

The *Wilts & Berks* Canal Partnership

MEETING Thursday 15th March 2007 at 2.00pm
Ground floor, Civic Centre Wootton Bassett
Chaired by Fleur de Rhe Philipe

AGENDA

Attended:-				
1	KJ	Karol Jakubczyk	West Wiltshire District Council	
2	DS	David Stirling	North Wiltshire District Council	
3	DV	Don Vickers	Environment Agency	
4	JL	John Laverick	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust	
5	VD	Vic Dakman	West Wiltshire District Council	
6	GK	Garry King	Wiltshire County Council	
7	RB	Rolf Brindle	Melksham Without PC + Melksham 1 st	
8	EB	Elsa Boyce	Vale of White Horse District Council	
9	BA	Brian Attfield	Cricklade Town Council	
10	SW	Steve Walls	North Wiltshire District Council	
11	RW	Richard Wilshire	Melksham Trust	
12	PA	Cllr Philip Allnatt	North Wiltshire District Council	
13	FDP	Cllr Fleur de Rhe Philipe	Wiltshire County Council	
14	CC	Chaloner Chute	North Wiltshire District Council	
15	C	Colin Fletcher	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust	
16	IS	Ian Sharp	White Horse Boats	
17	SD	Cllr Sylvia Doubell	North Wiltshire District Council	
19	BR	Brian Roberts	Inland Waterways Association & W&BCT	
19	ES	Ed Stanford	Swindon Borough Council	
20	KO	Ken Oliver	Cricklade Country Way	
21	BP	Brian Poulton	Kennet & Avon Canal Trust	
22	AO	Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor	Oxfordshire County Council	
23	TQ	Tracey Quinn	Cricklade Country Way Team	
Item				Action
1	Apologies			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruce Hall • Andy Crawford • Clive Wilce • Jan Flanagan 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabeth Payne 	
Item		Action
2	<p>Minutes of last meeting – 7th Dec 2006</p> <p>Minutes circulated via email to the group previously.</p> <p>Action to add apologies for Cllr Philip Allnatt, which was given at the time but not recorded.</p> <p>Apart from the above, minutes from the last meeting were accepted as correct by all members.</p>	TQ
3	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>Page 3 – KO action has been carried out to have meeting as specified.</p> <p>Page 4 – KO – action on page 4 for Sylvia – Colin Fletcher said that meeting with was extremely positive and it looked like a resolution could be found to the access issue.</p>	
4	<p>Chairman’s Announcements</p> <p>There were no chairman’s announcements.</p>	
5	<p>Canal Partnership Project Officers Report - CC / KO</p> <p>CC – KO has been filling in the Partnership Officer role in January & February 07</p> <p>There was an action to invite Wiltshire wildlife trust –</p> <p>KO has actioned this and met with them and it has been suggested that their Trustees may wish to consider becoming ‘stakeholder members’</p> <p>CC – The DEFRA cuts have impacted greatly on our situation. The recently published IWACC report was extremely positive for the partnership. Our partnership was mentioned specifically with very favourable comments. It was recognised that this scheme was of high national importance. The Chairman (John Edmonds) identified that there has been a great loss in financial backing from government. He referred to the Wilts & Berks partnership specifically as a successful group. IWACC are now being reconstructed and incorporated in National England and the organisation may change greatly.</p> <p>KO Wilts & Berks is recognised as a scheme of national significance...</p> <p>KO - Item 3. – Melksham Black & Veatch were tasked to look at the route and involve the stakeholders as much as possible. The Local Plan process has moved on in West Wiltshire. The route will now be included in the Local Development Framework process. We are being advised by West Wiltshire DC that this process is more robust than the Local Plan and in particular Land ownership issues and assured funding will need be resolved – Restoration of the canal with reference to the economic & social benefit to Melksham is being re-looked into as the reference material is old. We need to produce a final report which is alongside public consultation arrangements for the LDF procedure.</p> <p>KO – Cricklade Thames Crossing – PBA hope to deliver draft report by the end of March. They have had access issues due to wet winter</p> <p>KO – Swindon - The issue of the canal going through centre of Swindon is high on people’s agenda. Halcrow are likely to be commissioned to produce a report – their brief is different from previous studies- they will be looking for viable</p>	

