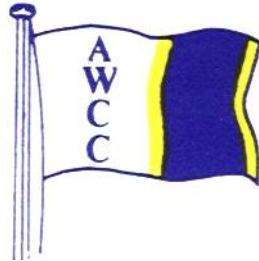


# A.W.C.C.

(Association of Waterways Cruising Clubs)

## NORTH WEST REGION



### MINUTES

Of the General Meeting held on  
11<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
**WATCH HOUSE CRUISING CLUB**

President — Bryan Pollard,  
Tel - 07854 008387, bryan.pollard@ntlworld.com

| <u>CHAIRMAN</u>  | <u>VICE CHAIR<br/>(SOUTH)</u>                                 | <u>VICE CHAIR<br/>(NORTH)</u>                                       | <u>SECRETARY</u>   | <u>TREASURER</u>   |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| Malcolm Holbrook<br>07836 527818<br><br>malcom.holbrook@<br>btinternet.com | John Suggitt<br>07880 643173<br><br>johnsuggitt@<br>ymail.com | John Hicks<br>07855 780089<br><br>johnhicksbuilding@<br>outlook.com | Nick Culliford<br>07816 071117<br><br>nicholas.culliford@<br>hotmail.com | Robin Telkman<br>07879 478314<br><br>robintelkman@<br>btinternet.com |

The AWCC North West Region acknowledges the continued support of the Officers and Members of the WATCH HOUSE CRUISING CLUB who provide the accommodation for the meetings

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING (AGM)-Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30 pm  
at Watch House Cruising Club, Stretford, Manchester M32 8WE**

# A.W.C.C. NORTH WEST REGION

Attendance at meetings 2022-2024

|                               |                              | 2022/24 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 24                          |  |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----------------------------|--|
| Month                         |                              | 03      | 05 | 09 | 11 | 01 | 03 | 05 | 09 | 11 | 01 |                             |  |
| Acton Bridge C.C.             | Gary Collier                 |         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |                             |  |
|                               | Dave & Chris Moors           | P       | A  |    |    |    | A  | A  | A  |    |    |                             |  |
| Bridgewater Motor Boat Club   | Alf & Pat Brumby             | P       | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  |    | P  | P  | P  |                             |  |
| Broken Cross B.C.             | Bryan & Linda Pollard        | P       | P  | A  | A  | P  | P  |    | P  | A  | P  |                             |  |
| Crooke Cruising Club          | Malcolm Holbrook             | P       | A  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  |                             |  |
|                               | Dave Pickup                  |         |    |    |    |    | P  |    |    |    |    |                             |  |
| Douglas Valley C.C.           | Alan Trevarton               |         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |                             |  |
|                               | Alan Finch                   |         |    |    |    | P  |    |    |    |    |    |                             |  |
| East Lancs West Yorks B.C.    | Barry Clayton                | P       | P  |    | P  |    | P  |    |    |    |    |                             |  |
|                               | Paddy and Jill Creaven       |         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | P                           |  |
| Furness Vale Boat Club        | John Suggitt                 | P       | A  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  |                             |  |
| Lancaster Canal Boat Club     |                              |         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |                             |  |
| Lymm Cruising Club            | Bob McCulloch                | P       |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |                             |  |
|                               | Phyllis Greenough            | P       | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P                           |  |
|                               | Barry Greenough              |         | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P                           |  |
|                               | Jack & Glenys Kershaw        |         |    |    |    | P  |    |    |    |    | P  | A                           |  |
|                               | D. Burke                     |         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | P  | A                           |  |
|                               | Jenny Budworth               |         |    |    | P  | A  | A  | A  | P  |    |    | A                           |  |
| Mersey Motor B.C.             | Ron Hutchinson               | P       |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |                             |  |
|                               | Mike Williams                | P       | P  | P  | P  | A  | P  | P  | A  | P  | P  |                             |  |
| Nantwich & Border Counties YC | Stuart Robinson              | P       |    | A  | P  | P  | P  | P  | A  | P  | A  |                             |  |
| North Cheshire C.C.           | John Suggitt                 | P       | A  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  |                             |  |
| Sale Cruising Club            | Robin Telkman & Carol Curran | P       | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  |                             |  |
| Watch House C.C.              | Geoff. Hollies               |         | P  | A  | P  | A  | A  | P  | P  | A  | A  |                             |  |
|                               | Macar Rington                |         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | P  | A  |                             |  |
| Weaver Motor Boat Club        | Eddie Revell                 | P       | P  | A  | P  | A  | P  | A  | P  | P  | A  |                             |  |
|                               | Nick Culliford               | P       | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | P  | A  |                             |  |
| Wheelton Boat Club            | John Hicks                   | A       | P  | P  | P  | P  | A  | A  | P  | A  | P  |                             |  |
| Worsley Cruising Club         | Ken Ogg                      | P       | P  | P  |    | A  | P  | P  | P  | P  | A  |                             |  |
|                               |                              |         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |                             |  |
|                               | 17 CLUBS                     | 13      | 10 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 10 | <b>Average 11.5<br/>67%</b> |  |

# AWCC North West Region

## Minutes of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024

The was attended by fourteen people, representing ten of the seventeen North West Region Boat Clubs, apologies being received from the remainder. This was the first meeting to be held in 2024.

