

British Waterways Advisory Forum Membership Approval Procedure

The BWAF constitution sets out clear criteria that any organisation must meet to become eligible to be a member of the Forum. The constitution also places responsibility on the BWAF Chairman to consider whether applicants meet the criteria to be admitted to the Forum.

I would like the full BWAF to have the opportunity to consider the need for a process that will allow members notice of applications for membership and establish a final approval process. I would welcome views at the Forum on the following three options for dealing with applications to join the BWAF:

1. For the Chairman to have full and final say on membership applications.
2. For the Chairman to circulate details of applications to all BWAF members, inviting comments prior to his/her approval/rejection.
3. To establish a Membership Sub-Group with one representative from each constituency that will have the delegated authority of the full BWAF to consider and take decisions on membership applications.

With only two meetings per year, I think it is important to have an efficient process that ensures any new eligible organisation can quickly participate in the BWAF.

Applications to Date

Since the inaugural meeting and following press coverage of the formation of the BWAF, I have received formal approaches from the following organisations regarding membership:

Sea and Water – an organisation representing the UK water freight industry.

Association of Canoe Trades – representing businesses engaged in the paddle sports markets.

Press

I have received one approach from a waterways magazine regarding attendance at BWAF meetings. I would welcome views from BWAF members on the desirability of the waterways press attending meetings in an observer capacity.

Howard Pridding
Chairman
BWAF