## SILIEAIFOIRID NAVIGATION TIRUIST





**Spring 2019** 

#### The Sleaford Navigation Trust: -

- ... is a non-profit distributing company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales (No. 3294818)
- ... has a Registered Office at Island House, Moor Road, Chesham. HP5 1WA.
- ... is registered as a Charity (No. 1060234)
- ... has a web page: www.sleafordnavigation.co.uk

#### Aims & Objectives

The Trust aims to stimulate public interest and appreciation of the history, structure and beauty of the waterway known as the Slea, or the Sleaford Navigation. It aims to restore, improve, maintain and conserve the waterway in order to make it fully navigable. Furthermore it means to restore associated buildings and structures and to promote the use of the Sleaford Navigation by all appropriate kinds of waterborne traffic. In addition it wishes to promote the use of towpaths and adjoining footpaths for recreational activities.

#### **Newsletters**

To request an email version contact: secretary@sleafordnavigation.co.uk

#### **Articles**

editor@sleafordnavigation.co.uk 9 Forum Way, Sleaford NG34 7FF



Articles and opinions in this newsletter are those of the authors concerned and do not necessarily reflect SNT policy or the opinion of the editor

Our thanks to Westgate Print of Sleaford for their help with printing

#### **Editorial**

The main focus of this issue is the Trust's Annual General Meeting to which we welcome all members, old friends and newcomers who may be interested.

Also there are some stunning photographs from a local photographer, Roger Hlibkowycz - if you're reading this in hard-copy, I'd recommend having a look at the online version to appreciate the full impact of the colours that Roger has captured.

#### Debbie Scott, Editor

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# Sleaford Navigation Trust Annual General Meeting Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7.30 pm Sleaford Town Council Offices, Navigation Yard, Sleaford

Followed by a talk by Robert Ankerson of the

International Bomber Command Centre
'An insight into Bomber Command in WW2 and
the work of the International Bomber Command
Centre'



The meeting is open to everyone but please note that only members of the Sleaford Navigation Trust are eligible to vote during the AGM.

For further details please email secretary@sleafordnavigation.co.uk

Agenda and papers available on www.sleafordnavigation.co.uk

### Sleaford Navigation Trust Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Sleaford Navigation Trust will be held at Sleaford Town Council Offices, The Town Hall, Navigation Yard, Sleaford NG34 7TW on Monday 13th May 2019, starting at 7.30 pm for the purpose of transacting the following business:

- 1. To receive apologies for absence
- 2. To approve the Minutes for the previous year
- 3. To receive the Directors' Report for the year ending 31st December 2018
- 4. To receive the Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2018
- 5. To appoint Staniforth & Co of Nottingham as the Company's Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.
- 6. Election of Directors. Debbie Scott and Penny Carnell are due to retire by rotation.
- 7. To transact any other business that may be deemed appropriate by the Chairman

Following the meeting, there will be a talk by Robert Ankerson, of the International Bomber Command Centre



#### SLEAFORD NAVIGATION TRUST

A non-profit distributing company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England & Wales No: 3294818. Registered Charity No. 1060234

Registered Office: Island House, Moor Rd., Chesham, HP5 1WA

#### Directors' Annual Report, December 2018

This is the twenty-second annual report of the Directors of the Trust and covers the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2018. The company was incorporated on 19th December,1996 and its full name is the Sleaford Navigation Trust. A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales No. 03294818, the Trust is also a registered charity No. 1060234. The governing documents of the Trust are the memorandum and articles of association which have been approved by the Charity Commission.

The Directors of the Trust during the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 were:

Christine Hayes (Chairman) David Carnell
Stephen Hayes (Secretary) Penny Carnell

Debbie Scott David Pullen (Engineer)

Pat Taylor Susan Sowerby

Melvyn Sowerby Rebecca Franks (Treasurer)

No director may remain in office for more than three years without seeking re-election.

The Trust registered office is: Island House, Moor Rd., Chesham, HP5 1WA

General correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary at 10 Chelmer Close, Lincoln. LN6 8TH.

The main Agents of the Trust are:

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc, 2 Northgate, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

**NG34 7BL** 

Auditors: Staniforth & Co of Nottingham

Membership Secretary: Jenny Osborne, Bank House, Ruskington

Fen, Billinghay, Lincoln, LN4 4DS

#### **Objectives, Organisation and Activities**

The Company was established to stimulate public interest in and appreciation of the history, structure and beauty of the waterway formerly known as the Sleaford Navigation or Kyme Eau and to promote the restoration and preservation of the waterway for navigation and other purposes.

