

# **SLEAFORD NAVIGATION TRUST**

## **Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2025**

### **Apologies:**

Becca Pitcaithly, Dave & Penny Carnell, Dave Burkitt, Christine Collard, David Marriage, Faith Hopkins.

### **Minutes of the last AGM:**

The minutes were approved as a true record, proposed by Gavin Scott, seconded by Debbie Scott.

### **Directors' Report:**

It was recorded that the report had been circulated. Chris Hayes summarised the contents and noted it as being the twenty-eighth annual report. Its reception was proposed by Rob Saul, seconded by Will Pickworth. 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:**

It was noted that the accounts were not fully prepared for the meeting because of the added complications that had been posed by the Trust's involvement in the UKSPF. Acceptance of the accounts at a later date was unanimously delegated to the Directors.

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 Mel Sowerby, seconded by Dave Pullen. Gavin & Debbie Scott declared an interest and abstained.

### **Election of Directors:**

The following Directors stood for re-election, Chris Hayes and Rob Saul. Both were duly elected unanimously.

### **Any Other Business:**

Chris Hayes reported on the activities of the Trust so far in 2025.

A variety of talks about the navigation have been given to local organisations.

NK Heritage Strategy Meeting IBCC 29<sup>th</sup> January

Meeting with Tony Mabbot & Michelle Tasker from NKDC on 26<sup>th</sup> February re. potential works at Haverholme.

Meeting of South Kyme Working Group 18<sup>th</sup> March. (Ducks went there prior to their trip out on 4<sup>th</sup> May)

Northern Canals Association Meeting, Langley Mill, 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Presentation given about the Trip Boat Project.

Talk about the navigation given to Sleaford Museum Group 25<sup>th</sup> March

Work parties took place at Taylors Lock 6<sup>th</sup> April, Sleaford (vegetation) 2<sup>nd</sup>

March, Sleaford (ballast) 9<sup>th</sup> March. There have also been twelve separate work parties fitting out the trip boat.

There were preliminary meetings regarding RiverLight and participation in the events on 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June with a gazebo at Eastgate Green.

UKSPF has finished with the last meeting that the Trust attended on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. There have been meetings with NKDC officers regarding the licensing of the trip boat and skippers. Catch up meeting with potential volunteers in Sleaford 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Skipper training for the Trip Boat in Chesterfield for Steve & Dave P on 4<sup>th</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup> May. Both now have a Certificate of Community Boat Management. Debbie and Gavin are next in line for training.

There have been many meetings and consultations regarding the river channel clearance. Contractors removed some of the reeds in March but we were informed, rather unexpectedly, by the Environment Agency that, because the Slea at this point is a salmonid river, work on the river bed can only take place between June and September. We are still waiting for an exemption from them so that this can happen.

We now have planning permission for the landing stage at Cogglesford subject to various conditions; soil investigation and boring to determine the siting of the piles, tree management and protection during and after the build and environmental enhancement in the form of coir roll installation opposite the site. Materials for the landing stage have been bought and are in storage ready for use.

All these activities have involved many hours of volunteer time. A sincere thank you to all those involved. Particular mention to Dave P who has indicated that he wants to step down as Honorary Engineer at the end of the current trip boat project. We are all seriously indebted to him.