

MINUTES TIDAL CRANE ASSOCIATION AGM 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019

## HELD AT 89 HALIBURTON ROAD, 8pm

Present: Rosy Brooks, Carolyn Bloore, Anne Ottmann, Daniela Carden, Ben Driver, Mandy Dickinson, Carmel Nazemi, Dean Griffiths, Paul Needham, Geoffrey Drew, Roberto Coladangelo, Lin Cordoray, Martyn Day

Apologies: Ursula Lehnert, Vanessa Smith, Stephen Lloyd, Christian, Hilary Thomson

1. Introductions

Rosy Brooks welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions of those present.

2. Approval of Minutes of last year.

Rosy gave a brief summary of last year's minutes and the action points.

It was noted that there seemed to be less fish in the Crane this year. 2018 fish survey of Crane is on TCA website.

The minutes were approved.

- 3. River Celebration Day 2019 the day was successful and particularly the river dipping. Coffee was at Willow, Cottage. As usual Thames 21 came along to provide help and support, followed by river clearing but not that much rubbish removed. River dipping took place at Estelle's house and was a great success with many children and parents in the river. Afternoon tea was at 89 Haliburton Road and the bbq in the evening at Laurence Mann's house.
- 4. 2020 date

Only few dates suitable to coincide with tides. Will be discussed later in meeting

 FoNNR – Concerns over the plans were discussed. Lin Cordoray asked who is point of contact. Paul left 6 months ago. Lee Williams is person at Hounslow Council. Dean to send his email address.

Lin commented not completely accurate discussions at the FoNNR AGM. Pontoon not initially mentioned. Those points to be highlighted. Every stage has to be developed. 2016 started to become a tangible proposal and then more formal and structured with Hounslow. Up until then all

voluntary. Dean was appointed to take on formal contract. There were several presentations and consultations in church and in Hounslow borough 6 - 12 months.

Design proposal at beginning stayed same. Since then refinements and modifications following feedback from neighbours, environment agency and other bodies. Particularly the ecological points of the site. Concerns of residents, boundaries, site safety and privacy.

Mandy requested a meeting with Dean regarding points of concern she has highlighted. Consultation over a year. Flyers sent out, only 36 replies. It was a formal consultation by Hounslow but with such a poor response it was argued not valid. Did they send out a formal letter?

Mandy will host a meeting at her house to discuss the plans. Dean agreed to discuss and date to be set for joint meeting with TCA. Mandy/Lin/Rosy

Ben said Dean has been diplomatic over Hounslow consultation, as it was a mess. Paul Bassett prepared an interim report which was put on web but not communicated to anyone else and there were issues raised by residents. Do they have the document and looked at responses? Ben requests consultation keeps going.

Dean wants more collaboration and discussion between TCA and FoNNR. An ongoing discussion or meeting between both. They will both then become aware. Establish lines of communication.

Why did Paul Bassett never communicate? Dean said there were challenges and Paul was supportive. FoNNR had a vision and were pushing it energetically and Paul was on board.

The structure of the consultation was not clear. Should have been done again as not enough respondees. Friends group took up some points. Hounslow did not discuss much with public. FoNNR wanted to try and steer the project but were caught in middle.

Long term maintenance is still being developed. Dean has attended as rep and wants to get a stronger relationship and discussion in future.

5b. Lower Crane Restoration project/Allotments

Dean Griffiths is the architect. Mereway to allotments is the site. 5 or 6 key parts about 2 miles. Several key sites from allotments to Moormead. David Attenborough supported it. Past initial stage and then to obtain next stage to feasibility where it is now. Appointed a contractor/designer, Atkins to oversee.

Point of contact would be useful. Crane Valley Partnership is developing the project and in early stages.

Did not include Tidal Crane in project which was a problem environmentally. Percy Road area. Worse since Duke of Northumberland. Extra silting by Crane bank mews. Who do we talk to?

6. The bank was eroding on bend of Napier Road and deposits silt. Before the terracing the river was slowed down.

7. Local councils will remove fallen trees in river Ben commented. Used to be PLA/Greater London to speak to.

You have to remove trees from river as riparian owners.

Geoffrey drew read the email regarding the overgrown trees.

