



MINUTES OF USER GROUP MEETING

HELD IN

THE GRANGE MANOR HOTEL, GRANGEMOUTH

ON SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER 2005

09.59 – 12.30 HOURS

Representing British Waterways:

Ronnie Simpson, Customer Service Manager, Lowland Canals
Gerry Kirk, Interim Customer Service Manager, Lowland Canals
Linton McBurnie, Waterway Supervisor – Union Canal, Lowland Canals
Tommy Thomson, Waterway Supervisor, Forth & Clyde Canal – East
Bill Robertson, Waterway Supervisor, Forth & Clyde Canal – West
Marion Paterson, Customer Service Administrator, Lowland Canals
Lorna Steele, Finance Administrator &
Interim Administration Manager, Lowland Canals
Yvonne Laird, Finance Administrator, Lowland Canals
Bill Martin, Team Leader, Forth & Clyde Canal – East

Guest Speakers

Prof John Hume OBE
Dr Olivia Lassiere, Environmental Scientist, British Waterways Scotland
Mr David Oldham, Access Officer, West Lothian Council

Chairman

Professor John Hume, OBE

1.0 Welcome

Professor Hume gave everyone a very warm welcome to the meeting which started at 9.59 a.m. and read out the list of apologies. It was noted that Bill Robertson of British Waterways was in attendance. The list included only those who had intimated their apologies and any others would be intimated in the minutes when available.

2.0 Apologies

The intimated apologies and others on the day were as follows:

1. Richard Millar, Waterway Manager, Lowland Canals
2. John Ellis, Fisheries Manager, South East & Chairman LCAPS
3. Pam Swanson, Customer Service Manager, Scotland
4. Craig Sear, Team Leader, The Falkirk Wheel
5. Ken Hart, Team Leader, The Falkirk Wheel
6. Robert Mcleod, Facilities Team Supervisor, Lowlands
7. Christopher Breslin, Planner, Scotland, British Waterways
8. Hamish Leal, Capercaillie Cruisers

9. Mr Jamie and Mrs Eleanor Milne, Seagull Trust
10. Mrs Edith McLean, Edinburgh Canal Society
11. Mr and Mrs Ian Tennant
12. Mr W A MacDonald, Scottish Advisory Group
13. Mr Jay Lamb, Re-Union Cruising
14. Ms Bev Schoffield, Peccadillo
15. Mr Ian White, St Andrews Boat Club, Edinburgh
16. Mr Lawrence Edwards, St Andrews Boat Club, Edinburgh
17. Dr Iain Campbell, Skipper, MV Eigg & Edinburgh Canal Society
18. Mrs S M Le Pla, Forth & Clyde Canal Society
19. Ms Fiona Willis, SIWA

3.0 Minutes of previous meeting John Hume Matters Arising & Introduction

Professor Hume invited any corrections to the minutes of previous meeting on Saturday 12 March 2005. Sandra Purves of Edinburgh Canal Society pointed out that the reference on Page 4 of the minutes to Friar Street was incorrect. This should read "Freer Street". Also on Page 10 there was a typographical error in that the correct spelling of the boats involved was "scow". Robert Hunter of Stirling Council pointed out that "Billy Mason **"did not"** have permission from Falkirk Council". These Amendments were noted by the minute taker and those receiving copies of the minutes should note the changes accordingly.

Professor Hume asked if there were any matters arising. There were none and he then introduced Ronnie Simpson who would be giving the Lowland Canals Update in Richard Millar's absence on holiday.

4.0 Lowland Canals Update Ronnie Simpson

After an initial light-hearted introduction Ronnie explained that the work went On at the moment with business planning and impending stoppages.

Ronnie referred to Richard Millar's presentation in March when John Black was introduced as Customer Service Manager for Lowlands. Ronnie advised that John had been absent from work through sickness for a few months but was now fully recovered and has come back to a position in Project Engineering in Glasgow.