	solutions.	
Item		Action
	<p>KO – WBCT – Purton Road Culvert Thamesdown Drive – should be finished soon</p> <p>KO – Hayes Knoll lock is about to start.</p> <p>KO – Wootton Bassett Chaddington Spill weir– will be finished in the Spring.</p> <p>KO – Pewsham Locks – technical works progressing</p> <p>Item 5 CC – Lord Landsdown has agreed to host event. Some 60 guests are going to be invited. Database of Guest list is being compiled – any other person that should be invited.</p>	
6	The Way Ahead	
6.1	<p>Strategy 2007-2012 (See Paper)</p> <p>CC – I am standing down this summer – we need to discuss what sort of person is needed to support this post. I firmly believe that this partnership should continue, as it is an extremely successful one.</p> <p>KO – I offer our thanks for all CC's hard work from us all on behalf of the partnership.</p> <p>FDP – We all agree that the partnership must continue.</p> <p>KO – There is a discussion paper setting out where we have got to and where we should be going. There is a budget issue and I thank all those that continue to support the post finically.</p> <p>CC – Projecting for the future in the budget lines means that there is a gap.</p> <p>KO – I have put down some options – we wish to continue with the partnership, as it is successful. Administration needs to be secure to keep things moving forward.</p> <p>PA – Whatever happens the role of the partnership needs to carry on. With regard to the post – the office accommodation is given in kind from NWDC, which adds continuity. £10,000 is budgeted for the next year. What happens if we are disappointed with the Lotto response in Sept.? We should not stop no matter what.</p> <p>DS – Lotto office (NWDC) is delivering the actual scheme. The Post of the Partnership role is significantly different to require a separate role. We are optimistic about the money for the partnership post – if the post is recruited now then there could be some sort of handover.</p> <p>BR– Interesting that this is a full meeting but the Oxfordshire end is not well represented. In political terms they need to stick close to this partnership.</p> <p>ES – Can we involve the commercial interest in the Swindon area for money to assist with the funding?</p> <p>ES – Pack of cards syndrome – logic of putting money into the partnership to keep the local authorities linked and together. It is about commitment and partnership</p> <p>KJ – Funding contribution comes out of our regeneration budget – if we continue to fund the scheme it needs to demonstrate links to regeneration projects to maintain our interest.</p>	

		FDP – Referenced formula per mile would not work.	
Item			Action
		<p>CC – You all have been very generous with your support – membership fee may not work. Part time officer is what I suggest and to be properly funded and not have to find their salary.</p> <p>DS – Money is already being committed and I would like to see a decision made now so that the post could be handed over professionally.</p> <p>PA – Importance of acquiring the right individual to fill this post – the partnership should proceed on that basis</p> <p>FDP – Are we agreed to go ahead with this and sort out the recruiting?</p> <p>Agreement acknowledged (no objections noted) to draw up a job specification and circulate to the partners for approval.</p> <p>Action DS/KO/CC to draw up a job specification and circulate to the partners for approval</p> <p>JL – Everything will be circulated beforehand for us all to agree I presume</p>	DS
	6.2	<p>Review</p> <p>CC – I would like to remind you of our 3 year action plan. We need a timely review of this plan. We have done most of what we planned 3 years ago – all shared and agreed by the trust. With reference to the 10 year plan we have progressed this but we need a meeting to review the progress.</p> <p>DS – It is important to identify the regeneration aspect in the role for the post.</p>	
7	<p>Project Managers Report on Living Landmarks - KO</p> <p>KO – Brief Update sent round to all members.</p> <p>The time scale for this project is very tight – we are under a great deal of pressure to deliver on time & budget but are rising to the challenge. The Technical updates are useful to keep in mind all of the elements of work. Technical reports have come back from the appointed consultants. Abstraction & water storage issues have been thoroughly looked into and with positive reporting on this issue. The EIA report is not possible to complete, as it needs a much longer time frame to be inclusive. The Land issue with landowners is now coming to a head – we have always said that our preferred option is to discuss the purchase of land. The project has been advised that CPO needs to be considered as an option. At the request of the CCW project the Country Landowners Association (CLA) are going to have a meeting with the landowners and the CCW team to try and work together to negotiate for the land or for the outright purchase. The landowners are understandably concerned by the prospect of a CPO but it is a method of mitigating risk. There is identified a larger allotted area of purchase because of access for works, which is detailed in the planning application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railway - Study now complete by Halcrow • Risk Management – Is a live running issue • Planning – This is available on the NWDC and Swindon BC website for reference. The first discussions with the planners due to comments that have come back from the public should take place soon. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost plans have been looked at and the first indications are that we will have the matched funding but on a significantly increased cost.. 	
Item		Action
8	<p>The Trust Chairman's report - JL</p> <p>JL – we set ourselves a challenge to exceed 2006 members by 2006 which we did.</p> <p>We are sending a representative to the World Canal Conference on canals – in Liverpool.</p> <p>We have become associate member of AINA (Association of Inland Navigation Authorities) which will be useful to us as a whole.</p> <p>We are trying to forge links with the SCR Trust (Railway)</p>	
9	<p>Open Forum: issues and topics raised by Partners</p> <p>JL – I would like to mention the DEFRA Select Committee – Opportunity to add further evidence in Gloucestershire – As yet no written support from Local Authorities – Well worth doing Action for details to be circulated to Partnership</p> <p>EB- I would like to mention that I am standing down from May.</p> <p>FDP - Thanked Elsa for her work over a number of years</p> <p>BP British Waterways are still strong supporters of this group – but they have not been to this meeting for a long time. It would be helpful if they were here.</p> <p>AO Noted that despite earlier comments Oxford CC were represented at the meeting</p> <p>CC noted that Helen Ryan – Head of Regeneration & Tourism from Oxfordshire needs to be added to Database</p> <p>ES – Are we making the best use of the Commercial interest? – (Peter Lay - Commercial & Business interest)</p> <p>It was noted that there were two commercial companies represented (Ian Sharp and Colin Fletcher) and that Peter Lay had resigned due to conflict of interest.</p> <p>KO – I would feel that Swindon Chamber should be encouraged to come along.</p> <p>FDP – Our thanks to CC</p>	JL/ TQ
10	<p>Date and time of next meeting. June 28th 2007</p> <p>Wootton Bassett – 14:00hrs</p> <p>Action KO/TQ to book Civic Centre</p>	TQ

