

## **Exeter Civic Society, River Canal & Quay sub-committee**

Notes of meeting, 8 February 2016, White Hart Hotel, Exeter.

### **Present:**

Peter Nickol (chair), Keith Lewis, Guy Parker, Simon Goddard, Stewart Barr, Jane Evans.

### **Apologies:**

John Whitton, John Monks, Bernard Frowd, Dominic Houston, Jean Hall, Kimberly Bryan.

Note taker: Keith Lewis. SB was welcomed to his first meeting of the group.

### **Matters arising from previous meeting.**

PN and JM have looked at trees felled on riverside. PN confirmed these as shown on the EA planning drawings where new walls and banks are being formed.

### **Friends of ESC:**

Plans are in place for the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> February at which it is hoped to form a core management group. Discussed constitution and ability to open bank accounts and agreed that these should not be a problem.

JE advised that Exeter Active are organising an event at Piazza Terracina on 10 July. This would be a good occasion for the Friends to have promotional stall if the organisers agree.

Funding application to ECQT: Agreed that SG and KL will send additional information to DH to improve bid. Suggested that more funding should be requested to cover promotional activities and materials, and for year 2 where funding is not looking good.

KL to obtain ECS committee agreement to underwrite activities for FESC public meeting in short term (not resolved if this will be a loan or not), but if this is planned for summer period then ECQT funds may be with group.

### **Canal User Group:**

Their last meeting considered a priorities list for improving the canal finances, prepared by JE. Useful input from Colin Acton of ECC. JE will revise for presentation to Waterways Partnership Board, 15 February.

JE is concerned that she is not getting support from ECC officers to bring together sources of income from the canal. This raises concerns about how ECC will be informed about the income when conducting the negotiations with the CRT.

### **Waterways Partnership Board:**

PN confirmed that Rosie Denham has turned down our request to be on the Waterways Partnership Board, while expressing a willingness to meet. PN and JM will meet her on 18 February where concerns about current ECC activity will be raised.

### **Presentation by CRT 4 February.**

Agreed this was a useful and informative event. CRT mentioned the following matters:

Emphasised use of volunteers to help look after the canal.

They will ensure that all available national funding is brought to support the canal.

Want more tourist use of the canal and maybe sightseeing trips from estuary.

Considering residential moorings. (GP suggested this will not bring much income and they should concentrate on commercial craft using the canal).

Mentioned availability of their management team (but concerns raised about how much will be creamed off from revenue).

It was felt that ECC and CRT are some way from agreeing terms, but we should raise our concerns soon to ensure ECC does not give away too much at our expense.

GP concerned about intentions and operations of CRT and believes they will want development around the canal basin area, as well as a string of boats berthed along the canal which will then appear cluttered. GP asked to collate his concerns and send to PN.

JE has been looking at how much of a dowry CRT may want/need when taking on canal. She estimated about £1m but Ray of IWA considers this could be nearer £5m. It was accepted that all assets associated with the canal should pass from both ECC and ECQT to support future revenue for the support of canal.

Discussed current master plan for canal basin area and how it conflicts with our desire to restrict development. Also discussed wider development in Water Lane area and access to and from for residents and boat users. Agreed the Tan Lane link can be opened up to two-way traffic to improve access. KL has been advised by ECC planners that Water Lane landowners are some way from agreeing shared cost of infrastructure. Agreed we should push for a master plan for the whole area.

GP raised emerging legislation about water abstraction from rivers, which will include into the canal as a result of locks being opened. ECC need to ensure agreements are in place for greater use of canal and therefore more use of water.

GP mentioned need for authorities to sign new Port Authority agreements being brought in by government. He feels this could lead to another Port Revisions Order by ECC. Encouraging some commercial activity on the canal should result in it being maintained for this usage.

### **Valley Parks Masterplan:**

Not impressed with proposals or printability of A3 documents from website. Some concern about too much intervention in areas which may be better left wild.

Plans states consultation has been undertaken but most unaware of this.

JE believes the plan is necessary to take funds from the councils' Community Infrastructure Levy pot.

This goes to ECC committee on 9 February – all to look at recommendations and minutes (<http://committees.exeter.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=4474>).

