

Sleaford Navigation Trust



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Autumn 2021

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

...is on facebook: Sleaford Navigation Trust

...is on Twitter: @SleafordNavigationTrust

Aims & Objectives

The Trust aims to stimulate public interest and appreciation of the history, structure and beauty of the waterway known as the Sleas, 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

How quickly this year is passing!

Despite some ongoing concerns in the press, it does look as though, with the vaccination programme in place and sensible precautions being taken, the threat of Covid is falling away and a return to some kind of normal life is possible. We are therefore planning for a face-to-face AGM this year and are very grateful to the Town Council for the use of the Community Room. We do have the back up of a Zoom meeting scheduled, in case face-to-face turns out to be impossible.

Boating holidays /staycations have been popular again this year and we hope that everyone involved in the industry has been able to make up for some of the time and business lost since March 2020.

This newsletter is largely about the AGM, inevitably, but please be assured that the Directors have been working hard behind the scenes to progress the projects in hand with our partners - more news on those next time.

Debbie Scott, Editor

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Work Parties

We're pleased to say that Work Parties have resumed, in a slightly pared back manner, as Covid restrictions have started to lift. We hope to revert to monthly sessions as soon as possible. If you'd like to be involved - over 18 (or accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult), interested in spending time by the river, enjoying the fresh air, making a difference to the environment, making new friends and learning new skills - please contact Mel on 01522 856810 or sowerbys@ntlworld.com)



Photos: Mel
Sowerby

Boats entering Bottom Lock (Taylors Lock) under supervision



Fresh-mown locksides
at Taylors Lock
(above) and
Cogglesford (right)
July 2021

Visiting the Grantham Canal

On June 10th, we were hosted by the Grantham Canal Society on a fact finding visit to the newly restored locks at Woolsthorpe. We took the NKDC Council Leader, Richard Wright, Councillor Mervyn Head, Alan Gray, Economic Development Director, and Andy McDonough, Economy & Place Director, to see the restored Locks 14 and 15. The work had been completed by the Grantham Canal Heritage Initiative, a partnership of Grantham Canal Society, Canal & River Trust and Waterway Recovery Group funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. It was a very positive visit which illustrated just what can be done by volunteers.

Very many thanks to Mike Stone, Grantham Canal Society Chairman, with whom we made the initial arrangements and Tony Osbond, General Manager, who facilitated the visit. Thanks too to Richard Caunt and Jo Altham, Grantham Volunteers, and Mark Owen, CRT Site Manager for Locks 14 and 15, for their attendance and input.

Photo: Steve Hayes



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, Navigation Yard, Sleaford, on Tuesday 21st September, 2020, starting at 7.30 p.m., for the purpose of transacting the business detailed below.

If restrictions relating to Covid-19 change and prevent this, then the meeting will be held in the form of an internet Zoom meeting. Notice of any changes will be posted on the Trust web site and Facebook page.

To receive apologies for absence.

To approve the Minutes for the previous year.

To receive the Directors' Report for the year ending 31st December 2020.

To receive the Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2020.

To appoint Amanda Jay as the Company's Auditor and to authorise the Directors to fix her remuneration.

Election of Directors. Christine Hayes and David Pullen are due to retire by rotation.

To transact any other business that may be deemed appropriate by the Chairman.

If the meeting has to be held by Zoom the joining information is as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85645624903?pwd=cG9ZVDMvbENuQ1RuV1pYQ3pvT3RKQT09>

SLEAFORD NAVIGATION TRUST

Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting held via a Zoom meeting on Thursday 29th October, 2020

Apologies:

Mrs P Taylor

Minutes of the last AGM:

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

Directors' Report:

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

Its reception was accepted unanimously.

Thanks were extended to all committee members, members and volunteers 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 Sowerby, seconded by Mr M Phillips.

The appointment of Amanda Jay of Sleaford as the Company's Auditor and the authorisation of the Directors to fix her remuneration was proposed by Mr D Pullen, seconded by Mrs R Franks. Mrs D Scott declared an interest and abstained.

Election of Directors:

The following Directors stood for re-election, Mrs R Franks, Mr S Hayes and Mrs S Sowerby.

All were elected unanimously.

Any Other Business:

Mrs Hayes reported on the activities of the Trust so far in 2020 and how they had been affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. The May boat gathering had been cancelled and the AGM postponed because of the pandemic.

She said that with the final work on the winding hole the

'Destination South Kyme' project had been completed and thanked Mr D Pullen for facilitating this.

Representatives from the Trust and NKDC visited the Cotswold Canal Trust in Stroud to see how they operated a partnership with their local council. This was with a view to the Trust and NKDC setting up a partnership together to carry out a series of projects on the Sleas.

Thanks were expressed to Mel Sowerby for his work in organising socially distanced work parties.

It was agreed unanimously that the proposal to amend the membership fees to Adult £10, Senior and Junior £8, Family £15 and Life £120 be adopted from 1st January 2021.

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 2020

This is the twenty-fourth annual report of the Directors of the Trust and covers the year to 31st December, 2020. 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 31st December 2020 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: Amanda Jay of Sleaford

Membership Secretary: Jenny Osborne, Bank House, Ruskington Fen, Billingham, 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 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.
- liaises with NKDC Executive Board Councillor Mervyn Head who has specific responsibility for matters concerning the waterway.

Review of Progress and Achievements

During the year, the Trust has continued, as much as has been possible, the publicity campaign undertaken in previous years. Restrictions related to the Covid-19 pandemic have severely limited all activities this year. Trust members were unable to attend the usual range of events because, in most cases, these had to be cancelled. Press releases, articles and interviews continued to result in valuable publicity both locally and in the national waterways press.

