

Minutes of the Trust Council held on Monday November 29th at 11:00am by electronic means

1. Welcome and Apologies

Attendees: Chris Sims, Chris Bolt, Terry Mundy, Peter Turvey, Rob Dunton, David Copley, Graham Snook, Zaira Puddephatt, Mike Bailey, David Fearn, Rob Dean, Tim Pyatt

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 20th September 2021

These were agreed and will be published on the website.

3. Matters raised and agreed in correspondence since last meeting

3.1 Proposed short term rental of Pumphouse Cottage declined.

4. Health and safety

4.1 Review of incidents and near misses

4.1.1 At Bradford on Avon an elderly passenger tripped whilst using the front steps because of age and medical conditions she was hospitalised but discharged a short while after. This was a MAIB reportable accident. All crew acted appropriately and in a timely manner.

4.1.2 At Bradford on Avon a crew member had a minor injury to on the steps and one crew member slipped on loose gravel when disembarking the boat.

4.1.3 B Mac a passenger felt faint. 999 called and paramedics dealt with the situation. The passenger was then able to continue the trip. Complimentary comments from the 999 crew to our crew.

4.1.4 Family hire from Great Bedwyn, passenger on a family holiday fell over from the sitting position and split head open when falling forward to the edge of the bunk. The passenger had very complex medical issues the husband wrote to us explaining that his Wife had neurological issues which affected her balance.

4.1.5 Collision at Great Bedwyn between a family hire boat and a Bruce boat at a bridge hole, fault unclear. No injuries.

4.2 Although the season has been much busier than last year our accidents remain low and minor, some though have longer outcomes due to age and health of our passengers.

5. Finance and governance

5.1 Finance and Governance Report – Trust council noted the current financial position.

5.2 2022 Budgets – Trust Council accepted the budgets alongside the following recommendations:-

5.2.1 That before any commitment is made to employ a General Manager, Crofton is asked to update its July 2021 Business Plan and to demonstrate the expected benefits (both financial and impact) of appointing a paid General Manager.

5.2.2 That in the meantime the bid from Crofton is amended to assume that the General Manager is not in post until April, saving £7.5K.

5.2.3 That other Trust bids are accepted, subject to a thorough review of spending proposals at Devizes following the rewiring project.

5.2.4 That Enterprise bids are accepted, but with the repainting of KV only included if 50% if the costs can be raised locally (if the Enterprise Board endorses inclusion of this expenditure)

5.2.5 That all previous commitments identified in paragraph 20 of the budget paper are subject to further endorsement by Trust Council before any expenditure is committed.

5.2.6 That Enterprise is asked to carry out a strategic review, to be completed by the end of June 2022 and with external commercial input, to enable decisions to be taken about the future activities of the company and the extent to which the cash contribution can be increased.

5.2.7 That, as a matter of urgency, a Trustee with responsibility for fundraising is recruited (through external advertising)

6. Communications

6.1 Website replacement update. The wireframe layout was shared.

6.2 Council was updated on the Trust communication strategy

7. Future Trust Strategy and 2021 work programme

7.1 Meeting of all Branch Chairmen held in early November, the next meeting will be scheduled in April.

7.2 Quarterly meeting of the Kennet and Avon Trade Association hosted at Devizes in October, a contingent of CRT staff were in attendance.

8. Branch Reports were noted.

9. Dates for future Meetings

24th January

21st March

16th May

18th July

19th September

21st November

All meetings start 11:00.am via Zoom unless otherwise agreed.

10. Any Other Business

10.1 Peter Turvey announced that he was retiring from Trust Council, we thank Peter for his years of service and for his invaluable help on the Crofton Project.

10.2 Policy on volunteering activity on CRT property, Chris Sims to organise a discussion between Rob Coles of CRT and Graham Puddephatt.

10.3 Congestion at Bradford on Avon, Chris Sims to discuss with Martin Hollis.