The *Wilts & Berks* Canal Partnership

MEETING Thursday 28th June 2007 at 2.00pm
Ground floor, Civic Centre Wootton Bassett
Chaired by Fleur de Rhe Philipe

AGENDA

Attended:-			
1	AB	Cllr Andrew Bennett	Swindon Borough Council
2	JF	Jan Flanagan	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust
3	DV	Don Vickers	Environment Agency
4	JL	John Laverick	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust
5	CG	Colin Goodhind	Melksham First
6	IJ	Ian Jarvis	British Waterways
7	RB	Rolf Brindle	Melksham Without PC + Melksham 1 st
8	GC	Geoffrey Carr	West Wiltshire DC Melksham Town Council
9	AO	Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor	Oxfordshire County Council
10	VV	Cllr Viv Vines	North Wiltshire District Council
11	RW	Richard Wilshire	Melksham Trust
12	ES	Ed Stanford	Swindon Borough Council
13	FDP	Cllr Fleur de Rhe Philipe	Wiltshire County Council
14	BP	Brian Poulton	Kennet & Avon Canal Trust
15	CF	Colin Fletcher	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust
16	KO	Ken Oliver	Cricklade Country Way
17	SD	Cllr Sylvia Doubell	North Wiltshire District Council
18	BR	Brian Roberts	Inland Waterways Association & W&BCT
	In attendance Ann O'Donaghue Administrator Wilts & Berks Canal Trust		
Item	Action		
1	Apologies		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruce Hall • Garry King • David Stirling • Ian Sharp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Mitchell • Gesa Reiss • Helen Ryan • David Tetlow 	

Item		Action
2	<p>Notes of last meeting – 15th March 2007</p> <p>Minutes circulated via email to the group previously.</p> <p>Action</p> <p>To add apologies Elizabeth Payne IWA</p> <p>Correct spelling Fleur de Rhe Philipe</p> <p>Amend item 9 Ian White should read Ian Sharp</p> <p>Apart from the above, notes from the last meeting were accepted as correct by all members.</p>	KO
3	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>The were none</p>	
4	<p>Chairman’s Announcements</p> <p>There were no chairman’s announcements.</p>	
5	<p>Officers Report - KO</p> <p>Melksham Route Study</p> <p>The main study has now been completed and the draft riverside enhancement plans sent to stakeholders for comment. The main report although produced later than planned has been submitted to West Wiltshire DC as a response to the consultation on the LDF on Leisure and Tourism.</p> <p>The Plan is being publicised in Melksham,</p> <p>CF outlined publicity. There will be display 9th -14th July at the Melksham Library (library hours) and also 3 days 26th, 27th, 28th July at the West Wilts Show.</p> <p>Maps and A4 leaflets are also available.</p> <p>JL The Parish Councils involved have been sent full details.</p> <p>KO The report offers an opportunity to deliver another Partnership Flagship Scheme in the next few years.</p> <p>IJ Described the pressure on the K&A and the fact that they have closed the list at 300 for available moorings so the link to Melksham could help this situation. He hoped the new customers of the W&B will provide income from moorings.</p> <p>CG made reference to Melksham 1st and CF replied that all these topics will be discussed at tonight’s meeting (28.06.07)</p> <p>Cricklade Thames Crossing- PBA Study</p> <p>The report has been completed but has not yet been published. The principals have been accepted; however there are the two technical issues to be resolved with the EA.</p> <p>Water quality (with canal and river water merging), and some issues concerning structures in the flood plain. EA are setting up a meeting in August to discuss further proposals.</p> <p>Swindon Central</p> <p>Halcrow Engineering has been engaged as consultants to look at the issues in bringing the canal into the centre of Swindon. There are major road restructuring issues at Westcott Place, Faringdon Road and the Heritage Railway Village. This report is nearly complete and is due out in one week when the detailed costing is completed.</p> <p>ES There has been an excellent seminar/workshop and The New Swindon Company is now quite positive about including the canal in the central plans. The Water Study and Transport Vision will go to members in September.</p>	