Ronnie was happy to report on a few issues from last year.

- Transits were expected to be up on last year's 140 (as at User Group date it was 143 and rising up until the end of October).
- The canal was in good shape and weed was being managed well.
- MAYA group in Scandinavia want to use both canals more so a lot of foreigners will be coming in from now on and it was noted that operative teams are working well with visitors helping them transit.
- Increased long term moorings to 235 craft (12% increase)
- BWS to report back findings of the consultation by end of March for implementation at beginning of April.

Edinburgh Quay

Opening – 3,000 people attended this and 300 boats have visited throughout the season.

Leamington -

It would be a safety risk to have moorings up to wharf wall.

Port Dundas

Planned completion date is behind schedule. We had problems moving facilities – this should be ready to open on 1st April.

Spiers Wharf.

This area will be minded by our teams. It is hoped that there will possibly be trip boats from here also.

Auchinstarry

This is 95% full. If there are spaces it is because boats normally moored there are out sometimes sailing on the canal. We have residential, and visitor moorings with narrowboats and cruisers. This site is close to quarry which is available for rock climbers and The Forrestry Commission land nearby is planned for development.

Scottish & Newcastle will be involved with the first new build in the pub partnership at the Auchinstarry site. This should be finished for summer next year. Parking may be tight. The site has 60 spaces and most lunch times there are 20-24 cars sitting. People do want to sit and look at boats. From here you can also get access to Antonine Wall.

Visitor Moorings – 135 metres

(All with powered bollards and water)

Home Moorings – 400 metres

(All with powered bollards and water)

Residential Moorings – 60 metres

(All with powered bollards and water)

Commercial Moorings – 200 metres

No of Bollards – 50 with 16 amp

14 with 32 amp

Hardstanding – secure area with 2.5 Metre Fence and CCTV monitored from British Waterways Office at Auchinstarry.

Mainstalk in operation

The Disabled Access Forum

This is handled by Richard Millar and at the moment the chicanes are being cut to a new style barrier gate. These will give wider access. The Union Canal has been cut already to give better access and 23 sections of gates on Forth & Clyde – Auchinstarry to Grangemouth to be completed by end of this year.

Bowling

We have managed to get a funding package for wreck removal. Phase 1 has been started. £1.2m investment.

Pontoons at Helenslea - 4 residential with security.

Pontoons at Upper Basin

Pontoons at Lower Basin

Power and Water Bollards

Hardstanding moved to Helenslea

New Facilities Block

Mainstalk moved too – in Bollards installed at Bowling

Facilities – we have to run a line out to bottom area. This takes time

Surveys for everything – towpath users and boaters alike.

LCAPS

Ronnie introduced Ron Woods at this point who was happy to give an update on LCAPS especially in connection with the competition recently where the prize money for winners was £1,500.

Ron was happy to report that this competition was an Open Competition.

This was the best prize fund at any time. It was a success. He was happy to advise that Rita Crowe of the Waterways Trust Scotland had organised getting angling coaches at Brightons, Falkirk at the Grange Centre.

We have done well in getting a bit more done in promoting the fishery through Fish Scotland website advertising all kinds of fishing.

Sale of permits to be much more enhanced through Fish Scotland.

(www.fishscotland.co.uk) . This has increased the revenue from we have received from visiting anglers. In excess of 1,000

Ronnie Simpson at this point introduced **Lorna Steele** as the Interim Treasurer for LCAPS in Elly Storrie's absence on maternity leave.

Last year there were 7,500 lock movements and this year so far we have had 11,000. We have been talking for some time of user operation at Locks 17-20 – this is not as easy as we thought. So at the moment we still have assisted passage.

We are consistently getting complimentary letters sent in about the teams. This occurs on a weekly basis. We have to report on this and I must thank the teams for all their efforts.