'As per your email, I'm just mentioning that we might want to discuss what, if anything, has happened regarding the overgrown banks adjacent to M&J Autos. As I said in the email I sent a few months ago, I did go and see Paul, as promised at the last AGM; but he said that the willows that were now so overgrown were in fact nothing to do with him but had been planted – on the river side of his fence – by the authority which had been doing the repairs on the bridge a couple of years ago. they had, apparently got rid of them all, and then replanted them (according to Paul) once the work was complete.

So in my email I had suggested that we should perhaps contact whichever authority it was which had carried out those works, and ask them to cut them back. However, I never got a reply to my email! Did you receive it?

Hoping to see you on November 6th'

The silt will settle down when used to its pace, Martyn commented.

You have to inform environment agency of any work on trees. Environment agency is very slow to respond. Councils claim do not own banks and will expect riparian owner to clear. Whose ever land has a responsibility. It was noted that garden waste is still being deposited by gardeners in the river.

To do another flyer as a reminder to residents of the impact on the river of garden waste. Rosy/Anne

8. Knotweed – Paul speaking with Michaela. Training can be arranged and offered to put us on. Was expensive. Maps below. Spraying to be carried out in November.

Japanese knotweed not the invasive plant we think it is, Martyn stated. However, general opinion knotweed is a problem, especially regarding insurance purposes.

It is on a Government website as an official problem. Currently present in the meander around island on allotments the banks there, a house on Ailsa Avenue where there is a big bank, prior to selling chopped down the knotweed and it was seen in river after chopped down. Problem as it flows down river. Needs attention to that area and owners alerted.

New hybrid knotweed could spread.

Should speak to EA as possibly their land.

Some land belongs to councils. Dean said Hounslow did a report on whole stretch of relevant river and complete and submitted to EA to demonstrate a coherent management plan. There was no plan prior. No one seemed to know who was managing the treatment. A new management plan is in progress. Need the TCA and FoNNR to get together and pull together data and knowledge. Acknowledged, it will not be eradicated but has to be managed.

Residents can't spray without permission. EA has approved licence to spray but not sure if happened. Normally September. Dean and Lin to spray if funding allows for training? Spraying hopefully to be done in November this year.

Need to see the map of where knotweed is – (attached appendix A).

Possibly get a grant – T21? For spraying.

9. Flotilla Day

The 2019 day selected was Great River Race so did not go ahead. We will try to do earlier in the year for 2020. Roberto to come up with some dates. Viewed as a big community day with any floating device welcomed. Date discussed later. Roberto

## 10. Outboard Servicing.

Lin thanked Roberto for organising the servicing day. The man will pick up and service at his venue. Could put his details on website. Need to run engines more. Does he service electric engines?

Contact Barry on:

barry@winsormarineservices.co.uk - 01276 683822 - 07729 003449

11. Boating matters – One theft but was noted. PLA report any found boats. Boat that grows plants on the River Crane should be removed. Anne to speak to the owner and see if will be tied up better or removed as causes an obstruction. Anne

Anne to speak with M&J about the overgrown willows opposite the garage or find out who is responsible for keeping them trimmed.

Canoe blocks river further up. Roberto to speak to the owner. Roberto

12. Website – volunteer needed.SWLEN do help but a specific person is ideally needed. Paul is<br/>interested.Paul<br/>PaulNeedhamPaul

## 13. Treasurer's Report.

Ursula is no longer able to be Treasurer and has resigned. There was very little money. Expenses from the river clearing day to all those have been paid. Anne to speak to Ursula to find out bank details and if there is any money in account. If you would like to be the Treasurer please contact Anne or Rosy.

14. Election of Officers.

Rosy said she was willing to carry on as Chair and this was agreed

Vice Chair – Roberto Coladangelo was agreed

Secretary – Anne Ottmann agreed

Treasurer - Carolyn to collect donations at river clearing.

15. Any Other Business

Dates of a meeting between TCA and FoNNR to be arranged.

Rosy/Lin/Mandy

River clearing day  $-20^{th}$  June 2020 was agreed.

Flotilla Day – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2020. Details to be put on the website and leaflet, informal day Roberto

The meeting finished at 9.30pm.

Appendix A





