

# INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

## LOUGH ERNE BRANCH



Minutes of Committee Meeting at 1800 hours on 01 September 2017 held at Royal Ulster Yacht Club, Bangor, Co Down.

### PRESENT

Alan Cousins, Mike Kingston, Noel Maitland, Ross Millar, Mervyn Rolls, John Weir

### APOLOGIES FOR NON ATTENDANCE

Frank Woods - on other boating business.

Our chairman, Ross Millar, opened the meeting with reference to the minutes of the previous meeting, which were proposed for and accepted. There was no further action regarding the water levels in Lough Erne, as the recent heavy rainfall had occurred. The musical evening event held at Crom was considered to be very successful as agreed by Alan Cousins. Plans for a guest evening with selected venue are still in hand.

The changes to bank account signatories are confirmed.

John Weir has been in touch with branch members Michael and Patricia Donnelly of Comber who have expressed a willing to serve on the committee, and their confirmation is awaited.

Ross Millar referred to the event based on Scrabo Tower, to which the proposed organiser, Mervyn Rolls, replied that there is a rather crowded programme coming up, and it would be best to see that through first.

Ross is in discussion with those who can help put together the event at Castle Archdale - such as tour options. He is trying to negotiate with Breige McCusker regarding a guided tour, which could be by coach so that all sites involved with the WW2 operation could be included. John Weir is to ask Mahon's of Irvinestown if they would organise bus drops, if there is say a 15 seat coach available in the area.

Ross and John are to liaise over member mailing lists kept on computer, and are to meet up to confer.

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John confirmed that all is well with booking for the Dinner/Dance at Mahon's at Irvinestown. Charge is to be £18.50 per head. Regarding Raffle prizes it is decided that they should be bought with branch funds, at a value of £15 each.

Ross referred to the offer of free training in the use of a defibrillator by Ian Harkness, and this could be included at a talk by him at our AGM in Templepatrick.

Mike Kingston explained some of the difficulties he has had with getting a clear connection with the Charities Commission with which the IWAI is involved.

The availability of hand out contact cards to promote new membership is in hand, and 500 cards could be available for £30.00.

Mike Kingston explained that as result of his involvement with Robert Navan in surveying Lough Erne water depths with side scan sonar, they are trying to position Catalina flying boats that crashed in WW2.

Alan Cousins is trying to keep the membership list up to date. John Weir had sent out letters to late payers with a return envelope. Alan had a reply from Peter Scott and John got one from another member. John proposes that that non-payers should have their membership ceased. Liaison with John is to take place so that Alan can check out membership payments.

The meeting ended at 19.30 hours, when we joined the ladies present in a late meal in the club dining room. The next meeting is on Friday 27 October 2017 at Carrybridge Hotel, at a likely time of 1900 hours.