#### The Trust

is organised and controlled by its Directors who provide their services on a volunteer basis as members of the Executive Board which meets monthly, or more frequently if necessary, to formulate and implement strategy and to review progress. There are no paid or seconded staff.

is a corporate member of the Inland Waterways Association which shares certain objectives with the Trust and provides help and support nationally and locally to all organisations engaged in waterway restoration.

is a member of the Sleaford Sports Partnership.

produces its own newsletter which is circulated to members.

has a website www.sleafordnavigation.co.uk and a facebook page.

#### **Review of Progress and Achievements**

During the year, the Trust has continued the publicity campaign undertaken in previous years. Activities have included attendance at a series of events which were successful in raising public awareness of the Navigation and, in some cases, also proved a

success in the secondary function of fund-raising. These included Heckington Show, Chesterfield Canal Trust Festival and the Grantham Canal Discovery Day.

Press releases, articles and interviews resulted in valuable publicity both locally and in the national waterways press.

Representatives of the Trust attended

CRT Local Forum meetings in Lincoln and Retford

The CRT Annual Partnership Meeting at Leicester.

Northern Canals Association meetings in Chesterfield and Uttoxeter

Meetings of the Witham Catchment Partnership Steering Committee in conjunction with the Lincolnshire Rivers Trust.

Sleaford Regeneration Group meetings

Meetings of the Sleaford Heritage Forum.

An IWA/CRT Restoration Workshop in Wolverhampton

South Kyme Working Group meetings involving representatives from the Environment Agency and South Kyme Parish Council

Trust work parties have continued at a number of locations including Taylors Lock and in Sleaford. In the previous year, coir roll had been installed as bank protection and habitat enhancement in Sleaford. This project was funded by the EA and Sleaford Town Council but effected by Trust members. A successful application to The Greggs Foundation funded the supply of aquatic plant plugs and these were initially installed in Spring 2018. Unfortunately, only a few of the plants survived because of extremely wet conditions and shading from the overhanging trees. A second planting was only slightly more successful. After consultation with Salix, the supplier, a different choice of plant, Carex Pendula, will be used in another attempt in Spring 2019.

At the beginning of the year, directors submitted a second, modified, bid for LEADER funding. This was for Destination South Kyme, a project to encourage greater use of the waterway up to the village. Included were a multi-user water access point and

interpretation boards explaining the heritage of the waterway. In February, the news came that the bid had been successful. Contractors started work on the water access point in July and it was completed in early August. The interpretation boards were installed by Trust volunteers in September.

Because of uncertainty as to the start date of the works in South Kyme and a potential blockage of the navigation at Chapel Hill through LCC Highways Dept. bridge strengthening, the boatgathering at South Kyme did not take place in May.

The Annual Dinner was held in Sleaford in December.

#### Review of Financial Activities and Affairs

LEADER funding required all bills to be paid by the successful applicant and invoices submitted before funding could be released. The Trust successfully applied to the Inland Waterways Association for a bridging loan to facilitate this. This would be repaid on receipt of the LEADER grant and, providing the period of the loan did not exceed six months, no interest would be charged. In addition the Trust was able to claim a previously allocated IWA grant towards the cost of constructing a winding hole in South Kyme.

The Trust has been fortunate enough to receive monies from individual donors and raised capital from the sale of goods. The Trust is registered for VAT. The resources available are considered adequate to enable the Trust to continue its work effectively at this stage of the restoration programme. The Trust's assets are adequate to fulfil all its obligations and there are no commitments which are required to be disclosed in this report or the notes to the accounts.

For and on behalf of the Executive Board

Steve Hayes,

**Director & Secretary** 



#### **SLEAFORD NAVIGATION TRUST**

Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting held at Heckington Windmill, Heckington, on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2018

#### Apologies:

Mr & Mrs D Carnell, Mrs B Jones, Mrs J Osborne, Mrs D Scott, Mr P Jowett, Mr & Mrs M Pitcaithly, Mr & Mrs D Ball.

#### Minutes of the last AGM:

The minutes were approved as a true record, proposed by Mrs S Sowerby, seconded by Mrs P Taylor.

#### **Directors' Report:**

It was recorded that the report had been circulated. Mrs Hayes summarised the contents and noted it as being the twenty-first annual report.

Its reception was proposed by Mrs R Franks, seconded by Mr D Pullen.

Thanks were extended to all committee members and members for the work that they carried out on behalf of the Trust.

#### **Accounts and Auditors' Report:**

The accounts and report were presented to the meeting. Their reception was proposed by Mr M Phillips, seconded by Mr M Sowerby.

The appointment of Staniforth & Co of Nottingham as the Company's Auditors and the authorisation of the Directors to fix their remuneration was proposed by Mrs R Franks, seconded by Mr S Hayes.

#### **Election of Directors:**

The following Directors stood for re-election, Mr D Carnell, Mr M Sowerby and Mrs P Taylor.

All were elected unanimously.

#### **Any Other Business:**

Mrs Hayes reported on the activities of the Trust so far in 2018 and outlined the current progress of the 'Destination South Kyme' project. She also outlined the implications for the Trust of the new General Data Protection Regulations.