### **St James' Weir.**

PN has tried to get renovation included in the Valley Parks Masterplan but funding it remains a problem; Simon Bates suggested that joint funding would be the best chance: local + English Heritage + EA + ECC. Various authorities do not want to take responsibility. JE suggested that the Courtenay family could be pursued. Contributions towards repairs from these authorities may be possible if the weir is owned by others. KL has now been in contact with Exeter Historic Buildings Trust which has expressed an interest in ensuring the weir's repair and preservation. Agreed KL to organise a meeting with EHBT.

### **Any Other Business:**

Discussed public quays and whether these are known, and if not how we can ascertain where they are positioned. This will be an important factor in stopping development around the basin.

GP mentioned his business vehicular access via riverside roadway is impeded by bollard by Cricklepit Bridge.

SB suggested that we could do some research into what people like or dislike about the canal quay and river areas, and offered to prepare a document. Agreed this would be good.

Discussed quays and ports elsewhere – Bridgewater, Bristol and Gloucester. Guy visiting these soon but others may wish to do so.

### **Date of Next meeting:**

Either 17, 21 or 23 March. PN to send out doodle poll.

# RCQ Meeting

White Hart, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016

- Peter Nickol
- John Monks
- Guy Parker
- Jean Hall
- Bernard Frowd
- Kimberley Bryan
- Dominic Houston

Apologies: Jane Evans, Stuart Barr, John Whitton, Keith Lewis

Item		Action
1	Notes of last meeting – no issues	
2	Matters arising 450 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary – see below	
3	FESC Report - JM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New entity; committee and some officers; chair JM; grant from ECQT; in process of setting up bank account, corporate members of IWA looking for assistance with publicity leaflet.</li> <li>• Working on projects list; with plans for a work party at the end of April beginning of May (hence need for leaflet).</li> <li>• Started thinking about 450<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</li> <li>• Launch public meeting probably in May</li> <li>• Ray Alexander and Mike Slade have been very useful</li> <li>• KB will be able to provide a link with the University – JM to brief in due course</li> <li>• Possible work party planting to address Turf Locks foreshore erosion</li> </ul>	JM/KB
4	Canal User Group - JM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rosie Denham ill</li> <li>• JE discussed finance</li> <li>• Mike Holland from EA talked about work addressing silting of Kings Arms sluice.</li> <li>• EA acknowledge right of navigation at Kings Arms. Salmon net will be replaced – maybe with bubble curtain.</li> <li>• Bernard Frowd will arrange meeting with Alan Williamson to clarify ECQT finances</li> </ul>	BF
5	Meeting with Rosie Denham - PN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed that Partnership Board poorly constituted</li> <li>• RD agreed that ECQT could have more involvement with the canal, and if necessary could tweak its objects to allow it to do more. However Council Trustees cannot vote on matters relating to the Council because of conflict of interest. This would include revenue spend e.g. on canal upkeep.</li> <li>• RD stated that transfer of ownership would not be part of any deal with the CRT about the canal</li> <li>• RD agreed to invite RCQ/CS to regular progress meetings with CRT</li> <li>• Specific meeting to be set up between CS and CRT</li> </ul>	PN



## **Exeter Civic Society, River Canal & Quay sub-committee**

Notes of meeting, 23 May 2016, White Hart Hotel, Exeter.

### **Present:**

Peter Nickol (chair), Keith Lewis, Guy Parker, Jane Evans, John Whitton, Bernard Frowd, Dominic Houston, Jean Hall.

### **Apologies:**

John Monks, Kimberly Bryan, Stewart Barr,

Note taker: Keith Lewis.

### **Previous Minutes.**

It was agreed that the notes were correct.

### **Matters arising from previous meeting.**

No matters discussed as all items on agenda.

### **St James' Weir:**

JE advised that a new hole is forming near the lip of the weir, and the largest hole is getting larger. PN suggested that an action group is formed led by John Whitton and with support from Abbey Court neighbours and local people who may be interested. Also make contact with local councillors. JE has done a lot of research and should be at the next meeting to pass on her work and knowledge. If weir allowed to fail, Abbey Court and a neighbouring bungalow are the only properties that will be directly affected by a fall in water levels. Suggested that Courtney family are approached in due course for support funding towards any repairs. They appear to have used land ownership rights in recent decades to justify establishing moorings in the Exe. KL reminded group about Environment Agency guidelines for repairing responsibility for land owners of neighbouring land – in this case the EA and ECC – and that we should write to ask them to repair. All agreed the weir has mainly amenity value.