<p>5 Cont.</p>	<p>CF asked how much is in the public domain. KO replied that the concept is in the Swindon Central Area Action Plan. ES added that there are development land issues, parking etc. The Central Action Plan has moved to formal status as the principals are well understood and endorsed as policy. JF asked about the design of Wichelstowe Bridge.(outside Central Area) KO It will be brick faced; it cannot be built in the traditional style. Halcrow are looking at heritage aspects especially with the Railway village. A facsimile of the Golden Lion Bridge is hoped to be built in the area.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Project Officer The Job Description was pre-circulated KO reported on behalf of David Stirling. There are issues on engaging staff currently whilst the Unitary discussions are still underway. After July is the earliest any action can be taken. This job spec is a basis to cover the continuity within the partnership. FDRP noted that comments could be made now, and NWDC can go ahead later. BR Can European details be included in the spec / and also a reference to European funding?. KO Yes we are already twinned with the French canal Nantes a Brest, and discussions had been started with the Ulster canal. ES Will this spec. still is needed if the CCW does not go ahead? The ideal model will be with the CCW but the spec can be revisited when we know the outcome of the CCW. KO Agreed. The pragmatic response is that funding defines the post in this current year. It is likely that the CCW will be hived off but the Partnership will continue with the rest of the canal CCW will be the boost. FDRP There will continue to be funding issues. BR The Eastern End has different funding arrangements which will deliver. There will be houses built at Grove and the Upper Thames Reservoir (if it goes ahead) will contribute by taking the canal to the Thames and under the A34 road. Paperwork must be up to date to keep the momentum on Policy. VV What is the Budget or the hours? KO It is not yet committed to paper, but will be defined by the budget which will make the post part-time. BP How has this job spec evolved from CC job spec? KO This will be more focused on delivery. DV There are 19 bullet points- the specification covers too many areas JL The actual spec could be more succinct and define the main objectives. FDRP The bullet points could be précis-combined and amalgamated. ES suggested that Dave Stirling needed all the bullet points in order to establish the Grading at NW RW Who will be the reporting officer? FDRP As an employee of NW they will report to a specific senior officer in addition to reporting to the partnership. KO A pragmatic view will be taken on a monthly basis. There will be a work program overview. DV Will he be a doer, facilitator or executor? FDRP Agreed that regarding this post there are no serious disagreements or no serious omissions. Any further comments to be sent to David Stirling.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Local Development Framework Procedures KO The Partnership had worked very hard to include the canal route in the Local Plans to</p>	

<p>7 Cont.</p>	<p>2012 but the LDF is changing the rules. We need to be aware that there does not appear to be an automatic transfer from the local plans to the LDF. Further evidence is being requested on practical aspects.</p> <p>JL For protection we are being asked to demonstrate more than an aspirational view over all the length of the canal scheme and relational time scales.</p> <p>RW We need to spell out the economical benefits, regeneration is evidence based. There are Economic Studies to be done.</p> <p>KO Yes, but in context to the whole canal being completed by 2025</p> <p>AB <u>The Core Strategy</u>. Incorporates commissioning, structure, consultants, and lots of opportunities for public input. In several areas input is needed to talk to individuals, local authorities, public health, environment people, this is not exclusively finance.</p> <p>JL Are the current routes in the plans protected also protected in the LDF?</p> <p>FDRP In planning issues the presumption remains in the books as having been agreed.</p> <p>AB In the Coate Water area the LDF has moved the proposed site.</p> <p>KO The reason for me raising this issue is that I would hope for some communality, between the various LA's on the canal route</p> <p>ES Critical weight is expected on reports. SBC ask high levels of Technical reports and we need to ensure we do not have to re do reports especially with the financial aspects.</p> <p>KO In Melksham we need to look at the economic aspects.</p> <p>EB The North Wessex AON is a less formal Planning Group.</p> <p>FDRP Some AON groups have their own difficulties. We must keep links but most are represented in the Partnership.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Project Managers Report on Living Landmarks - KO</p> <p>CCW</p> <p>The Documentation was delivered to Big Lottery on 30th May. The submission was in 4 Volumes. The Lottery Assessors will visit to examine in depth next week (July 2nd & 3rd) and examine many aspects and these subjects will not be known until the day.</p> <p>We expect great emphasis on Risk and ability to deliver. If the assessment is similar to Stage 1 then there will be set criteria for the assessors to examine and 'tick boxes'</p> <p>All 23 schemes will be judged by:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessors 2. The Project Officer 3. Their performance during the development phase <p>FDRP The documents have been well produced and the team performed well and very commendably.</p> <p>JL We will continue with some work now</p> <p>KO EIA work is continuing and Peter Brett expect to complete next year</p> <p>BR What will be the roll on now?</p> <p>KO NWDC will continue supporting the project by administration. WBCT will continue to support the project manager role and all Partners will continue aspects of the work. The amount delivered is limited by budget. The determination of the Swindon Planning Application is expected end of July.</p> <p>ES There will be archaeological and further traffic study works to complete. The Country Park will happen whatever happens to the CCW project.</p> <p>BR What do you do now before the decision?</p> <p>FDRP The team is in place and there will be a balance between the two projects.</p>	
<p>8 Cont.</p>	<p>KO With regard to finance all consultants have now finished. Once more money is in place there will be a new team appointed.</p> <p>Currently as well as the Environmental work, we will continue with community</p>	