Photo: Steve Hayes

What's this? A tidy screen around a canalside rubbish disposal point? But where is Denison Canal and where indeed is Sorell?

Read On!

#### The Denison Canal

It's a strange thing but no matter wherever I am, I seem to find a canal. I'm really not sure if it's fate or a magnetic attraction.

On holiday last month to see our son and family in Australia, we visited Tasmania for the first time.



On a trip out to visit the convict settlement of Port Arthur we passed through a place called Dunalley where I saw a sign by a waterway that said, 'Denison Canal Park'. Obviously I had to stop and do a bit of research.

According to the notice boards, this canal opened for use in 1905, got its name from a former Governor, William Denison, and was

built to shorten the fishing and trade routes between the east coast and Hobart.



Apparently, at the time, it was reported to be the second-longest canal in Australia. That sounds rather grand but, if you are weighing up the possibility of holiday hiring don't get excited. From where I stood I could see both ends of the canal!

The Denison Canal is only 895 metres (2,936 ft) long, or 2.42 kilometres (1.50 miles) long if its dredged approaches are included. It is 34 metres (112 ft) wide at ground level, dropping to 7 metres

(23 ft) at low tide. Water depth varies from 3.9 metres (13 ft) at high tide to 2.6 metres (8.5 ft) at low tide. Originally, the canal only had one, hand-operated, swing bridge. A larger and electrically operated bridge was installed in 1965 to cater for heavier traffic.



Looking east along the canal

Photo by Steve Hayes

A proposal to dig a canal through the East Bay Neck was first made in 1820 but it wasn't until 1901 that the Tasmanian Government asked firms to tender for the project. The winning firm of Henrikson and Knutson was selected after tendering in the lowest price of £17,999 and the canal was finally opened by Governor Sir Gerald Strickland on 13 October 1905.

While the canal was once able to be used by small trading vessels, only small fishing and recreation boats can now pass through the shifting sand bars in Blackman Bay on the eastern approaches to the canal.

However, it does have one advantage over probably any other canal in the world and something that would make Canal and River Trust green with envy. The canal never needs dredging, sorry, desilting. This happy situation exists because high tide at one end of the canal occurs at a different time from high tide at the other end. The tide running both ways helps to keep the channel free of silt.

#### Steve and Chris Hayes



Looking west along the canal

Photo by Steve Hayes

#### River Slea Clean Up Team



The River Slea Clean up Team, taking a break at Cogglesford Watermill during their March event.

Andy Greenwood, in the centre of the above picture, founder of the team, says

The River Slea Clean Up Team came about due to a picture that was posted on Facebook of the rubbish in the river near Costas. After seeing this I made the decision to do something about it. Through the power of facebook 6 weeks later a ragtag group of people assembled on the green with various home-made implements to go and clean the river. This was in 2013 and prior to us becoming part of Rivercare in February 2014. Rivercare now provides insurance and equipment. At this point the Town Council allowed us to store our equipment in their tractor shed. We have run clean-ups roughly every 6 weeks ever since then and have won some awards in that time, including ones from NKDC, Lincs Wildlife trust and Sleaford Town Council. The Town Council helps

us by providing bin bags and access to their boat and outboard to help with clean ups. We have also been involved in the habitat improvement that Lincs Rivers Trust did a few years ago. We usually get between ten and fifteen volunteers who attend what ever the weather to help make sure that the river is cleaned and people can enjoy the river views.

We also run a project currently that provides duck food for people to feed an alternative to bread to the ducks of the river. This has seen a marked decrease in the amount of empty bread bags discarded and the amount of rats that are visible. The ducks seem to be enjoying the type of food we are providing as well. Thanks go to the National Centre for Craft and Design, Sleaford Leisure Centre, Cogglesford Watermill, Navigation House and Emily's Bakehouse for holding stocks of duck food bags. This all wouldn't be possible without the help of Paula Bradshaw, pictured second from the left) who delivers the duck food to sites.



#### Silver Propeller Challenge

The Inland Waterways Association recently launched a new initiative to promote some of the less well known areas of the inland waterways network. The following explanation is taken from the IWA website.

## Exploring the far-flung reaches of the network just got even more rewarding

Your challenge, should you choose to accept, is to visit as many of the nation's underused waterways as you can. Why? You'll not only get to visit some stunning, yet quieter, parts of the network, but you'll also be in with a chance of receiving IWA's new Silver Propeller Challenge plaque.

Getting involved couldn't be simpler. Visit 20 different places on our list, take a photograph of you and your mode of transport (any type of boat, canoe or paddleboard) at each location, and save all your photos to submit once you're done. Just ensure your pictures make the location easy to identify.

