

MINUTES

Title	British Waterways Scotland Group Meeting
Date	Thursday 19 October 2006
Venue	Southbank Conference Centre, Kirkintilloch, G66 1XQ
Attendees	BWSG - Campbell Christie (Chair); George Fleming; Guthrie Hutton; Eva McCracken; Kenneth MacKenzie; Rod Michie; Richard Milham ; Sandra Purves; James Simpson. BWS – Steve Dunlop; Mark Smith; Nicola Christie (minutes) Roger Tym & Partners – Nick Skelton
Apologies	Susan Achmatowicz; Robin Evans; Tony Hales; Duncan Sutherland.

Action

1. **The Millennium Link: Post Construction Monitoring, 2005 Full Report.**

Nick Skelton of Roger Tym & Partners presented the economic and social achievements of projects (based on survey information available at December 2005) either already completed or proposed within 1km either side of the reopened Forth & Clyde and Union canals against forecasts set in the context of the original funding of the project. The recorded economic outputs achieved to December 2005 had largely exceeded expectations

The conclusions drawn were as follows:

The Millennium Link has added value to project development activity

The role of canal-related development in regeneration was clear

There are potential links to emerging opportunities

Positive effects for partnership working

The BWSG discussed the report. BWS would discuss with Roger Tym & partners the need for a qualitative commentary on the impacts and targets based on a better knowledge base. The current and latent demand should be quantified. This data would be included in the final report and shared with SEnt to demonstrate

that the canal is an enabling work and that the BWS agenda fits with the current SEnt agenda.

Information would be extracted from this report to be included in the BWS submission to the SE Comprehensive Spending Review.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2006 were a true record.

Tamfourhill Masterplan

The project was at a critical stage with a decontamination report expected. An update would be provided to the next meeting.

BWS

Comprehensive Spending Review

BWS had embarked on an intensive programme of familiarisation trips around Scotland's canals with the new member of the SE sponsoring department. The first draft of the BWS submission to the SE Comprehensive Spending Review would be submitted to the SE for comment within the next month.

BWS

BW Board Refresher

The BW board would be reminded of the breadth of the BWS strategic objectives at the next Board visit to Scotland (scheduled for 12/13 June 2006).

BWS

3. Lowland Canals Nodal & Moorings Strategy

Mark Smith, BWS Strategic Planner and Steve Dunlop presented a summary of the final draft report on the Lowland Canals nodal & moorings strategy circulated to the members prior to the meeting. This was a tool to move forward on destination masterplanning, to leverage funding from partners and to influence a review of the emerging planning framework at national, regional and local level.

The study recommended that, at identified development nodes, the majority of permanent moorings should be off canal and the majority of visitor moorings should be on canal. The development proposals for the Lowland canals identified major and minor destination development proposals.

A further interrogation to update the market research had been commissioned by BWS to check the validity of the evidence.

Feedback from the BWSG was invited. Volunteer societies, user groups and the disabled community at national and local level

would be consulted.

A mooring strategy for each of Scotland's canals was planned.

4. Any Other Business

Thomas Telford Celebration

Sandra Purves reported that the Institute of Civil Engineers were planning a tour of Thomas Telford constructions throughout Scotland from 2nd to 8th July 2007. This was to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Thomas Telford's birth. An evening boat trip from Muirtown Locks was planned for 4 July 2007 and a commemorative plaque designating the Caledonian Canal as an Historic Civil Engineering Landmark would be presented to BW on board. Sandra Purves would circulate further details to the BWSG members.

Freight

A discussion on freight transportation on Scotland's waterways would be added to the March agenda.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 1 March 2007 at Linlithgow. Venue to be advised.

SP

BWS