	<p>consultations, building design and other fundamental enabling works.</p> <p>ES Further Board and Partner meeting have been set up to show that we continuing work.</p> <p>BR WBCT and Railway will continue with matched funding and with the work already in progress.</p> <p>RW In the light of the recent abnormal weather how does the plan stand up to flooding?</p> <p>KO The plan fulfils the 100 year flood issues plus an additional 20% to account for climate change.</p> <p>AB Regarding Sept is there any point in the Halcrow Report being involved.</p> <p>KO Issues outside the area are mentioned but the Business Plan only deals with issues inside the project area.</p>	
9	<p>The Trust Chairman's report - JL</p> <p>Work is continuing on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pewsham Culverts • Lock 4 (Seven Locks) • Chaddington Spillweir • Shrivenham –Steppingstones Lane Bridge <p>I can report that the standard of work s as good as seen anyway in my experience of BW. The Abingdon Reservoir will be of immense benefit if the go ahead is given.</p> <p>Flooding-The Black & Veatch study at Melksham shows the new route will improve the flooding problem.</p> <p>Chaloner –At Bowood, Lord Lansdowne thanked him for his work. The Trust thanked him at the last Council meeting when Dr D Fletcher presented him with a certificate of Life Membership. Chaloner will provide an annual donation to the Trust which will go toward Dragonfly. Chaloner himself will become an armchair member.</p> <p>CCW -There will be an appeal and bankers order within the next month for a donation with a 5 year commitment, which will be part of the matched funding.</p> <p>LP CCT did a similar appeal and it was well taken up.</p> <p>JF The Trust received 20,000 pound from a previous appeal.</p> <p>JK The membership now stands at 2045 members.</p> <p>FDRP Our commiserations go out to the CCT in the light of the terrible flooding and cancellation of the Saul festival.</p>	
10	<p>Open Forum: issues and topics raised by Partners</p> <p>CF Colin said that access at Pewsham Locks are moving ahead , that he has met with the tenant farmer but must now sign with the farmer. He thanked Fleur and Sylvia for their help.</p> <p>ES Eastern Development (Earlsgate). A disc from the Consortium has been sent out which looks at the Green Infrastructure and sets out the advantages of the canal being incorporated.</p> <p>KO At Earlsgate it is hoped that there will be a bore under the railway to connect to the canal at Shrivenham.</p> <p>JF reported to events- At Latton Basin where work is being carried out by CCT and WBCT volunteers there will be an open day on 4th August-Leaflets available, Lock 4 WRG, volunteers and display 22 July---MEET THE WORKERS</p> <p>KO Thanked Ann O'Donaghue (WBCT) for administration services provided at very short notice.</p>	
11	<p>Date and time of next meeting. September 20th 2007</p> <p>Wootton Bassett – 14:00hrs</p> <p>Action KO/TQ to book Civic Centre</p>	TQ

The *Wilts & Berks* Canal Partnership

MEETING Thursday 20th Sept 2007 at 2.00pm
Ground floor, Civic Centre Wootton Bassett – SN4 7AU
Chaired by Fleur de Rhe Philipe

Meeting Notes

Attending:-			
√	AB	Cllr Andrew Bennett	Swindon Borough Council
√	DV	Don Vickers	Environment Agency
√	JL	John Laverick	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust
?	CG	Colin Goodhind	Melksham First
√	IJ	Ian Jarvis	British Waterways
?	RB	Rolf Brindle	Melksham Without PC + Melksham 1 st
?	GC	Geoffrey Carr	West Wiltshire DC Melksham Town Council
√	RW	Richard Wilshire	Melksham Trust
√	ES	Ed Stanford	Swindon Borough Council
√	FDP	Cllr Fleur de Rhe Philipe	Wiltshire County Council
√	CF	Colin Fletcher	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust
√	KO	Ken Oliver	Cricklade Country Way
√	SD	Cllr Sylvia Doubell	North Wiltshire District Council
	GK	Garry King	Wiltshire County Council
	EP	Elisabeth Payne	Inland Waterway Association
	AW	Cllr Audrey Wannell	Wootton Bassett Town Council
Item	In attendance Tracey Quinn Administrator NWDC		Action
1	Apologies:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helen Ryan - Oxfordshire County Council • Brian Roberts - Inland Waterways Association & W&BCT • Brian Poulton - Kennet & Avon Canal Trust • Jan Flannagan - Wilts & Berks Canal Trust • David Stirling – North Wilts District Council • Bruce Hall – Cotswold Canal Trust • Ian Sharpe – White Horse Boats • Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor - Oxfordshire County Council 		