Everyone who completes the challenge will receive a Silver Propeller Challenge plaque to attach to their vessel. The challenge opened on 1st January 2018 and covers all visits from that date onwards – your snaps from the 1980s, or even last year, won't be counted. We want to see evidence of these waterways being used today.

Included in the first list of destinations was the Black Sluice Navigation and Maud Foster Drain in Boston but we were delighted to see that the extended list added Cobblers Lock on the Sleaford Navigation!

The full list can be found at https://www.waterways.org.uk/waterways/activities/silver\_propeller/silver\_propeller award locations. Let us know how you get on!

## Free Donations to Sleaford Navigation Trust Every Time you Shop Online

It is so easy to do your online shopping via easyfundraising. Every time you do, a percentage will be donated to Sleaford Navigation Trust and it will cost you absolutely nothing extra!

There are over 3,100 shops and sites that give donations through the easyfundraising website. Usually what stops people raising money in this way for their favourite charity is that they simply forget. Since we signed up Sleaford Navigation Trust onto easyfundraising, we have raised over £146 so it is a brilliant way to support the Trust.

To find out more go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk

#### Before you start shopping

Search for Sleaford Navigation Trust as your preferred charity on the easyfundraising website, www.easyfundraising.org.uk If you don't have an account, then you will need to create one. Once you have an account you will have the option to get the donation reminder. Click on the red box to download it. Now when you shop, an easy toolbar will appear on your favourite shops when you visit them. This will show you how much the business is donating to the Trust because of your purchase. The reminder toolbar is supported by Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer and Safari but can't work on mobile phones or tablets. If you shop on a mobile phone or tablet, use the easyfundraising app. It works for iPhone, iPad and Android.

By using the app, the reminder toolbar or shopping through the easyfundraising site, you can help Sleaford Navigation Trust raise funds at no cost to yourself.

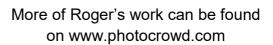
Thanks for your support.



These photographs were all taken by Roger Hlibkowycz, who lives in Sleaford. They feature some of the wildlife that lives along the top pound of the Sleaford Navigation and the adjacent Lollycocks Field









A crisp February walk from Carre St to Sleaford Leisure Centre

Photos: Debbie Scott



Membership: If you are thinking of joining please do get in touch or pick up a membership application form from events or at Navigation House or Cogglesford Watermill in Sleaford. If you are already a member and would like to upgrade to paying by Standing Order please contact Jenny Osborne on 01526 832256.

The saving in postage for

The saving in postage for reminders and trips to the bank will be much appreciated by the Trust and helpers.



The Tillergraph, Towpath Talk and the Canal Boating Times are all available free of charge from Navigation House (and other reputable waterside locations), please do drop in and pick up a copy.

As from 1st April Navigation House and Cogglesford Watermill are back to summer opening times so 12-4 every weekday and 11-4.30 at weekend until 1st April.

Cogglesford Watermill will be milling on the second Sunday of each month through to December

A growing stock of postcards, gifts and books is available to buy at both venues as well as delicious Dennett's Ice Cream. Hot drinks are sold at Cogglesford Watermill. Pop in and choose from our new selection of Christmas Gift ideas. Sleaford Navigation Trust items are also on sale at Navigation House

**Towpath Talk** is also available at the Hume Arms, South Kyme see www.south-kyme.co.uk/the hume.html

#### **Committee Contacts**

Chairman		, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 8TH 0 chair@sleafordnavigation.co.uk
Secretary	,	ntact as above and rdnavigation.co.uk
Treasurer	Becky Franks The Windmill Shop, 1 Church Street, Heckington NG34 9RF Tel: 07342 988014 thewindmillshop@hotmail.com	
Engineer	David Pullen Brinkburn House, Church Street, Scothern, Lincoln LN2 2UA Tel: 01673 862278	
Director / Newsletter Editor	Debbie Scott Tel: 01529 305755 / 07973 330765 editor@sleafordnavigation.co.uk	
Director	Susan Sowerby	Tel: 01522 856810
Director / Sales	Pat Taylor	Tel: 01522 790652
Director	Penny Carnell	Tel: 01469 530138
Director / Lincs IWA Nominee	David Carnell	Tel: 01469 530138
Director / Work Party Organsiser	Mel Sowerby	Tel: 01522 856810

#### Membership

,	Jenny Osborne, Bank House, Ruskington Fen, Billinghay, Lincoln, LN4 4DS
	Tel: 01526 832256

SNT Work Parties go on throughout the year, usually on the second Sunday of the month. Contact Mel Sowerby (01522 856810 or sowerbys@ntlworld.com) for details of upcoming dates

#### Sleaford Navigation Trust is a member of the Sleaford Sports Partnership (SSP)

All SNT members are automatically SSP members, and are welcome to join in any of the SSP events, which are all held at the David Williams Pavilion, Sleaford Rugby Club, Ruskington Road, Sleaford.