Representatives of the Trust attended

- Zoom meetings of the Witham Catchment Partnership Steering Committee in conjunction with the Lincolnshire Rivers Trust.
- A fact-finding visit to the Cotswolds Canals Trust with Alan Gray, Economic Development Manager. NKDC, and NKDC Executive Board Councillor. Mervyn Head. This provided the opportunity to look closely at the working structure of the partnership the Trust has established with Stroud District Council and see the extensive restoration work they have completed.

- A funding workshop at Hatton organised jointly by IWA and CRT. Alan Gray, Economic Development Manager, NKDC, also attended as a guest of the Trust.
- A meeting with representatives of the Sleaford Civic Trust regarding plans for an area of the top pound near the slipway in Sleaford.
- A Teams meeting with representatives of NKDC and the EA to discuss and consider the details of planned flood relief measures.
- A series of meetings and conversations in connection with proposed work on the weir crest and by-wash at Haverholme Lock in preparation for further work on the lock itself. Consultation took place with personnel from North Kesteven District Council, the Environment Agency and the Inland Waterways Association Restoration Hub.

Trust work parties have continued, where possible, at a number of locations including Taylors Lock and Sleaford.

The Annual Boat Gathering in South Kyme in May was cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions as was the AGM. A Zoom AGM took place later in September.

Review of Financial Activities and Affairs

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. The Trust is registered for VAT.

For and on behalf of the Executive Board

Steve Hayes,

Director & Secretary

Litter

What a great way to spend a sunny Sunday afternoon in Sleaford! Local resident Dom Burns was spotted taking time out to help keep the river looking tidy and litter-free. Great work!.



Going online - Steve Hayes

For some time, I've been trying to upgrade the membership section of the website. In the past, prospective new members have had to download and print off a membership form and then send it to Jenny Osborne, the Membership Secretary. I've been trying to make the whole process simpler so that anyone who wants to join can do everything online. The problem has been trying to find a free form-builder that I could link into a payments system, there are literally thousands of these sub-programs and it has taken some time to find a suitable one.

Finally, I've got it sorted! The Trust can not only accept new memberships online but existing members can now also renew their membership from the website. No more sending cheques in the post! In addition, the Trust can also accept donations online and shortly will have a page on the website that will offer our brass plaques for sale.

Useful websites:

Sleaford Navigation Trust	www.sleafordnavigation.co.uk
Navigation House	www.navigationhouse.co.uk
Cogglesford Watermill	www.cogglesfordwatermill.co.uk
Sleaford Town Council	www.sleaford.gov.uk
North Kesteven District Council	www.n-kesteven.gov.uk
Lincolnshire County Council	www.lincolnshire.gov.uk
Inland Waterways Association	www.waterways.org.uk
Canal & River Trust	www.canalrivertrust.org.uk
Environment Agency	www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Also follow us on facebook

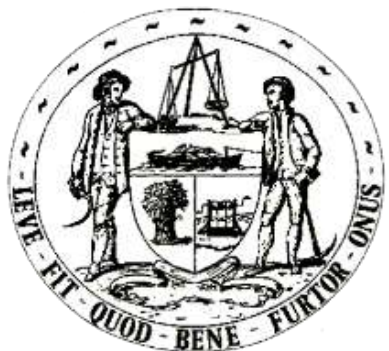
<https://www.facebook.com/Sleaford-Navigation-Trust-632143133547859>

And Twitter

@SleafordNavigationTrust

‘Navigation House - Home and Workplace of The Mettam Family’

, researched and written by Harriott Righini-Brand, is now on sale at Navigation House. It’s a fascinating story of the family who took over the House and Yard for their home and business premises, when the Navigation Company ceased trading. Much of Harriott’s research has been first-hand with surviving family members and local archives but she appreciates that there may be other details out there that could add to the history. Harriott can be contacted via Navigation House or c/o the newsletter editor.



Membership Subscriptions - Action Required Please

Thank you to everyone who has updated their standing orders. If you haven't already done it please could you check the details and upgrade your standing order to the new amount. This is relatively easy to do if you bank online but otherwise please contact your bank for help

**Individual (£10), Senior Citizen (£8), Under 18 (£8)
Family (£15), Life (£120), Corporate (£20min)**

The membership application form with the latest information about subscriptions is also available on our website

See also Steve's note on page 13 for further information

Signing up to receive this newsletter by email means that you would receive it in full colour and the photographs work much better that way! Active hyperlinks will also take you directly the more information. Contact secretary@sleafordnavigation.co.uk

Places to Visit

NKDC's heritage venues, including Navigation House, re-opened at the end of May, apart from Cogglesford Watermill which, all being well, will re-open in September

From this summer the opening times will be Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays from 12 to 4. For the latest updates see www.heartoflincs.com.

Hopefully normal service will resume with Tillergraph, Towpath Talk and Canal Boating Times available to pick up and refreshments, gifts, local produce and SNT merchandise on sale.

Towpath Talk is also available at the Hume Arms, High Street, South Kyme.

Committee Contacts

Chairman	Chris Hayes 10 Chelmer Close , North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 8TH Tel: 01522 689460 chair@sleafordnavigation.co.uk
Secretary	Steve Hayes– Contact as above and secretary@sleafordnavigation.co.uk
Treasurer	Becky Franks The Windmill Shop, 1 Church Street, Heckington NG34 9RF Tel: 07342 988014 thewindmillshop@hotmail.com
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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 Organiser	Mel Sowerby Tel: 01522 856810

Membership

Membership Secretary	Jenny Osborne, Bank House, Ruskington Fen, Billingham, Lincoln, LN4 4DS Tel: 01526 832256
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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.