**Action: JW to organise meeting of interested people including EHBT. JW to approach Powderham archivist about ownership of the weir. JW to contact local councillors.**

### **Valley Parks Masterplan:**

PN has two copies and more copies should be available from the council offices. The proposals have not had much scrutiny by the public, who may not even know about the plans. A lot is proposed and there were concerns about insensitive development in parts of the Exe Valley. Ludwell Valley

friends seem well organised to monitor development there. Suggested that proposals will be made available to ECS members and a meeting established to gather concerns.

**Action: KL to obtain more copies of the masterplan. PN to set date for ECS meeting to review.**

#### **Friends of ESC:**

BF advised that a lot of work is being done to develop the group and its activities. About 10 attended last meeting. He thought plans were very positive, and planning towards the first activities.

#### **Forthcoming meeting with CRT 6 June:**

Agreed that all those who have expressed an interest in attending should do so. Queried whether we would prefer to meet CRT without council officers, but PN argued that Sarah Ward's presence would be beneficial. Questioned whether ECC have a plan for developing the canal.

Discussed a range of issues both positive (increased uses of canal, increased revenue) and negative (CRT management style; new fees for users). We wish to resist a long lease for CRT; resist development around basin; retain the grassed area by Maclaines Warehouse as public open space; avoid removal of boats from basin area; not allow basin to become a marina.

Consider pre-meeting.

Scrutiny committee meet on 9 June. Must monitor to see if anything relevant proposed.

**Action: PN to consider pre meeting time and venue.**

#### **450<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of canal:**

BF thought JM working hard on this with Mike Williams of ECQT and ECC. Believes there is an agreed date (need this). We need to know more.

#### **Planning Applications:**

PN wished to consider how this group should deal with planning applications and liaison with ECS planning committee. Of the 4 planning matters discussed last time, screens at Waterfront approved, uPVC windows at Waterside approved, and vehicular access onto Bonhay Road approved. Conversion of Headweir House to a hotel still pending with concerns from EA about flooding, so our suggestion of information board not determined.

Agreed that due to limited time for responding to relevant planning applications, that RCQ should submit any desired response to planning office and a copy sent to ECS planning committee.

The basin and Water Lane areas can expect development in future years. KL suggested that we should encourage a masterplan for the area, including attention to traffic movements.

**Action: PN to monitor planning applications: KL to ask the head of city development to progress a masterplan.**

**Any Other Business:**

BF to arrange meeting with Alan Williams of ECQT asap.

GP and JE advised that last Waterways Partnership Board was not structured and did not achieve a lot. Feel that the board is not focused and a way to distract attention away from immediate issues. Next meeting 6 June.

**Date of Next meeting:**

PN to develop a doodle poll.

## RCQ 13/7/16

Present:

- Peter Nichols
- Dominic Houston
- Keith Mitchell
- Bernard Frowd
- Guy Parks
- Jean Hall

Apologies

- JM
- SB
- JW
- JE

## FESC

Website running & online joining all operational. Everyone encouraged to join. FESC were on the quay outside the Custom House on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July. Meg Crompton was staffing the stand. Mary Tempest is the Friends secretary. JM now has access to bank account.

Volunteer activities yet to be fully operational. John M and Simon G have been unwell which has slowed progress.

## Meeting with the CRT

Meeting with CRT at which RCQ wishes were expressed – particularly that CRT undertook management not ownership. See separate email from PN.

Should group press the issue? Appears that options for safeguards for CRT management not fully explored. Unclear what CRT investment would be. Also unclear what the Council really want out of it. Would be worth pressing the Council to understand what the CRT wishes to do and what investment it plans to bring, in order to understand what the ownership (or other long term commitment) is being traded for. One of the dangers is that the CRT plans may be labelled commercially sensitive which would shroud the whole issue.

It was agreed that the Council should be given the opportunity to answer some direct questions, maybe in conjunction with some of the other interested groups. Phil Bialyk is the new Councillor with responsibility for the canal (as well as sport).

- ECC may just want to get rid of the 'loss' associated with the canal (GP estimated cost of £159k with 2015 £355k expenditure against £196k income – similar to DCC subsidy of Tiverton Canal)
- CRT likely to require a dowry – probably developable land.

