

Bridgewater Canal Watch Minutes

Meeting held on 9th June 2026

A meeting took place at Lymm Cruising Club on Tuesday 9th June 2026. There were 12 attendees and two apologies received.

Minutes of the last meeting (AGM) held on March 10th 2026 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed by – B. Holledge Seconded by D. East

There was one matter arising from these minutes regarding Bridge Works Lloyd Bridge. The chairman has checked if they were still trading and unfortunately they will cease trading completely in the very near future.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that a complaint regarding an issue with a boat being hit while moored in Lymm village by another boat that was not displaying a name or number and said he had paying guests on board had been received. There was also an issue with numerous boats moored on private land opposite the new houses built in Leigh. The land owner spoke with them and they have now left. BCC are also in the process of contacting a woman in Stockton Heath who stops boaters mooring outside her house as she is on the understanding that she owns the mooring.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported no change to the £479-36 cash in hand and he had been and spoke to the Nat West Bank regarding opening an account only to be told that it would be a business account and a charge would be applied to the account. He requested that if they could look and see if there was another account without charge he could open and he is still waiting upon a response from this request.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported she visited and spoke to Lymm PCSO regarding attending the meeting and if unable to attend could she send report with any problems so she could read them out.

Incidents/Reports since last meeting.

Worsley CC reported it was still very quiet and no problems had been reported.

Sale CC thanked the Chairman for his quick response and help to an incident at their club. There are 2 Sunken boats one offside near M60 the other nearside at Chester Road and permanently moored boats almost entire length from Sale to Waters Meeting on the towpath were causing problems for boaters wishing to turn. Fifteen boats from Sale attended Sale Festival on Saturday 6th June and only two boats were able to moor outside The Bridge to pick up dignitaries. It caused absolute chaos around the winding hole with rowers from Manchester University also out on the canal.

Weed and Water Lillie's on both sides along most of the canal are causing problems when having to move over or moor up. Also problems with overhanging trees/branches near Dunham and Trafford Park also both sides of canal near Timperley. Dredging is not being done, every year leaves and other material is being deposited and the canal is getting shallower.

Lymm CC reported that a wide beam boat that had been moored on the 48 hour moorings in Lymm Village for many months apparently was asked to move. As the boat passed Lymm Cruising Club to turn at the winding point his bad language could be heard by many (including young children) this gave concern to the members of the public that were in the area at this time. Reports of unsafe railing and broken pavement above the canal near the library is not the property of BCC.

BMBC reported over hanging trees near Norton Priory and concerns that two trip boats were now taking passengers out past this area which could be dangerous if two boats were passing. Work has taken place near Walton underbridge near BMBC moorings this is still an ongoing project. Two people were reported apparently living in a tent at Top Locks they were moved on but have since returned.

Any other Business

A discussion took place regarding reporting Rural Crime. Boaters should report suspicious activity on the canal and other rural farmland along the canal to the police on 101 and get a crime number or complete an online form on the Cheshire Police website, this should then be allocated to Rural Crime if you mention for the attention of Rural Crime.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8-15pm.

Date of next meeting Tuesday September 8th 2026 at 7-30pm.