2	<p>Notes of last meeting – 28th June 2007</p> <p>Missed off the list of attendees – Liz Payne</p> <p>Item 7 – Change on the notes – KO Recorded</p>	
3	<p>Matters arising - None noted</p>	
4	<p>Chairman’s Announcements – No Announcements</p>	
5	<p>Canal Partnership Report – KO</p> <p>Melksham Route Study – This has been out in the public domain for 3 months and has been well received. Colin Fletcher reported that about 2500 leaflets have been distributed throughout the district. Most people are in favour of this project. The Canal Trust want to take this to the next stage.</p> <p>JL – This is the major next step forward for us as a group.</p> <p>The document was submitted to the West Wiltshire DC LDF process. It was reported that there may have been problems in the document being accepted. This will be taken up with Karol Jacobzyk(WWDC) to find out what is happening on this issue.</p> <p>Cricklade Thames Crossing – There has been a further meeting between Trust and its consultant and the Environment Agency. There are still some issues about the plan and it is likely that these will need to be resolved at a higher management level. One particular issue is canal and river water merging which will be taken further. There needs to be an engineering solution at a national level which establishes policy. This is not an issue only found on the WB project..</p> <p>DV - There are water quality issues that currently cannot be resolved.</p> <p>IJ Water Famework Directives are being looked at, at this time – dealing with the now not the “What If”. BW working on similar issues with EA on River Kennet</p> <p>KO – We had a look at the issues of the route choice – The historic junction at Latton has been ruled out. The practical solution is still being discussed and looked into along with the issue of the recent summer storms.</p> <p>Swindon Central Route – ES – the Halcrow report paints a credible provision for completion of the route. The process is that the report will go to Cabinet/Council early in 2008.The canal scheme has been included as an option the Central Area Action Plan. Traffic issues are being looked into at length – our latest traffic model will be available shortly. The scheme was presented to the New Swindon Partnership Group (NSPG) including this project as a whole. The NSPG have recognised some really positive regeneration opportunities. We do need some linkage north of the CCW project and/or the M4crossing – financial rational has to be linked to the project.</p> <p>Swindon has applied for Growth Point bids for the tunnel, and the Kingshill crossing</p> <p>KO - Publicity plays a part for all this – this is a real significance for Swindon and also for the CCW project as a whole.</p>	
6	<p>Project Officer Recruitment</p> <p>Written Report from David Stirling</p>	
7	<p>Project Managers Report on Living Landmarks – KO</p> <p>Letter circulated (from Garry King – Wiltshire CC) re the position of the project with the current proposal for a Unitary Authority for Wiltshire- this will be sent to</p>	

	<p>Big Lottery Project Officer.</p> <p>The Swindon planning application has now consent and this information was sent to Big Lottery.</p> <p>Big Lottery wanted a video made to demonstrate where the original Stage 1 money had been spent – we had our team ready for this and the result was a positive and inclusive video. This should be available on the Lottery Project Website along with the other 22 schemes</p> <p>http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/video-2.htm?regioncode=-uk&progStatus=closed</p> <p>Also noted that the project video is available www.crickladecountryway.org.uk for all to view.</p> <p>There is a project meeting for partners on Friday 28th September 2pm at Cricklade TC</p> <p>Oct 16th is the date for the short listing of all the projects for Lottery bids. Final decision will be early November.</p> <p>Cricklade planning issues are being looked into next week</p>	
8	<p>WB Trust Chairman's report</p> <p>JL - The trust has raised a generous £36,000 so far for the CCW appeal with Trust membership standing at 2070 to date.</p> <p>Project Director for Seven Locks has obtained £10,000 grant from Awards for All.</p> <p>British Waterways donated a stock of Stop Planks for use on the project</p> <p>Also Wavin Plastics (Chippenham) have made available a stock of plastic pipes for the projects.</p> <p>Morisson Construction – JL/KO meeting and have donated a quantity of High Vis protective clothing which we are very grateful for.</p> <p>In Nov the Waterways Recovery group will be having a 'Bonfire Bash' in Swindon (Mouldon Hill) – this is weekend (WE of 3/4th of Nov)</p> <p>AINA has now recognised the W&B Trust as an associate member.</p> <p>We are actively looking at Grove for the 'Top to Bottom' as a scheme to receive any Sec 106 contributions from a local housing scheme.</p>	
9	<p>Open Forum: issues and topics raised by Partners</p> <p>AB noted that early plans were being discussed for the Earls gate development (Swindon)</p> <p>AW noted that the canal in Wootton Bassett had extensive growth of weeds.- we need the boats to go up and down to keep it clear.</p> <p>It was noted that canals could be used for flood relief as they can offset the huge amount of extra water. IJ noted that BW now had case study of use of the canal to prevent flooding in Gloucester</p>	
10	<p>Date and time of next meeting. Thursday 13th December 2007</p> <p>Wootton Bassett – 14:00hrs</p> <p>Action KO/TQ to book Civic Centre</p>	TQ

