

Bridgewater Canal Watch Minutes

Tuesday 9th September 2025

A meeting took place at Lymm Cruising Club on Tuesday 9th September 2025. There were fourteen members in attendance and no apologies were received.

Minutes of the last meeting on June 10th 2025 were accepted as a true record, and there were no matters arising from these.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on damage to the coffer dams (at the breach) on two occasions by youths. The police are investigating the incident, also reports of an unlicensed boat stolen from the vicinity of The Trafford Centre the police issued a caution of trespass regarding the incident. An incident at Stretford where a car being driven on the road ended up in the canal below, the driver was uninjured and was assisted out the canal by a passing off duty fireman and the car was later removed from the canal.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer reported that there was no change in current situation and the total in the account remains at £479-36.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary report on all information she had received since the last meeting. Concerns regarding Dog Bridge were raised and were checked out by BCC (The bridge is not the property of BCC). A coach was reported to have got stuck on a humpback bridge over the canal near Walton Gardens. The IWA have suspended the campaign rally at Agden until next year. Pennywort has been seen near the Preston Brook Tunnel. (BCC are aware and in the process of treating it).

Incidents/Reports

The club members present reported that things were very quite and with no major problems.

Stretford Marina reported there was an attempted break in at the rear of the premises nothing appears to have been taken from this but thefts of bikes have taken place since. They are also experiencing missing items (toilet rolls, cleaning items etc) from the elsan point. Also there appears to be a number of unlicensed boats in the area and BCC will investigate.

The PCSO for Lymm sent a report of incidents that had taken place since the last meeting, this was read out and included an incident where a car had crashed into a canal bridge causing damage, two suspicious males in a camper van near The Wharf, two suspicious people being arrested on a boat near Waterside, rubbish being dumped on towpath near Grappenhall sports Club and two concerns of possibility someone had jumped into canal. All incidents were attended and dealt with by the police.

It was also reported that Trafford rowing club have had to suspend rowing activities, and the trip boats in Manchester have been requested not to operate due to low water levels that are being experienced throughout the system at the moment due to dry weather conditions.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8-25pm.

Date of next meeting

Tuesday December 9th 2025 7-30pm start.