The Chairman opened the meeting extending a welcome to Jill and Paddy Cleaver who have agreed to represent ELWY following the sad passing of Barry Clayton towards the end of last year. It was agreed that following the Officers reports the others in attendance would be invited to feedback news from their clubs.

**1. Apologies from:** Nick Culliford & Eddie Revell, (*perhaps the first time WMBC has not been represented*).

**2. Minutes of the last Meeting** – Agreed

### **3. Chairman's Report**

Little to report other than ongoing repairs to the Wigan Lock Flight which are currently taking place. There is an ongoing problem with effective weed management.

The scheme for Registering clubs with the Trust introduced in 2019 to avoid malpractice such as money laundering is proving cumbersome in that it employs 'one size fits all' approach intended to capture all forms of club (e.g. football clubs). It is understood that clubs who operate as Limited Companies don't need to respond.

### **2. Secretary's Report (Nick's report delivered on the night by John Suggitt).**

General comment on Stoppages – Check waterscape web site <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/notices> Then 'notices and stoppages' Individuals can sign up to automatically receive notification of stoppages etc on specific waterways (not just every waterway in the country).

**i) Worsley Toilet Block:** No evidence to suggest that this now open.

**ii) Montgomery Canal Restoration – Schoolhouse Bridge:** Rebuilding commenced during Jan 2023, extending to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The Montgomery Canal Restoration Appeal raised £0.5M. There is plenty of work done but the canal on the Llanymynech side is dried out and work is required.

**iii) Anderton Lift:** The boat lift is currently open standard Winter hours and as far as the Project Manager responsible knows, barring breakdowns, is scheduled to be open until the end of the 2014 season. Works to the gate seals are planned in a manner to avoid disruption to the Lift operating hours.

**iv) Weaver Flood Control:** Section 19 Report by CW&C Council. Concern with flooding in Northwich. The Weaver User Group had a meeting with C&RT Hydrologist Adam Commerford. All sluice gates on the Weaver are now in operation. RWNS have started an 'on line' petition.

**v) Calor Gas-small containers:** Flo Gas offer these with a £35-00 deposit on the container. We are currently unsure what small bottles are being kept by Calor Gas and await their clear response.

**vi) AWCC Handbooks:** All NW region Clubs are requested to ensure that their Handbook details are up to date by Friday February 9<sup>th</sup> to guarantee inclusion in the 2024 Handbook. The cost to the region for purchased copies was £3-50 last year. The Handbook will be branded as the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the AWCC. Can Clubs let Des Bernard (Webmaster) know the number of Handbooks they require for purchase by their members.

**vii) Club Magazine Competition:** In customary fashion, this is being run by last year's winners Byfleet Boat Club who are based on the River Wey Navigation in Surrey. It is understood that there are awards for both 'hardcopy' and 'on line' Club magazines.

Dates of AWCC meetings at Watch House CC during 2024: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 19-30 hours  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 19-30 hours  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 19-30 hours  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 19-30 hours  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 19-30 hours

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

Our assets to date are as follows:

Current Account: £ 2,207.00

Savings Account: £ 2,934.00

Cash in hand: £ 51.00

A stock of burgees

A number of Club's are yet to pay their fees for the coming year.

### **4. Feedback from those in attendance**

Trent and Mersey Canal

Bryan Pollard reported that he continues to negotiate with CRT on canoes in tunnels but despite demonstrating clearly the extent of the problem nothing tangible is being proposed from C&RT. Advice regarding poor positioning of warnings and signage near tunnels has not been addressed by C&RT. He also advised of Service Blocks being out of action.

Leeds Liverpool Canal:

John Hicks advised of an excess of ground water at Wheelton Top Lock Services.

Jill Creaven advised that the Barrowford Lock Flight was closed due to leakage. Services are in poor condition. The 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bingley Five Rise occurs on 23<sup>rd</sup> March this year.

Mike Williams advised that both Cocksedge Swing Bridge and Crabtree Swing Bridge are currently closed.

Bridgewater Canal

Phyllis Greenough reported that the BCC media staff have gone. Enforcement Officer Chris Wareing appears to be overloaded. No FBCC user group meetings have been taking place.

Robin Telkman reported that an increase in License Fees is imminent. Wide beam craft appear to be gravitating to the Bridgewater Canal as unlike C&RT BCC don't appear to have added any additional fees on width. Peter Parkinson is now a Director, and doesn't get directly involved with Boat Clubs any more. Bookings are being taken for this year's FED Rally which is to be held at Sale CC during the late May Bank Holiday. Alf Brunby claimed that there is little enthusiasm for future FBCC Rallies and that the Runcorn Lock Flight Restoration currently awaits funding.

Macclesfield & Peak Forest Canals

John Suggitt advised of a closure at Kent Green due to a problem with a culvert. The waterway is currently closed between Bridge 87 and the Hall Green Stop Lock. To date, no estimate for re-opening is available. The Marple Lock Flight on the Peak Forest Canal remains closed awaiting repairs to Lock 7.

### **5. AOB**

Later this year a Rally is proposed at Dunstable and District Boat Club to commemorate the Sixtieth Anniversary of the AWCC. Details are to be announced, along with application forms.

It was agreed that all who were in attendance provide some food for the evening of our AGM. We remain unsure whether a Guest Speaker may be Arranged on the night. But are open to suggestions.

### **6 Date of next Meeting (AGM) Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 7.30pm**

**Minutes taken by John Suggitt**