The **Wilts & Berks**
Canal Partnership

MEETING Thursday 13th December 2007 at 2.00pm
Ground floor, Civic Centre Wootton Bassett

Attending:-			
✓	AB	Cllr Andrew Bennett	Swindon Borough Council
✓	AD	Amy Dickenson	Environment Agency
✓	BR	Brian Roberts	Inland Waterways Association & W&BCT
✓	CF	Colin Fletcher	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust
✓	CG	Colin Goodhind	Melksham 1st
✓	DV	Don Vickers	Environment Agency
✓	EP	Elizabeth Payne	Inland Waterway Association / Cotswold Canals Trust
✓	ES	Ed Stanford	Swindon Borough Council
✓	FDP	Cllr Fleur de Rhe Philipe (Chair)	Wiltshire County Council
✓	GC	Geoffrey Carr	West Wiltshire DC Melksham Town Council
✓	IJ	Ian Jarvis	British Waterways
✓	JL	John Laverick	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust
✓	KO	Ken Oliver	Cricklade Country Way
✓	RB	Rolf Brindle	Melksham Without PC
✓	RW	Richard Wilshire	Melksham Trust
✓	GC	Gavin Champion	Cooper Tyre Europe Ltd.
✓	KJ	Karol Jakubczyk	West Wiltshire District Council
✓	JA	John Archer	Haydon Wick Parish Council
✓	TQ	Tracey Quinn	North Wiltshire District Council
✓	SW	Sue Webb	Cricklade Town Council

Item	<u>Meeting Notes</u>	Action
1	Apologies:-	
	Cllr Viv Vines	
	David Tetlow	
	Lord Lansdowne	
	Cllr Sylvia Doubell	
	David Stirling	
	Garry King	

Item	<u>Meeting Notes</u>	Action		
2	Minutes of last meeting 20 th September 2007 (pre circulated)	TQ		
	<p>Notes of last meeting 20th September 2007 (pre circulated) and accepted as a true record apart from ①</p> <p>① - David Tetlow did attend last meeting therefore the minutes to be altered to show this. ACTION TQ</p> <p>FDP – As he is soon to retire our thanks to Don Vickers for all his help over the years with the Partnership group.</p> <p>FDP – Welcomed Mr Champion to the meeting.</p>	TQ		
3	Matters arising	FDRP		
	FDP - None			
4	Chairman's Announcements	FDRP		
	FDP - None			
5	Canal Partnership Report	KO		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">5.1</td> <td>Melksham Route Study</td> </tr> </table>	5.1	Melksham Route Study	
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	<p>Black & Veatch – River enhancement scheme is nearly finished.</p> <p>Melksham Town Council has endorsed the River Route scheme</p>			
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">5.2</td> <td>Local Development Framework- West Wiltshire</td> </tr> </table>	5.2	Local Development Framework- West Wiltshire	
5.2	Local Development Framework- West Wiltshire			
	<p>KO – Was concerned that the Canal Trust had to object to WWDC Tourism and Recreation LDF as the Melksham river route was not included. To do this we have objected to the soundness of the document as it does not follow national or regional policies,.</p> <p>KJ – There is more information behind this – the LDF is just one part of a larger document. This document has been in production for over 2 years. The canal route was not far enough advanced to include in the document at the stage when it went to production. There was a meeting with Chaloner Chute Anna Crosbie to confirm this. We are in development of the new West Wiltshire core strategy document and there will possible options to examine. From tomorrow the Issues & Options consultation will start where we will examine all possibilities- this would include other routes or no route at all.</p> <p>JL – Odd that we are revisiting the route options when they have already been decided.</p> <p>KJ – We have to be seen to discharge our statutory duties and we need to test all the options.</p> <p>KO – Other LA's are addressing these issues – I have taken this back to the national issues and written to Michael Wills MP who has written to the Sec of State to clarify the issue of transfer from Local Plan to LDF</p> <p>RW – The majority have supported the project but if we need to go through hoops again then so be it.</p> <p>The core strategy process is all evidence based.</p> <p>FDR – West Wilts have not changed their attitude to the canal they support this partnership.</p> <p>KJ – If we have not considered all possible options then the document may become unsound</p> <p>The time frame for consultation is from now until the end of Feb. April / May 2008 for the next stage but it may alter due to the unitary process.</p> <p>KO – What is the next step to the objection?</p>			

