

Notes from Hi Ya Meeting 3rd December 2025

The meeting was attended by 18 of our volunteers.

Boat Issues

- Power loss problems vary but are most evident after heavy use of the motor. Some of the cables have been getting hot in use, suggesting that the system is overheating. The cooling fan frequency and direction have been adjusted as an interim measure. Reversing to Bridge 17 and back puts less strain on the motor but should not be considered in windy conditions. Andy and Keith had a constructive meeting with Ortomarine. It appears that the Lynch motor (our specification) is known for having problems. Ortomarine suggested replacing the motor and control system with an Engiro brushless motor which has a much better track record. An ex-display model with 20% discount would cost around £4000+VAT and labour, and Ortomarine will supply the parts at cost. Our trustees have agreed to the replacement. The work will probably take place in March when the boat is out of the water for maintenance. There is also the possibility of replacing the propeller with a more efficient design and fitting framed solar panels in place of the existing walk-on type.
- A CRT key got stuck in Bridge 17. This will be returned to us in due course.
- The blue flap on the recharging plug has snapped off. An attempt will be made to glue it back on when the weather is warmer, but in the meantime the plug is still useable.

Container

The Planning Committee is due to meet next week. It is anticipated that approval of our application will be recommended.

Training

Views are invited on how best to perform refresher training for qualified crew.

Bookings

- Santa trips. 7 places are left on Saturday with 6 trips fully booked. On Sunday 2 trips are fully booked but not many bookings for the afternoon, so some trips might be combined. Crews to be at the yard at 9.00am and ready to leave at 9.15am.
- Carol trips. Belmont Care Home have sent us a glowing report of their trip and have booked another, for which crew are needed. Mince pies will be delivered to the yard. Reminder to plug in after every trip and switch on the electric heater before trips while charging.
- Next year we will participate in the Rik Mayall event lasting from 29th May to 6th June; we are awaiting booking of acts.
- Fish and chip trips could be extended with a 3 hour trip to the marina, with an additional charge and extra crew.

Environment

A partnership arrangement with CRT has been agreed. David Beauchamp has offered to join the team.

Social

A members' social evening has been arranged for Friday 6th February. Please let Andy know if you intend to go, for catering purposes.

AOB

- Equipment and materials for the Santa trips are in the container.
- CRT are to undertake a survey of the reed situation. The 2018 CRT plan for clearing sight lines and moorings takes no account of reed height and thickness. Check whether cutting is to plan.
- There is currently a survey about the new Health Corridor. Response should be made as some of the work was not addressed and people are put off using it because of safety concerns.
- New volunteers were welcomed.