

Cemaes Boat Club

Zoom Meeting 9th July 2020

Present:

Richard Downs
Marilyn Downs
Simon Drakley
Mike Whitlam
Janet Whitlam
Mike Thompson
Ian Barnwell
David Thornton
Ian Smith
Ann Smith
Piers Beeland
Steve Bray

Richard and Marilyn hosted the meeting and time was spent informing and updating everyone about the current situation with Cemaes Boat Club.

Richard mentioned the sad death of Gerallt's wife Nia from cancer. Marilyn had been in contact and also sent a card on behalf of the Club.

Simon informed everyone that grants had been received from Shell (£350) and Magnox (£550) and that there was £5,257.92 in the bank account. He has another £210 to pay in and the final amount will be £5,467.92

Boat storage has been paid up to date, but there may be further costs to consider.

Sian has noted 17 full members and 2 friends – but there are also some memberships that have been arranged by BACs and Simon will send her a list.

Sian mentioned that a 'renew' button would be very useful on the website and Marilyn will speak to Janet Cross about this possibility.

Mike T and Simon have been in regular contact with Norman. Mike T has also been to see the boat at Peibron Farm recently. Everything is very dusty, but it is anticipated that maintenance work may be able to recommence in August. Everyone agreed that the boat would not be put in the water this year, but all the stern repairs can be completed and the decks could then be stripped back to wood and varnished while the weather is good.

Future plans will now concentrate on 2021 and putting the boat back into the water in April/May next year.

CHA can be brought down on the old trailer on a low loader for safety for this launch.

Once in the water, this is an opportunity that a replacement trailer can be sourced ready for October 2021 when the boat comes out. This will require significant funding and Marilyn offered to explore a grant for this.

Steve Bray has confirmed that Cemaes Boat Club still wish to use The Firs for storage in the future and has responded to Ifer Gwyn accordingly.

Update about Cemaes Community Interest Company:

Capel Bethlehem is now owned by Cemaes CIC and plans are underway to develop all aspects of the project – including the CHA heritage interpretation centre.

It has been difficult over the past few years to secure the grants and funding required, particularly because of Brexit and the loss of EU money and more recently due to the Covid-19 effect on the general business community.

However, the Welsh Government has now indicated strong support for the project and has recommended that all phases of the project should be developed together.

Discussion took place about Boat Club members acting as volunteers in the visitor attraction (similar to the Holyhead Maritime Museum), and many showed interest in this activity. However, without knowing the dates/times it was difficult to commit for the long term project and the general consensus was that it may require a paid member of staff to be put into the business plan.

It was generally agreed that CHA could be effectively maintained for another 10 years, but that future activities on the water may be limited to rowing rather than placing too much stress on the framework by sailing.

Marilyn put forward an idea about re-modelling the embankment at the corner of the car park to enable CHA to be pulled along to the slipway at the far end of the beach.

Another suggestion from Simon was to look at the possibility of creating another slipway in the corner of the car park. This would enable a much more effective launching and would remove the need for a boat lift. Marilyn would start to investigate this possibility.

The meeting ended at 7.40pm with best wishes to all.