

NOTES

Title: South Pennine Ring & Peak Forest Canals User Group Forum

Date: 17 October 2005

Venue: The MacDonald Norton Grange Hotel, Rochdale

		Actions / comments
	<p>More location details on the user group presentation would be better. Some of the slides don't say where the works are located.</p> <p>Is enough being done to combat the anti-social behaviour and vandalism on the Ashton Canal?</p> <p>It is generally felt that many people are being discouraged from using the canals throughout the North West region as a result of the reputation the Ashton Canal has gained relating to anti-social behaviour / violent attacks.</p> <p>Guidance and advice is given by the North West region to those wishing to travel on the Ashton Canal. Most of the time travel occurs without incident.</p> <p>The question was raised whether there may be any plans in the future to re-instate assisted passage for the Ashton Canal? This has been tried in the past and was found to place a large strain on resources and did not produce particularly successful results.</p> <p>Towpath group / Ramblers Association keen to know whether towpaths will be provided within the new regeneration developments. Also wished to know whether these would be restricted by gated access at any points.</p> <p>Rochdale (Manchester Section) & Ashton Canals</p> <p>Dredging required at lock 18 on the Ashton Canal. JS will look into this.</p> <p>Under Dale St bridge timber fender is required where the works have not been completed. This is a health and safety issue. JS will arrange for the works to be carried out.</p> <p>In order to deter anti-social behaviour, would BW consider having more permanent moorings such as Piccadilly Village.</p> <p>Queries were made regarding the development (near to hospital) get connected onto the linear. It was advised that a maintenance agreement would be required before we would connect onto the main line.</p> <p>It was requested that the swing bridges on the Ashton Canal are</p>	<p></p> <p>SA</p> <p>SA</p> <p>SA</p> <p></p> <p>MJ</p> <p></p> <p>JS</p> <p>JS</p> <p>DL</p> <p></p> <p>JS</p>

looked into. Some of these are difficult to operate. JS will investigate

Lock 56 / 57 on the Rochdale Canal – lots of brambles and vegetation growing out of the wash wall. Some of this is growing quite large and can cause damage to craft. Over 100 examples of this spotted in the Rochdale / Castleton area on 17.10.05 – Photos being provided by Brighthouse & Sowerby Bridge Boat Club. These will be passed to Supervisor for action.

JS

Peak Forest and HNC

Lock 1 & 2 HNC - we are looking at replacing lock gearing. Would like to have these installed as soon as possible but works will be addressed in priority order

IW

Lock 2 on Peak Forest – easy to operate and is identical to lock to 14 on Huddersfield Narrow which is difficult to operate. Trying to find out why they are different. May be that gates are twisted. Leaking developing when full.

IW

Will we be dredging HNC lock 19 -20 – not priority in NW but will have new equipment with spot dredging capability.

IW

Top of marple flight – sign required advising ‘do not moor’.

JT

Lower peak – veg. Positive feedback from users. However, what has been done to ensure that it does not return? EA approval came too late in the season so will have to re-spray affected areas in the spring.

IW

Visitor mooring wall is falling into the canal opposite top lock marina. Large Job – IW has advised that we will review it.

IW

Installed 60 bollards and another 50 will be installed before Christmas. Each lock on HNC and Peak Forest Canal will be completed before Christmas.

IW

When will boaters be able to go up the diggle flight un-escorted. Standedge tunnel traffic need to be monitored due to water resource issues.

Q. Who owns over the top access at Hyde Bank Tunnel?
a. Stockport is local authority

No consultation when cycle barriers on the Ashton canal were installed.

We will consult in future if we are to install cycle barriers.

JT

	<p>Issues raised about safety on the Ashton Canal. They felt that BW need to re-iterate guidance to hire boat operators.</p> <p>Sue Ashurst will be visiting trip boats and - east Manchester project to measure success.</p> <p>Is there any winter moorings on the HNC – will BW introduce more. BW encouraging offline moorings and will be moving away from creating anymore linear moorings.</p> <p>BW website had wrong details of meeting – had not been updated with meeting details.</p> <p>What are we doing about evasion – reduced percentages form 12% to just over 4% in the past 2 years.</p> <p>Change to licence fees – particularly continuous cruiser's – update will be given at National User Forum</p> <p>Next Meeting: Wednesday 12 April 2006 – MacDonald Norton Grange Hotel, Rochdale</p>	<p>JT / DL</p> <p>SA</p> <p>JT</p> <p>AB</p> <p>JT</p>