## Meeting ECQT

BF met Alan Williamson (Chair). AW interested in Boat Shed Theatre project as had put funds into it. AW knew little about CRT or Council plans for the canal. Mainly interested in grant giving. Feedback is that ideas come from independent trustees rather than the council trustees.

Stir up opinion with the Echo? Note that Echo has changed hands.

May be better to write to individual ECQT trustees? GP has names from ECQT website. Not clear whether we can effectively get their support yet.

Note – full income related to canal not properly in canal accounts – plus could be larger if properly managed.

## Future Strategy for the Canal

Not sure if CRT route really offers an economic solution, particularly as ECC will still have some legal responsibilities for the canal. Also need to liaise in relation to valley park and other surrounding initiatives which will all take officer time. Concern that CRT will develop quay for housing. Way forward is to have meeting with Phil Bialyk to understand ECC objectives. PN + KM + GP to meet with Phil Bialyk. GP away until early August.

Note ECC target to sort arrangements with CRT by April 2017.

ECQT portfolio plus the basin warehouses could be the dowry – or the assets to run the canal locally. But if the Council were to give instruction then the ECQT could be an active body in the running of the canal.

So – agreed meeting Phil Bialyk should be set up. Sarah Ward doesn't necessarily need to be included. PN, KM & GP; plus John Monk and Jane Evans (but want to keep this at a strategic level rather than detail for users). This would be a first step in advance of letters to the E&E.

GP – would prefer locally based management using existing income plus ECQT revenue instead of CRT with associated loss of control and danger of inappropriate development.

## 450<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

PN contacted Sarah Ward but she doesn't know if anything will happen. Valerie Wilson (Events organiser on economic development and tourism team) now available to give some time and attention (but few funds). RCQ to develop wish list for the council. PN consulted Guy and Ray. FESC had wanted:

- Historic ship
- Flotilla
- Public participation
- Horse lighter
- Free trips from Turf/Double Locks
- Lighting of King's Pipe (!)
- Performance artists
- Schools involvement

10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> September – coincides with heritage weekend. Plus IWA volunteers trip on Stuart Line will be coming up the Canal for 1.30 arrival Sunday 11th, departing again at 2.30. This will open the bridge. Could coincide with a flotilla. Sarah Ward indicated that it may be possible to waive fees for the anniversary.

JH – suggested stalls on the quay from groups around the canal.

Concern that time may now be too short – but worth pursuing with Valerie Wood anyway. Letter to Echo about lack of ECC support for the 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary?

Motor boat clubs may be part of a flotilla. Give details to Valerie Wilson.

KM to contact Mike Walker (Customs House).

Opportunity for publicity on Bridge Road.

Exeter Brewery Canal Brew.

## Water Lane Masterplan

Being developed under the guidance of an ECC working Group. Work in progress, early stages. Masterplan doesn't cover the quay and abuts the Valley Park masterplan area. May include Colas site.

KM is keen to open up 2<sup>nd</sup> railway tunnel – already exists - but would require use of Colas site and then access across Council land.

Site includes Gabriel Wharf, which is being proposed for housing (in the SHLAA). This is currently being used for boat renovation – therefore redevelopment would be counter to aspirations for growing maritime activity on the canal.

KM keen to include local people in development of plans.

Rachel Sutton is Chair of planning committee. KM suggests that this could be planned with the refreshing the quay masterplan.

**Quay Area Masterplan** – Future of Exeter Quay 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016 paper to scrutiny committee item 9 “investigate opportunities for external investment”. Suggests review of masterplan to ascertain if it needs renewing. But confusion with Basin Masterplan 2003 which exists but quay masterplan doesn't exist (as far as we know) – presume that Basin Masterplan is now being referred to as the Quay Area Masterplan.

## Headweir House

Application for the bridge - KM has commented that the bridge should be publically available not just for customers. But bridge should be closed at dusk as the island will be unlit. Could be part of a riverside route? Doesn't seem feasible. PN to confirm with Pamela Wootton (Chair of ECS planning committee).

PN has requested information board as part of s106 for the hotel application.

## St James Weir

John Whitton has been in touch with Katharine Chant of Exeter Historic Buildings Trust.

ECC don't want to be involved. EA don't want responsibility. Chris Moulton (ECC countryside ranger for Ludwell Valley Park) contacted by PN, regarding concern about weir collapse. Chris Moulton replied on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2016 that it is important that the leat water is maintained and that it is a “superb wildlife habitat”.