Ronnie then gave a quick synopsis of the customers brought onto the Lowland Canals during this season as follows:

The Nolly Barge	750
Peccadillo	250
Forth & Clyde Canal Society	4,650 of which 1,200 were school children
Cygnus	120
Bonny Barge	Unfortunately we do not have these figures
Capercaillie	2,300 which includes Alvechurch, Black Prince and Capercaillie

Ronnie also reported that a new operation will join Hamish's fleet next season called Marine Cruises. This will make an extra 5 boats available to the hire fleet.

Seagull Trust	12,000
LUCS	10,000
Bridge 19-40	150 – Ann reported that the numbers dropped as a result of the Boat Show not going ahead this year.
Re-Union	800
Ronnie Rusack	20,000 estimated
Edinburgh Canal Society	1,000
The total is approximately	52,020

Last year the number of towpath users were 12 million
This year to date the numbers are 11.9 million. So we are on line for possibly 14 million .

Robin Evans our chief executive stated that he saw our objective as to have a vibrant self sufficient waterway and double the customers base by 2010.

The Union Canal improvements

This is planned to be opened at Viewforth by Sarah Boyack on 31st October.

Winter Stoppages are due to start late in November.

Forth & Clyde Canal – 12-16 – no funding

Lock 29 – January start

Lock 19 – 7th November start

Glasgow Branch to be dewatered to Spiers Wharf – embankment works and along that embankment there will be moorings planned.

Falkirk Wheel – 9th – 19th January – closed – winter opening hours are in effect now. The Wheel will not be opened every day.

4.1 Questions & Comments

Gary Clark Will there be a fish rescue
 Ronnie Simpson Yes

4.0 Presentation continued

Ronnie then introduced Gerry Kirk as the new Interim Customer Service Manager. Ronnie advised that this made up the set with the “trains, boats and planes”. Pam Swanson came from British Airways and Gerry had gained a lot of experience with Virgin Trains.

Lowland Canals Photographic Competition

Moving on Ronnie made reference to the competition advising that the first prize had gone to Mr Ohlsson from Gothenburg, Sweden and we were happy that two other prize winners had been able to come along to collect their prizes today. The prizes were presented by the Chairman.

The Second Prize went to Mrs Gardiner from Hamilton who had taken a superb picture of The Falkirk Wheel – Locked in Ice and Mist. Mrs Gardiner received her cheque for £150.

Third prize went to Paul Kelsey from Longridge, West Lothian for Manse Basin Linlithgow who received his prize of £75.

Mr Kelsey also received a “commended” prize for which he received a cheque for £25.

Two other winners received commended prizes, one of which was last year’s winner, Dr Graeme Pollock from Ayr and also Nan Caldwell from Clydebank. Both received their prize of £25 by post.

Breaking News

Ronnie advised that at the back of the hall there were details on various Christmas events for LUCS, Nolly Barge, The Forth & Clyde Canal Society and Bridge 19-40 Society.

Harrison Park Opening – Sarah Boyack – funded by Scottish Executive and Sustrans. Edinburgh Canal Society will take part in this event.

Scottish Boat Show has a new name – The Scottish Boat Show and Outdoor Leisure Show. The planned date of this will be 19th to 21st May 2006. This will take place at the Falkirk Wheel basin however we are looking at other potential locations in the future. There will be an admission charge £3 each and children accompanied by an adult will be allowed in free of charge. Richard Davies who organised the Glasgow River Festival will be responsible for organising this show. We can pray for good weather that particular weekend.

4.2 Questions & Comments

Gordon Daly RYA Why do we not have extra moorings at Bowling Basin
 Ronnie We had problems with rafting up and will have unique space to access pontoons

Ann Street Herringbone?
 Ronnie Right

Tommy Lawton Reason asked opening hours. The Skippers Guides say 8 to 6 and you have leaflets which say 8 to 8.
 F&CCS Opening times should be put together and we have had skippers advised on 11th September by banksmen that you were now in winter opening hours at that time. You do not seem to know what is happening at the bottom. The suggestion is that the men have to allow one hour to get back to their base.