Item	<u>Meeting Notes</u>		Action
Cont.	5.2	Local Development Framework- West Wiltshire	
	<p>KJ –Your objection is advertised publicly – then we receive responses and then we respond to your objection. Written or oral hearing is then offered.</p> <p>KO – What is the British waterways point of view?</p> <p>DV - We would be happy to write a supporting letter.</p> <p>FDR – Written support would be up to the LA's.</p> <p>KJ – Strength of the case will sway officers but the strength of support may have an influence the councillors. The decisions should be in place by the end of next year.</p>		
	5.3	Cricklade Thames Crossing	KO
	<p>Water quality issues still outstanding.</p> <p>DV – There is no national issue on this. Robert Runcie's view was to go through the water framework initiative. Under the current program we are only dealing with current issues. Your issues are not across the whole region and are therefore is still a problem.</p> <p>KO – There is a generic issue with mixing canal and river water.</p> <p>DV – it is all about water quality parameters. The solution is not to mix the waters.</p> <p>KO – Then we cannot address the flooding issues. I see no way forward for this scheme, as you would object at the planning stage.</p> <p>IJ –There is a continuing programme looking at this issue on the Kennet & Avon navigation</p> <p>DV – It may be that the Water Quality issues are being addressed with an over cautious approach. I would suggest a meeting with Craig Woolhouse (Area Manger) to try to resolve this issue</p>		
	5.4	Swindon Central Route	ES
	<p>Central Route Halcrow report with officer comments will be presented to Swindon BC Cabinet on January 17th 2008– The Central area Action Plan shows this project as an option and we have received a balanced number of comments so far.</p>		
6	Project Officer Recruitment		KO
	<p>An options paper was circulated at the meeting (attached to these notes)</p> <p>KO - Paper outlines the position at the moment. DS has put some options to pull things forward. Circumstances are not ideal to try and recruit at this point.</p> <p>ES – Good idea for Ken to carry on as for continuity but keeping in mind that the role of the Partnership is different to the Trust.</p> <p>JL – The Trust is happy with that Ken spends 1 day a week on this work</p> <p>Split of responsibilities needs some clarity with regards to the LDF issues.</p> <p>FDP – Are we agreed to go with the option of KO continuing?</p> <p>There were NO OBJECTIONS</p> <p>ES – Will you please send out a letter clarifying this to us all and indicate the arrangements for funding and Partnership workload</p> <p>KO – This will we sent early in January to all Partners</p>		
7	Project Managers Report on Living Landmarks Lottery Bid		KO
	<p>CCW partners want to still deliver the scheme – Wiltshire CC has funded us to continue with planning application for N Wilts DC area. We need to get this planning consent to take this project forward.</p> <p>The current scheme we are looking at is the Leader scheme for funding opportunities</p>		

	<p>in conjunction with Swindon BC.</p> <p>FDP – The Leader scheme will require the project to produce rural regeneration .</p> <p>ES – is there an angle from Sustrans with the idea of the cycle track.</p> <p>JA Tescos, in other areas have used the canal to transport wine and got publicity for their small financial input to the local waterways group.</p> <p>IJ The scheme involved using the Manchester ship canal- the Wilts & Berks is only narrow therefore limited for freight transport</p>	
8	Trust Chairman report	JL
	<p>Membership – still growing</p> <p>Publicity & PR going well -Th website has news & events page(www.wbct.org.uk)</p> <p>The Bonfire bash went well with the amount of work done from all the volunteers. Alan Titchmarsh praised canals in recent Nature of Britain programme and canal at Rushey Platt Swindon was featured.</p> <p>We were approached to stage the National Trailboat festival for 2009 and we are considering if it is possible to hold it at Melksham</p> <p>KO – Licence for a shop in Swindon has just been signed where we will showcase central route and other Trust projects.</p>	
9	Open Forum: issues and topics raised by Partners	
	<p>Richard – Wiltshire Wildlife Trust– are we in contact with them.</p> <p>KO – Yes we have made contact regularly and we invited them to join the WB Partnership.</p> <p>JL – I will make contact again on behalf of the group. Action JL</p> <p>DV – David Lloyd is now the EA link for the SW region although Thames region will still be central contact and will attend Partnership meetings.</p> <p>KO – Acquisition of the Wilts & Berks canal – I will be circulating a paper a paper on the strategy for land acquisition for the next meeting.</p>	JL
10	Date and times of next meetings:-	
	<p>at 14:00hrs Ground floor, Civic Centre Wootton Bassett:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13th March 2008 • 12th June • 11th September • 11th Dec 	