## Valley Parks Masterplan

Need to organise a time for people to critique and share views.

View is that the detail will be important. Also joined up thinking e.g. join up relocation of changing rooms with campsite proposals.

## AOB

Flood relief works – PN & GP went to user group meeting with presentation of Chris Green on behalf of the EA. Work will continue from now to March 2018. Starting at Countess Weir on bank near crematorium (near leat). Chris Green confirmed that temporary fencing around flood relief channel would be removed. PN has contact details for Chris Green. Also that the check weir at the base of the channel will be removed soon.

## Exeter Civic Society, RCQ 5/9/16

Present:

- Peter Nickol, Keith Lewis, Bernard Frowd, Guy Parker, Jean Hall, John Whitton, Simon Goddard

Apologies

- JM, SB, JE, DH, KB

### Minutes of Last meeting and matters arising.

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed; names have been corrected.

KL to contact Cllr. Rachel Sutton regarding Water lane masterplan

### 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ESC

Friends of ESC have been in contact with city council, although currently this is mainly driven by PN, with support from Mary Tempest, the secretary. Had hoped to get large boats to quay but this is proving impossible in time available. However, PN has arranged for a stall with literature at Exeter transit shed for FESC, and a large jazz band to perform on Sunday 11 September, which coincides with Heritage Open Days. Stuart Line Cruises are bringing a party of IWA members to the Quay from Exmouth as well, which will be a spectacle. Also trying to get Exeter Pound there with 4.50 pound notes for sale.

In November Exeter Unexpected will have celebrations on the quay which will include celebration of Exeter Canal. There is time to improve input for this.

PN to advise E&E of event on 11<sup>th</sup>.

### Transfer of Valley Parks to DWT.

A paper outlining this proposal will be heard at ECC Scrutiny meeting on 8 September, PN hopes to attend. Lynn Wetenhall has asked PN if we wish to put a question to committee but this now too late. PN has been in touch with Diana Moore of Green Party who says elsewhere groups have been established to challenge such proposals. The council should have a strategy/policy for disposal of assets as well as a list of assets. BF said the Valley Parks were established on basis that they are on a par with Victorian parks but to be kept as wild spaces. Concern about suggestions of development. DWT already have some assets (Cricklepit Mill). Agreed members to send to PN concerns found in ECC paper regarding transfer.

### Proposed Meeting with cllr. Phil Bialyk.

PN has written to PB but no response, and recent reminder resulted in holiday message. KL to also remind PB to reply to PN, but agreed to defer meeting him until we have more information about waterways etc.

## St James Weir.

Meeting convened on 1 September by John Whitton with one neighbour at Abbey Court, plus PN, KL, JE and Katherine Chant of Exeter Historic Buildings Trust. Continuing deterioration of weir with some new holes. KC advised that best way forward is to form a trust to support renovation/repair and management of weir, but first agreement of owner must be gained to enable lottery funding support. Agreed to write to Earl of Devon (Courtney family) asking him to transfer ownership to a trust who can then gain funds. KC said EHBT happy to give advice and be involved in initial processes. KC gave examples of weirs elsewhere that have received lottery funding – most controlled by trusts. PN believes that a trust must be established early on to avoid ECS taking on any responsibility. KL agreed that ECS should front initial phases of work with funds for leaflets and public meeting.

## Valley Parks Masterplan

PN has arranged a meeting for 21 September at his house to investigate the plan and how to respond to it.

Agenda items 6, 7 not discussed further, as covered previously.

## AOB

PN mentioned a planning application for a 'shed' at the far end of the allotments adjacent to the river by the suspension bridge. It is very large and it was questioned what it may be used for. All to review.

## RCQ Meeting

7<sup>th</sup> November 2016

### Present

- Stewart Barr
- Jean Hall
- Guy Parker
- John Monks
- Jane Evans
- Peter Nickol
- Keith Lewis
- Kimberley Bryan
- Simon Goddard
- Dominic Houston

### Apologies

- Bernard Frowd
- John Whitton

### Notes of last meeting

No comment

### Canal Management

ECC has had a change of mind. Was likely to be CRT, hence meetings with Sarah Ward & CRT in June. RCQ wanted management not control. Canal portfolio is now in Recreation and leisure, under Phil Bialyk. He wants to see the canal well. May have been partly a function of cost of using CRT.