Ronnie 11th September is NOT winter opening hours. We start winter opening from 31st October.

 Tommy Lawton This has happened on more than one occasion. If we are at Auchinstarry by 4.30 – 5 pm we can make it through the Hillhead Bridge in plenty of time but the

workers have to be back by 6 pm. This is a disadvantage to us.

Gary Clarkson You talked about weed – what does this mean for fish stocks.

Ronnie Olivia will advise within her presentation

T Wilson RYA Drop Lock Dalmuir – we had to wait for three quarters of an hour because of fendering.

Bill Robertson This is in programme of stoppages for this season.

J MacDonald - Scottish Course May 2006 – you have excluded angling in your Presentation

Angling No it is included – I hope it will be represented. – in every area.

Ronnie

Bill Purves – ECS In the Boat Show in 2006 will we (the societies) be included

Ronnie Yes you will be. We will talk to the canal societies about carrying people on trips

Bill We have sea going launches available also to go up the River Forth. We need to get ways of incorporating this. Have you thought of a car boot sale at Falkirk Wheel area

Ronnie Yes we are looking at this possibility at the moment. Richard Davies will arrange all this within organisation of Boat Show.

Ann Street 1st April Port Dundas to be opened – can we have some advance warning

Ronnie I have to get several things in place first. It will be arranged in advance

Ron Woods In previous meetings Richard Millar has given general assurance of support with LCAPS – how will BW manifest this support.

Ronnie We note to look at issue of bailiffing and how BW could do this. We have to look to how we can assist and provide you with support.

Ron Woods Stock regeneration – Richard said 18-24 Southern Region. This should continue. Pollution incident at Port Dundas – can BW get compensation for this so that stocking can continue (*stocking paid for by compensation monies*).

Olivia We are chasing up with Diagio and Scottish Water. This has gone to the Procurator Fiscal and our claim for time and fish is £3,000. Steve Fraser at Scottish Water is the person who I have been dealing with – we can have fish released often. We have cleared all this up in Glasgow Branch and one of the problems was the sewer which was blocked up going into the canal. SEPA has been chasing them (*Diagio*) for compensation but I will keep you advised of progress.

Ron Woods Proactive communication on this please.

*** Port Dundas - what commitment will BW have to stock canal at Port Dundas.

Olivia It (*replacing fish stock*) is a difficult art. It is difficult to assess fish numbers and changes in population of fish. There are different factors to be considered then we can make a decision when everything has been looked at. 1,000's of our fish are going out and Rescues are important.

Ron Woods We have lost many mature fish though

Olivia It is very clear this is more of a challenge (*assessing*

Andy Carnduff Saltwater Group RYA	<i>numbers of mature fish)</i> Active Anglers – I am having to dodge bottom at Redburn – you have to act. Can we have out of season weedcutting maintenance. 140 boats making passage at the moment – I have only right depth with my boat to get through. Not one of my people are able to come up the Union Canal - there is not enough depth in the Union Canal.
Eva	Cobbles at Port Dundas – in the slide you showed? <i>Concern on access for wheelchairs</i>
Ronnie	It will be alright there
John Hume	Some of the old style Forth & Clyde cobbles have a smoother surface.
Judy Gray LUCS	Linlithgow – Over the last few years the railings were painted – can this be within the month. When will this take place
Ronnie	Linton McBurnie has been talking to the contractors about this.
Linton	Two weeks approximately – I have to get a quote first then it will be painted.
G Daly RYA	Using the canal – we note that there is a back log of maintenance. 12 month activity using canal. Could you give us an idea that this backlog of work will go ahead?
Ronnie	Some of the maintenance will be done over the entire year. We are looking at Time share during holiday times also. Maintenance is here to stay <i>Maintenance would not stop during season – it continues.</i>
Gordon Daly	What about the backlog still to be cleared?
Ronnie	George Ballinger in a presentation recently given internally in a training seminar split the Maintenance period into A and B – four to five years work on some of this backlog work. It is in hand.
Gordon Daly	OK

4.2 **Actions**

- 4.2.1 Skippers Guides and all leaflets have to have clear indication of opening times so that there is no confusion between summer and winter opening times.
- 4.2.2 Olivia to communicate with LCAPS on fish stocking and update on Port Dundas incident.

