

# RIVER STOUR TRUST COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held on Saturday 15 December 2012 10:00 hours, at the VEC, Gt Cornard

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**Present:** Andrew Richardson (AR) - Chairman; Roger Brown (RB); Gareth Cole (GC); Brian Cornell (BC); Jim Lunn (JL); Mike Finch (MF); James Parkinson (JP) and Chris Jowett (CJ). Also present Vice President Emrhys Barrell (EB), IWA rep Edward Gittins (EG), Sue Brown.

### 1 Apologies for Absence

John Morris (JM)

### 2 Identification of confidential business, and notification of AOB topics

Confidential - Peter Edwards, boat ASCOVA. AOB - kitchen in Granary, correspondence re. lighter

### 3 Minutes of the Meeting of 1 November 2012 – identification of confidential items

Motion: BC proposed MF seconded, That the minutes were a true record. Carried unanimously.

Motion: MF proposed GC seconded, That the confidential items noted in the minutes are omitted from the web-site version of the minutes. Carried unanimously

### 4 Membership report

Motion:MF proposed BC seconded, That the new members be accepted. Carried unanimously.

Motion: MF Proposed GC Seconded, That Chris Jowett be appointed as Trustee. Carried unanimously.

### 5 Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda

AR reported that *Managing A Masterpiece* were unhappy about our proposed changes to the lighter, so he was in correspondence with Simon Amstutz about moving the helmsman's position aft and doing more to make the steering & motors less obtrusive, and that our approach was based on our safety assessment.

BC reported that he had an estimate for fitting the new gas heaters at The Granary of £1240.

Motion: GC proposed CJ seconded, That new gas heaters are fitted at The Granary as soon as convenient. Carried unanimously.

MF said that talks about VEC access with residents had not yet taken place.

CJ said that *Trusty* was expected to have some winter painting needed.

EB said he would investigate applying for the Mansura award – a scheme run by the Royal Thames Yacht Club to promote hybrid electric boats - for the lighter. It would involve fitting solar panels in some fashion on the lighter.

BC reported that Eden-Rose Coppice had expressed a desire to purchase the filled-in portion of the Granary cut. It was unanimously agreed to sell this land, as the Trust had no use for it and Eden-Rose Coppice, as a charity and good neighbour, were best suited to maintain it.

EB reported that a bigger list of postings for the current Lock Lintel was prepared. He suggested the Trust made more use of Paypal for donations.

### 6 Treasurer's Report

GC presented his report, and noted that the main a/c balance was £23,601 with £25,000 in investment accounts. He noted that, just as last month, there was a loss overall on the year which was largely explained by several exceptional spends. He said he was pursuing the use of dual signatures for electronic transfers so as to avoid many cheque transactions. He said that some residual issues in SAGE resulting from the previous Treasurer's methods, should be resolvable with the reporting accountants. He said Jane Rogers was doing good work in weeding old unwanted documents from Trust files.

### 7 Legacy from Jasmin Maureen Bowden

GC reported that the Trust had received a legacy of £14,364 from this lady, and it was being put in a short-notice savings account. No-one in the Trust seemed to know her, but thanks had been sent to her solicitor. RB said it seems likely that she saw our boats while living in a residential home in Sudbury.

### 8 Minutes of other Meetings

SBOC

BC said *Kathleen* needed repairs to her roof, which had been damaged in Cornard lock. He said *Rosette's* curtains and roof were likely to need renewal this winter.

AR said that a request to provide a lighter trip for a party from the AONB had been received. It was agreed that we could provide it free but see if there was an ability to pay for it, and that we will need a policy for lighter charters and charges. It was suggested that a suitable level will be around £250.

LRG

No report.

### **9 Stratford St Mary lock restoration**

RB presented papers for work in 2013 to keep this project going, including EA land drainage permits and summer work on site. Sue Brown noted that insurance for the digger was vital, and needed special arrangements with our insurers. She would action this in conjunction with MF.

Motion: RB proposed GC seconded, That a budget of £5750 be allowed for Stratford lock project in 2013. Carried unanimously.

### **10 New Granary Bar Contract**

GC said this was progressing and details would be circulated to Council.

### **11 Granary fire safety**

AR said he would take action on any changes needed in his H&S role.

### **12 Recent and forthcoming events**

Sudbury on Show – Sat 2 Feb 2013

There were 4 volunteers to assist in this, AR, MF, BC, GC.

### **13 Correspondence**

None

### **14 Any Other Business**

AR reported that some kitchen elements were available free from his employer for use at The Granary. CJ volunteered to help with collection.

BC agreed to take over moorings manager role.

EG reported that Babergh DC were currently reviewing their core planning strategy, and the Trust needed to be aware and make representations if needed.

EB said that the remaining original parts of the lighter, currently at the VEC, needed preservation or they would inevitably decay. He offered to find technical advice on this.

### **15 Date and time of next meeting**

Saturday 26 Jan 10:00 VEC.

Meeting closed 12:30