Not clear how ECC will manage the canal. Don't see slipway as essential, development through canal basin masterplan; interested in sleeping on board. Masterplan (2003/4) will stand as it is (not updated). At the moment ECC focus is just the water.

Only consultation channel is the Canal User Group and the Port User Group.

JH – considers slipway is important – potential users have boats with trailers. Exeter Maritime Services might be a location? General point – slipway would be an asset. Would encourage additional users. Unlikely to collect much revenue for ECC.

Meeting with Phil Bialyk? Would like:

- More boats
- Enhanced facilities
- Heritage
- Paths both sides
- No privatisation of surrounding space
- Basin not turned into sterile marina
- No major disruption for businesses
- Business plan to be transparent and accessible
- Link ECQT properties to canal

Phil B coming to Canal User Group on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Agenda is canal management and riverside country parks. DWT will be there. Sarah Ward is writing a management of the water strategy document. Guy's report has been submitted and will ideally inform her work. Danger that SW strategy will be too high level. Guy's work + RCQ priorities + User Group's discussion can form a set of items for the strategy. ECC should be encouraged to engage with the Waterways Recovery Group. JE to draft?

PN – if water only then RCQ may have less to say.

Exeter Waterways Partnership Board has been dissolved.

ECC now understand that some canal income goes to other departments, which is a step forward. Phil Bialyk may be interested in charging canoes and rowing boats.

### Riverside Valley Parks

Parks to be managed by DWT. Masterplan shows areas to be transferred in red. Ludwell Park areas substantial but Riverside Park much less substantial, even though this is only part of the overall park.

Parks total area is 422 ha total, ECC land is 50ha (in fragments). Rest is in other landowners holding, with their agreement (e.g EA managed by ECC). ECC playing fields not included, nor is canal.

Transfer report mentions a flagship visitor centre. What, where, who? ECC says it will be through DWT not ECC. KL suggests it could be in the playing fields changing rooms (although that isn't part of the land transfer). Issue of changing rooms may be handled through revised playing pitch strategy. There is an ECC Exeter Sports Forum, part of the wider Cultural Forum. Alternative could be the Custom House (although not that imaginative compared to Grand Western. Is this about the Canal or the wildlife? What funds will DWT be dependent on?

### Valley Parks Masterplan

4 RCQ members met to look at masterplan. Had comments but difficult to coalesce into a proper response. PN tying comments together.

JE – there are major differences between the original January draft and the most recent May adopted version. JE has concerns about formal nature of planned landscape all the way to the Turf – although there may be other interpretations. GP advocates tree planting (covers CO2 mitigation). May need more car parking to cope with increased use, as well as better cycle routes and access to new Marsh Barton railway station.

Masterplan has route to Cowley Bridge enshrined as a plan but no clear delivery plan. JM – masterplan strategy document appendix fails the test of being suitable for SANGS funding.

RCQ to meet Simon Bates to clarify situation. RCQ sub-group to synthesise thoughts and concerns to influence the proposals.

### St James Weir

No progress (although deteriorating). John Whitton email – raising awareness. Agreed a good plan. PN and KL have drafted letter to the Earl of Devon.

### Water Lane Masterplan

Consultation paper circulated. Procedure will be developer led and consulted upon. Rachel Sutton at ECC is leading. Additional arch under railway may offer additional route through to Marsh Barton.

Issue of roadway levels.

## FESC

Peter, Stuart and Mary have kept it alive over the summer.

JM meeting Colin Acton and new FESC volunteer co-ordinator to discuss volunteer projects. Sarah Ward still enthusiastic about Canal Friends volunteering.

Two FESC events:

1. Heritage open day event September 11<sup>th</sup> with a jazz band. Managed to recruit a couple more people.
2. November 4<sup>th</sup> as part of the Tenterhooks event, part of Unexpected Festival.

## Planning Applications

60 Haven Road wedding dress shop. No real comment but highlighted issue of communication with main Civic Society response to planning applications

Bonhay Road car parking in garden opposite house. PN responded.

JM to investigate whether pub menu boards attached to building walls require planning consent (especially in a conservation area). Ditto gazebo.

## AOB

Flood prevention works. KL concerned with paving and columns used for bollards. PN can collate issues collected by others.

Bike Shed proposals progressing. Continued concern about use of grass for extension to the end of the building.