5.0 **Aquatic Plant Management**

Dr Olivia Lassiere

Olivia opened by thanking Ronnie Simpson for introducing weed Management within his presentation on the Lowland Canals Update.

There are different ways of managing plants.
Aquatic plants are perfectly designed – some plants are rare everywhere else. Bennet's Pondweed grows on Glasgow Branch and nowhere else in the world. We sell our water to some customers and these plants are helpful in keeping our water clean.

The reason that water plants grow so well is –
Food
Stable Environment
Light
Plants are survivors

Water

Limited grazing round these areas.

There are different kinds such as
Emergent plants, submerged plants and floating plants

The value of these plants to the waterway is -

Water sales

Fishery

Green engineering

Aesthetic value

Biodiversity

Safety

Safety – on path the plants growing up at the edge of the canal are a barrier to the water and prevents easy access on to the canal.

Floating Water Fern forms a carpet – so there is a risk here of children or animals going in and walking on this carpet only to find that underneath there is water and they can sink and drown.

At Dullatur Marsh we have a site of special scientific importance

Monkland Canal shows what happens if you do not have good plant management.

Olivia reported that in 2004 there were 15 complaints about weed management. Eight on Forth & Clyde, one on Monkland and six on Union Canal – these were about problem areas.

There is Blanket Weed in Wester Hailes

Water Lilies on the Summit Pound

Shang P Weed – Erskine Bridge - this only appears in one or two places in Scotland.

Weeds and obstructions do not significantly impair navigation.

Techniques we can use to manage and control –

- 1 Physical
- 2 Chemical
- 3 Biological
- 4 Environmental.

The first thing is that you can chop up the weed and this can be done by boats transiting the canal.

We have to be careful what chemicals we do use. The use of Barley Straw slows down algae

On the biological side some fish help by munching through the weed especially alien species to Scotland

We have to be Working in association with land owners who are ploughing at the side of canal.

Aquatic plants grow prolifically in summer and weed boats could not keep up with this.

The plan for the 2005 season was devised through the list of 2004 problem areas.

We consulted with the Centre for Aquatic Plant Management then with SEPA and also the contractor (Complete Weed Control) and obtained authorisation from SEPA to use herbicide treatment. We also investigated this by using GPS in a boat.

Plans for next year –

Monitor the channel

Log customer complaints.

Focussed use of approved herbicides
 Continued use of weed cutting boats
 Encourage more boat traffic
 Recording sheet and GPS on boats.
 Update management plans to reflect outcomes of 2006 season.

5.1 Questions & Comments

- Gordon Daly RYA You spoke about safety and line of emergent reeds along the tow path. Boaters are not able to get to the side to tie up because of this. Every 100 metres – there should be 25 metre spaces
- Olivia Robin Evans is very keen on vegetation management and suggestion is every 1 km.
- Gordon Daly That is not enough. We need more than that.
 Ann Street What about the Vege Pledge going still down south
 Olivia Ideal areas and we have to look to local areas and see what can be best locally
- Ann Can we get feed back from boaters?
 Olivia There are various other ways round this
 John Hume Perhaps the Fresh Water Group could take this up.
 Ron Woods? Thanks for concern about fish stocks. The fishery is of little use to us if we cannot fish west from lock 20. We returned no more than one time to consult vegetation management. It could be done better though. Happy about fish stocks but what about spawning areas?
- Olivia Some areas we have to have protected – getting in central channel.
- Ron Central channel was clear in the 1970's without boats.
 John Hume Action : Unavoidable – LCAPS and Olivia Lassiere to discuss
- Derek C FFCA Fish stocks – do you have a detailed analysis/
 Olivia Fish population difficult to assess – it took me 3 years to study in previous area of work.
 There are good research projects. Key areas which are stressed – university students can study water framework directive – quality on basis of ecology. SEPA may have duty to look at fish – there is a possibility for student projects in this area of investigation.
- Mel Gray Is there any way to prevent local authority salt going into the canal during the winter.
- Olivia Sustainable drainage system. We have to work with local authorities to prevent this problem. Localised discussions though
- Mel Fish stock disappeared from Linlithgow Basin.

