and arrested. They were released with no charge as The Crown Prosecution Service said they could not be identified clearly from the cameras.

A boat was reported to have sunk opposite their club.

Watch House CC

No report

Sale CC

Still having some problems with rowers. The King's Ransom moorings for visitors appears to have permanent boats moored there and no spaces available for visiting boats to the pub. Peter and Chris will check this out.

Lymm CC



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Only report was the incident before Christmas when a car drove in to the canal near the bridge. Car was removed quickly and no reports of injury to the driver.

B.M.B.C.

Incident regarding stone throwing from towpath side of canal. Police informed and an incident number obtained.

Any Other Reports

A break in took place three weeks ago of a boat moored by the apartments at Castlefield. It was also reported that a number of other boats moored in Castlefield over Christmas had also been broken into, Police were informed.

A body was recovered from land near the canal on 5th March 2023 near Vicars Hall Bridge.

Any Other Business

A discussion took place regarding banners, posters and Where the Hell are we maps in preparation for the Rally. Peter and Chris to look at ordering some items.

Date of Next Meeting 13th June 2023

Phyllis Greenough

Bridgewater Canal Watch Secretary



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