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day 23 October 2012 at the Wilmot Arms, Borrowash

Welcome: The chairman welcomed members and said he hoped this year's venue was more suitable than last year's.

Apologies: Dick Broomfield

Acceptance of minutes of the 2011 AGM: These were agreed as a true record.

Matters arising: None

Chairman's report: Chris Madge gave a comprehensive review of the activities undertaken during the year. The review covered:

- Society meetings are going well at the new venue of the Wilmot Arms where members avail themselves of the high standard catering and real ales. A wide ranging programme of speakers has been organised by Anne Madge and Eileen Holland.
- Six outdoor events have been attended and a good deal of merchandise sold thanks to a dedicated team of committee members.
- Membership was stable with losses of members balanced by recruitments at events and by other means.
- Work on the restoration of the canal has centred on the use of the quill and the computer rather than the pick and shovel. Design and planning work has been progressing on four sections of the canal: the Derby Arm and River Derwent, Sandiacre, Spondon and Swarkestone. In addition our bid to get the project included in the Derbyshire Infrastructure Plan was successful following the submission of a document based on the Masterplan, which itself was completed in the spring.

Statements were made and questions were asked from the floor about the approaches being taken on restoration and maintenance. The strategy of pursuing the restoration of four apparently random sections of canal was questioned. Concern was expressed about the condition of the hedge along the section east of Station Road, Borrowash and a suggestion made about using labour from the Community Payback scheme. The chairman responded to each of the topics raised.

Treasurer's report: Chris ReesFitzPatrick presented a review of the main items of income and expenditure. We had received some significant donations which totalled £2,619 and made £807 through the sales on stalls. Total income was £5,970, expenditure £4,308 leaving cash and bank balances of £1,987.

Working Party report: Chris Madge reported on the work done over the year:

- A considerable amount of hedge laying had been done on the north side of the Draycott ditch under Paul Shepherd's leadership. Chris paid tribute to Paul's work on the working party over many years, the later ones as the organiser. He also gave thanks to the working party members who have supported Paul.
- A clear up of the storage compound at Sail's Farm, Breaston has been done. The caravan has been sold and the future use of the dumper truck and the digger is being considered.
- A very good start has been made on the Winding Hole at Spondon. Most of the willows have been felled and the timber cleared away. The next phase is to restore the stonework that forms the edge of the hole. Chris gave a brief slide show illustrating how the work had progressed. This was followed by David Hayes presenting a few slides which illustrated the history of the hole and the adjacent tavern.



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Anne Madge reported that a full calendar of speakers had
rs that the programme has been printed on pocket sized
ake away.

Members: The posts were filled as follows:

Chairman: Chris Madge
Vice-chairman: Paul Birtles
Treasurer: Chris ReesFitzPatrick
Secretary: David Hayes
Membership
Secretary: not filled at the meeting . Chris Grimoldby volunteered the next day
Committee members: Doug Flack
Eileen Holland
Anne Madge
Scott Birkhead
Ian Bowley

Kate Birtles Award: Paul Birtles presented the award to Chris Madge for his work in chairing the
committee, on the working party, the Development Committee and the Trust.

AOB

- The raffle was drawn.
- The monthly draw was made: 1- Margaret Hicklin, 2- Paul Birtles, 3- Stephen Johnson

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

The meeting was followed by a talk and slide show by Doug Flack which took us along the Derby
Canal from Swarkestone to Sandiacre and featured many photographs from Doug's archive.