John Hume thanked Olivia for her work on canals whatever remains possible – British Waterways to support and he asked everyone to agree this action from this meeting.

6.0 Lowland Canals “Yesteryear” **Professor John Hume OBE**

John gave a very interesting presentation showing photographs and maps from the late 18th century in and around Port Dundas.

All in all everyone was delighted to see such interesting maps and pictures showing the history of the area and how it has developed over the two centuries of the canal.

6.1 Questions & Comments

There were no questions and comments and John was thanked for his very interesting and informative collection of slides.

7.0 Core Path Plan

**David Oldham, Access Officer –
West Lothian Council**

This was a change from the original Agenda which was planned to be an update on the ISIS programme at Spiers Wharf. Unfortunately this was a late change of plan therefore it was not possible to intimate this to all the User Group prior to the meeting.

David Oldham was happy to come along and present the Core Path Plan which incorporated some of the Union Canal Towpath. West Lothian Council amongst all the other council areas along the canal corridor are required to present this plan to various groups for feedback prior to implementation.

Land Reform Act

SOAC

We have to be responsible land managers.

David advised that there were copies of the West Lothian leaflet available to the group if they so wished.

Amanda Durlik of the Waterways Trust Scotland did a lot of work with everyone throughout the canal corridor including the councils.

West Lothian is the first council to make their Core Path Plan public. By 2008 these documents are to be available for consultation. It is envisaged that in both Linlithgow and Broxburn there will be public meetings soon.

This will include walking and cycling. The plan is skeletal at the moment.

People will be more informed about their rights. The West Lothian Core Path Plan picks up many paths including the Union Canal towpath. Canoeists have right of access and this may extend to swimming.

Beebraigs use the canal at the moment and we would be interested to hear what this group would do with the new rights of access. Core Paths will be showing on Ordnance Survey Maps.

Aqueduct over the Avon and Falkirk District may be doing something else. I have five neighbours and it will be interesting to hear what they will do with their Core Path information. We have no idea if this will go to a public enquiry or not.

7.1 Questions & Comments

John Hume	Important development which affects us all.
Gordon Daly	Observation with swimming – if someone is swimming what about the propellor on a boat. In built up areas this would not be recommended.
David Oldham	BW still have to look at this from a safety point of view. Perhaps Water access signage could be the answer here
Andy Carnduff	That is like walking on the motorway. It's not done.
John Hume	This is prohibited on byelaws
David	Byelaws will have to be looked at too.
J Gray	What about Weils disease – look at the panic about Bird Flu. You must have restrictions. Canal is a ravine.
David	Don't shoot the messenger – we have to find a way to make this work.
John Hume	In view of people's concerns and points about canals this should be taken back to the Scottish Executive.
Bill Purves	What about country rivers?
John Hume	We can only give our own opinions on this
Doris –	It was always one of the important things that

