**DERBY AND SANDIACRE CANAL TRUST**

**Minutes of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Date: Wednesday August 11th 2021 at 7.30pm

Held at the Royal Oak, Ockbrook and via Zoom

**Present:**  Chris Madge (Chairman) via Zoom

David Savidge Mike Snaith

Chris ReesFitzPatrick Peter Rodgers

Derek Troughton Marilyn Clark

Cllr Val Clare Mike Hudson

Paul Horton-Turner Nigel Dagley

Anne Madge (secretary) Barbara Hillier

Michael and Ada Thacker

Bernard Fryer

21 other members attended in person – Don and Joyce Olivant, David Hayes, Dave and Carol Eley, Paul Wheeldon, Brian Dale, Paul and Jacquie Birtles, Tony Adcock, Peter Brookes, Eileen Holland, Charlie Forbes, Keith Johnson, Gary Harding, Jackie Leeming, Sarah and Martin Cresswell, Eddy Case, Linda Edson, Stuart Allen

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Minute** | **Action** |
| 1 | Chris Madge welcomed all to the meeting and asked Chris RFP to explain how the meeting would run concurrently in person and on Zoom. Chris thanked Chris RFP for his efforts in setting up the virtual part of the meeting. |  |
| 2 | **Adoption of Minutes**  The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated and were adopted with three abstentions, proposed by Eddy Case and seconded by Eileen Holland. |  |
| 3 | **Apologies**  Heather Howe, Stephen and Elizabeth Parker, Chris Corbett, Cllr Kevin Miller, Cllr Nicola Roulstone, Cllr Garry Hickton, Roger Ashmead, Dave and Carol Wood, Ralph Buckingham, Cllr Tim Scott,  Duncan and Pauline Inwood |  |
| 4 | **Matters Arising**  none |  |
| 5 | **Treasurers Report**  This has been circulated. Derek presented the latest position on funds, income and expenditure for the cottages and the current balance sheet. Details are attached.  There were no questions. |  |
| 6 | **Annual Accounts Adoption**  The accounts were circulated prior to the meeting. Chris Madge explained that the Charities Act requires ever more complex information, but we are well served by the accountants at CA Plus. No questions were asked. Adoption of the accounts was sought.  Proposed Paul Turner  Seconded Jackie Leeming  Carried unanimously |  |
| 7 | **CA Plus**  The new accountants are now in place, they are very helpful and less expensive than the previous firm. Chris Madge asked that we agree to reappoint them.  Proposed Derek Troughton  Seconded Paul Turner  Carried unanimously |  |
| 8 | **Chairman’s Report**  Chris Madge gave a comprehensive report covering what has happened over the very busy past year, covering work at Draycott cottages, Draycott canal, Spondon, Breaston, Sandiacre Lock, outline planning permission and what is happening in Derby. The report is attached. He thanked his team and all the volunteers for their help and hard work over the year.  **Questions**:  Paul Wheeldon asked if there was any protection to stop people building on the canal line. Chris Madge answered that the outline planning permission is being renewed to help to protect the route; this will demonstrate that the involved councils are all supporting the project.  Stuart Allen is the Erewash representative for West Park, working for a team which is getting two new bridges over the Erewash canal. One of the sites needs 10,000 cubic metres of soil for infill. Could we supply some from the canal line? It was agreed that the developer will want “clean” spoil and therefore soil samples would be needed. Stuart will check with the developer if they would fund sampling and if so Chris Madge will look at a possible site for excavation. Planning permission would be needed for excavation.  Peter Brookes asked about the car park area at Breaston. Chris Madge replied that we are in discussion with the proposed owner to organise a compromise and would consider all options to solve this challenge. |  |
| 9 | **Society Issues**  The Society closed in March 2021 and activities have been incorporated into the Trust.  Membership increases will be sought and we need to engage more with and recruit the younger generation. Gary Harding continues with this but now within the Trust.  Events attendances are starting again, and we will plan to attend more to talk to local people, starting with the Draycott Scarecrow Festival on August 28th. We will also be attending Long Eaton carnival at West Park on September 18th and the riverboat has been invited to the Inland Port Festival on Sept 11/12th.  The Packet – Roger has stepped down as editor. Chris Madge asked for volunteers to take on the role. When no offers were received options were discussed. Chris now sends out the monthly Chairman’s update, which goes by email and is on the website. Eddy questioned if the Packet was cost effective and Chris ReesFitzPatrick pointed out that we still have 100 members with no email address. Gary Harding suggested posting out 6 monthly updates to these members twice a year to keep them in the loop and this was agreed to be proposed at the next Directors’ meeting.  Sarah Cresswell suggested publishing the monthly update in the Inside DE72 magazine.  Monthly meetings – these are starting again in September and could be based at the Royal Oak, Ockbrook if moved to the first Wednesday of the month. This was agreed by the meeting for at least 6 months and see who turns up. It was agreed that the venue has more space, making it a safer environment and better for presenters.  David Savidge summarised the working parties activity over the last year of the Society from March 2020 and presented a series of photos showing a year of working parties. His report is attached. | Directors |
| 10 | **Kate Birtles award**  The trophy was awarded to Derek Troughton for all his work at the cottages and for fulfilling the ever more complex role of treasurer, including many hours of training for the new accounting software required by HMRC. |  |
| 11 | **Appointment of Directors**  The directors required to resign were David Savidge, Val Clare, and Mike Snaith. Each offered themselves for re-election.  Proposed Eddy Case  Seconded Peter Brookes,  All were appointed by a unanimous vote.  No further nominations were received. |  |
| 12 | **Appointment of Officers**  Chairman Chris Madge  Vice Chairman Mike Wingfield  Treasurer Derek Troughton  Secretary Anne Madge  Proposed Chris ReesFitzPatrick  Seconded Gary Harding  All officers were reappointed by a unanimous vote. |  |
| 13 | **AOB**  Paul Wheeldon asked if there had been any more thought about having a patron. Suggestions would be welcomed, Charles Hanson may be a possibility. Eileen Holland suggested Wayne Rooney, as he has apparently recently enjoyed a narrowboat holiday.  It was noted that one of our volunteers, Carl Fitchett, sadly died this year. He was the first man to break ground at the start of work on Draycott cottages. We also noted the recent death of Derek Hathaway, who had helped the restoration over a number of years and particularly ran annual walks with David Hayes. Both will be sadly missed.  Chris Madge thanked all members for their support and closed the meeting at 9.53pm |  |