

# INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND LOUGH ERNE BRANCH



Minutes of Committee Meeting at 2000 hours on Tuesday 22  
May 2018 held at Strangford Arms Hotel, Newtownards, Co Down.

## PRESENT

Alan Cousins, Patricia Donnelly, Mike Kingston, Noel Maitland, Ross Millar, Mervyn Rolls,  
John Weir, Frank Woods

## PROCEEDINGS

Our chairman, Ross Millar, opened the meeting, and thanks must go to Patricia Donnelly for making a special effort to attend. John Weir apologised for the indifferent service received from the hotel staff over meal provision.

Ross referred to the matter of business cards to encourage membership applications, and getting them printed in time. He also advised regarding the appointment of a branch administrator. Ross's father runs his own business, and a girl in his employ is prepared to work for the branch at £15 per hour flat rate, paid from branch funds after submission of invoices. 100 hours per annum should cover the work to be done. Consideration is given to insurance and data protection issues, which are recognised. The IWAI Honorary Secretary, Kay Baxter, is to be advised of this appointment.

## EVENTS

Ross would like to see LEB events listed in the main IWAI Calendar. The first suggestion is for a BBQ to be held in July 2018, possibly at Rossigh., with no fixed times. Boat crews to bring own barbecues, food and drink, and arrive and depart as and when they choose. John Weir suggested the venue to be opposite the Killyhevlin Hotel - Culkey. It was decided that a Branch member's meeting is to be held on 08 July 2018, the day after the National Trust Event at Crom - 19.00 to 22.00 - which many members like to attend. Then on 08 July LEB are to hold a BBQ gathering - again bringing own food and drink - at Galloon Lough. A reminder to take care at the low Galloon Bridge. Ross is to circulate details to members.

Mike Kingston raised the matter of the Share Centre, who organise first aid courses, from September to March, which members may wish to attend.

Ross discussed the matter of the Annual Dinner/Dance or just Dinner thereby avoiding the cost of musical entertainment. Alan Cousins thought we would get an attendance between 30

and 40 people. It is proposed to discuss holding the event with Charlie at The Moorings, Belanaleck, at a date in September to be confirmed.

Patricia Donnelly agreed to organise a visit to HMS Caroline at Alexandra Dock, Queen's Road, Belfast at a date to be decided.

Ross proposed a joint event with Belturbet Branch, perhaps boat exchange visits, and with Mike's suggestion leave until next year.

John is to ask Willie Fiddis to organise a cruise to Castle Caldwell, and on to Lusty Beg Island and perhaps Belleek - for the third weekend in August. Alternatively John asked Noel if he would organise it, but he could not do so. Mike is able to assist.

Alan Cousins went over the membership list, checking for those who have not re-joined by paying membership fees. Most payments are now by electronic means which reduces the amount of work required by the treasurer.

Patricia discussed articles in the the Enniskillen newspaper, The Impartial Reporter, regarding litter waste disposal. The Council view is that the small size litter bins are not for use for disposing of large items by boat owning people. Patricia questioned should the branch write to the Council regarding the efforts of LEB members to take litter away or dispose of properly. Ross is to draft a letter for submitting to the Council.

Mervyn Rolls reported that he had been visited by Robert Navan in connection with the flowers sent by the Branch to his wife Phyllis. Robert has been surveying the lough and river beds of Erne for some while now, and using side scan sonar equipment has possibly located a scuttled seaplane off Castle Caldwell. He is treating the project as that of Lough Erne Branch. This will not involve any salvage work on behalf on the branch, so there are no problems as regards ownership rights, receiver of wrecks, and other issues. There are plans to involve more expertise, using more sophisticated sonar equipment, but merely to try to establish identity.

Ross has noted that we have one, perhaps two new members of note - the comedian William Caulfield and his brother David.

Frank Woods suggested we have a committee meeting in Limavady, Mike's home town. Two cars would be sufficient for travel from a central point.

The date for the next Committee Meeting is set for Tuesday 26 June 2018 for 1900 hours at the Strangford Arms Hotel, Newtownards.