- Wester Hailes swimming was forbidden in the canal. You have to fight this.
- John Hume No and appreciate legislation – access for most normally but swimming should not be allowed.
- David Horses – SNH to investigate for this.
- R Simpson SN and Horse Society report that Union Canal is not a good area. The towpath is too narrow. Forth & Clyde Canal is being investigated.
- David Motorised vehicles – there is no access allowed on the towpath at the moment. We have to examine the barriers. These are not stopping motor bikes anyway at the moment.
- John Hume Invalid vehicles – we would not want to prevent access for this.
- Robert Hunter I launch Stirling Council Core Path Plan. Scottish Executive put money in Sustrans. We have put 12M visitors to towpath. The Initiative is right on line with the River. Forth – there are negative aspects but there are so many things going on.
- John Hume Union Canal, Forth & Clyde Canal and Monklands Canals achievable as a line path.
- David Just like Route 75
- John Hume There are no conflicts between these.
- R Woods? Responsible access or irresponsible to anglers.
- David Vandalism – urban areas we have social issues. In the past we have bowed down to MPs etc. Human Rights – we have put an embargo on it. This looks simple but it is complicated.
- Ronnie S Respond and response – it is about education. We have 31 miles and everyone wants access
Going along the towpath - for wheelchairs, children – 15-25 mph is not acceptable. We have a problem
Already with this.
- Eva Towpath – do you see cobbles as a barrier?
- David Because of the DDA Act West Lothian Ramblers have been asked to report back and also with the Horse sensus.
- John Hume Core Path – rights of access – what servicing.
- David Type 1 and gold standard in my area.
- John Hume Original paths we have to retain as much as possible.
- Eva Port Dundas
Eva was concerned about the cobbles shown in the slide in Ronnie's presentation giving an artist's impression of how this would be
- John Hume Some area of cobbles but there should be a strip that people could choose.
- Eva As long as it doesn't become a barrier.
- David Our Core Path Plan will have to go through assessment for increased use health, safety and heritage. We may be pressurised by one user with regard to this.
- Guthrie Hutton ***made point that he expected to come here today to see a presentation concerning ISIS. He referred to Ronnie Simpson's presentation where Ronnie showed excitement about new development at Port Dundas and the artist's impression of how things would look. He Asked if on opposite side could there be lower buildings. Iconic Buildings for Glasgow instead of putting up these dreadful structures as previously. At***

	<i>Edinburgh Quay this is severely compromised by developers building higher buildings.</i>
John Hume	I also share that concern.
Ronnie	we need to do something about west side and have by the end of the year.
Tommy Lawton	ISIS will have a presentation at their meeting shortly.
John Hume	The problem with development to that height in normal winter conditions – we have to have serious debate about this.
Action	Meeting with ISIS and advertise public meeting
Ann Street	this should not be confined to people from the west.

7.2 Actions

- 7.2.1. Public Meeting showing ISIS proposals to be arranged by the end of the year with members of the Lowland Canals User Group
- 7.2.2. Monitor “Access for All” right to swim in canal and express concerns to Scottish Executive. All Users to lobby.
- 7.2.3. Monitor cobbles proposed for Port Dundas ensuring they allow wheelchair access

8.0 AOCB

Professor John Hume OBE

The group were happy to wish Ronnie Rusack well as he makes plans to Leave the Bridge Inn and we will still see him on the waterway.

Alan Muir of Forth & Clyde Canal Society proposed a vote of thanks for the chair

10.0 Conclusion and Next Meeting

The meeting closed at 12.39 p.m.

Date of next meeting: Saturday 25 March 2006

Time: 9.30 a.m. for 10 a.m. start

**Venue: Grange Manor Hotel
Grangemouth**

For your information – Dates for your Diary

User Group Meetings all at

The Grange Manor Hotel and all starting at 10 a.m.

Saturday 25 March 2006

Saturday 28 October 2006

Saturday 24 March 2007

Saturday 27 October 2007

The Scottish Boat Show 2006 will be 19th – 21st May 2006

Telephone Number 01324 677810

11.0. FOR YOUR INFORMATION -

actions recorded/MP/November 2005

For ease of reference – items are numbered

.0 – presentation

.1 – Questions & Comments

.2 – Actions