

INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

LOUGH ERNE BRANCH



Minutes of Committee Meeting at 2000 hours on Tuesday 05 February 2019 held at Bryansburn Inn, Bangor Co Down.

PRESENT

Alan Cousins, Mike Kingston, Ross Millar, Mervyn Rolls, John Weir, Frank Woods.

APOLOGIES - for non attendance.

Noel Maitland - abroad on holiday. Patricia Donnelly - work commitments.

PROCEEDINGS

Our chairman, Ross Millar, opened the meeting with a reflection on busy times over Christmas and New Year delaying our meeting. It was important therefore to get our Events Programme planned with details. Discussion took place as to the matters in hand:

1. Mervyn Rolls is proceeding with the arrangements for a tour of the County Down area around Comber, using a coach to travel to some of the well known spots that maybe some members are not aware of. Briefly these are ; Scrabo Tower and Park; Castle Espie Wildlife Centre; Nendrum Heritage Site; Daft Eddie's area Killinchy; Delamont Country Park; Montalto Park, Ballynahinch; Killyleagh Castle; Florida House near Killinchy. All subject to time available with stops for refreshment. Date to be 16 March 2019.
2. We understand Noel Maitland has in hand the arrangements to visit the National Maritime Museum of Ireland , Dun Laoghaire on Sat 06 April 2019.
3. 27 April 2019 - Cruise in Company to Haughton's Shore, with rendezvous start at Crom, meeting up there at 2100 on 26 April 2019. Mike Kingston is organiser.
4. Erne Boat Rally - beginning of June, organised mainly by Belturbet Branch. Need to book with fee - entry forms to be on-line.

5. 27 July 2019. Visit to Boatyard Gin premises, plus a barge from Leitrim for Tapas. Ross Millar to arrange.

6. Two dates to be announced in July/August for Music by the Lake at the National Trust, Crom. Perhaps combine with a C-in-C as arranged by Mike Kingston.

07 Sept 2019. Litter pick around Lough Erne, combined with C-in-C, and visit to Castle Caldwell. Patricia Donnelly to make arrangements, and liaise with District Council for bags and collection when filled. Those attending to bring gloves and grabber if they have one.

Mervyn Rolls suggested we consider inviting Model Boat and/or Flying Clubs to put on a display - they have model helicopters and such, plus take off and landing craft, all radio controlled.

7. 05 October 2019. Dinner Dance at The Moorings or Carrybridge Hotel. A suggestion for prizes and awards to be presented, and funded by branch for raffle. And take in the Pookah award. A co-ordinator is required.

8 . 02 November 2019. AGM - venue to be confirmed.

AOB

Alan Cousins pointed out that with our now 96 members, some have yet to pay their subs, and some that pay the incorrect amount, not updating their bank instructions. Mervyn will mention this in the IWN submission. Ross is to circulate a letter to members on this matter.

A letter was received from past member John Beaney, who now lives in England, in which he regretted not being able to attend the Dinner/Dance, as he is unwell. He wished the Branch every success. John Weir suggested that unless Mr Beaney receives the IWN, arrangements are made to do so, without charge.

Mr Hegarty of Fermanagh and Omagh D C replied to the letter that had been sent to him regarding litter, whereby he highlighted particular areas that had received attention.

It is with regret we have learned that Dawn Livingstone CEO of Waterways Ireland is to retire this year. It was suggested that we send her a bunch of flowers when this happens, together with a good grade letter of appreciation and good wishes. A nominee is required for this task.

A fold leaflet is in the course of preparation to highlight the branch for distribution, which Michael Donnelly is supervising. And John Weir is to contact William Swann at Bellanaleck to request permission to situate a suitable banner of encouragement to join the Branch. New Banners that we could attach to suitable places, such as

the Moorings and Manor House Marine. Also Peter Maxwell of Newry & Portadown Branch has the display units. It was suggested he could leave them with Terry Needham at a Lagan Branch meeting. Terry lives near Comber so could then pass them on to Ross.

The meeting concluded at 21.30 hours. Next Meeting to be at RUYC Bangor on 19 March 2019, with the committee meeting at 1900 hours, followed by dinner.