

River Stour Trust Council

Meeting (virtual via Zoom) Monday 14th June 2021

1.00 pm

Minutes

Present: PB, EB, RK, SD, JL, JP, JR, MF, LK, CB

1. Charles Baker [===] gave a presentation outlining dredging and culvert cleaning works to be carried out shortly by Barratts. No detrimental effects for RST.
2. Apologies for absence: None
3. Minutes of last meeting. Agreed.
4. Matters Arising: *The Trust has acquired another disabled access boat that will be suitable for use on the lower river. It is a 16ft long Mobiboat, based on the Pioneer Multiboat, with a forward ramp and a shallow draught. This boat has been specially adapted so that someone in a wheelchair can steer and control it. It comes complete with a 15hp Yamaha outboard and purpose-built trailer. The motor is almost an exact equivalent to the one that was stolen from Francis J, and so can be used on FJ, allowing us to fit an electric outboard that will be more appropriate for the lower river. The motor is eight years old, but has only been used for a few hours and is as new. The whole package cost £15,000 new, and is worth around £8,000 today on the open market, but the owners, Mr & Mrs Bayo Williams have accepted £4,000 for the whole rig, with the balance being offered as a donation to the Trust. This boat will be an important addition to the Trust, as it will allow us to offer trips for disabled people at both ends of the river.*

Reports

- a. Financial. LK presented a cash flow statement (attached). Still quite vague on income as expected but expenses under control.
- b. SBOC met last week – minutes attached.
- c. DVB problems with congestion and Fen Bridge noted, and these are adversely affecting boat operations. Intend to start running more charters from Le Talbooth.
- d. Dedham Lock – EB reported little progress but DMMCL AGM due soon and we expect to move on quickly after that.
- e. Membership new members approved. Pat Thompson awarded Life Membership.
5. Planning for resumption of operations. Much discussion – intend to re-open for charters and HSLC with limited numbers. RK to prepare publicity material. Tea room volunteers to meet soon. CB to get 2 more sumup machines.
6. Lock Lintel still in progress.
7. AOB
 - a. SD said we need signed off H & S and Environmental policy statements
 - b. Damage to Cornard lock paddle caused by overwinding. JP and JL will work on repairs soon.
8. Date and time of next meeting. 12th July 1pm, Zoom.

[===] indicates redacted section