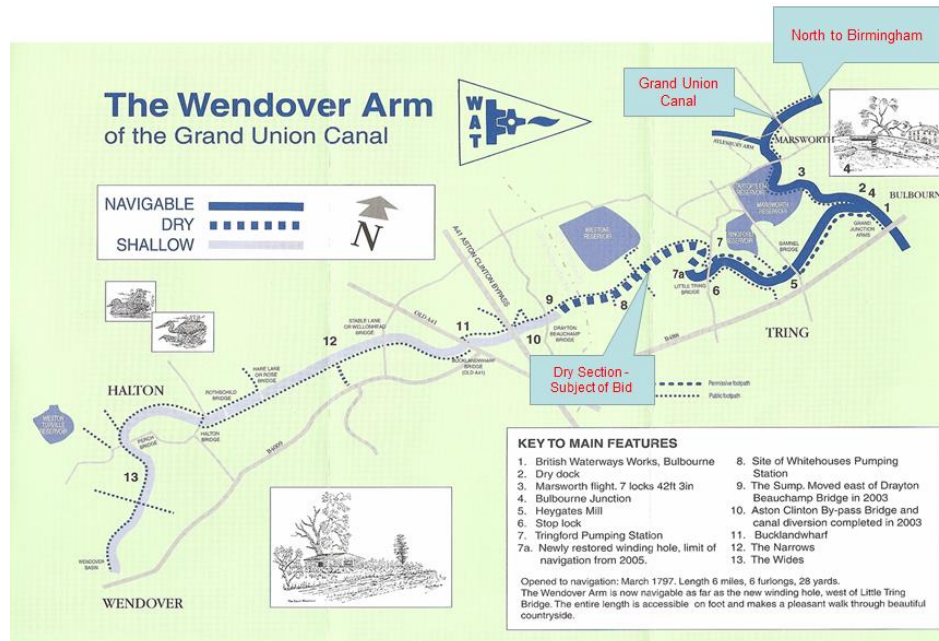




Joint CRT & WAT Lottery Funding Bid



Restoration of the dotted dry section on the map is the subject of this Lottery Funding Bid

Here is a note of the briefing meeting held on 3rd November, plus a summary of the bid.

The Canal & River Trust and Wendover Arm Trust are jointly applying for a Heritage Lottery Grant which, if successful, will fund a contractor to supplement our volunteers work, expedite completion of the present Phase 2 of restoration and more than doubling the present navigable length of the Arm to about 3 miles as well as improving access and encouraging a range of activities.

Re-watering the middle section of canal will connect the two lengths that are currently in water and create a 6.75 mile linear water habitat with the potential to engage more local people in this important built and natural heritage asset. Preliminary visitor counts suggest usage of over 200,000 visits a year. The project will enable the Wendover Arm to be in water for its whole length for the first time in over 100 years and safeguard the flow of water from Wendover to feed the Grand Union at Bulbourne near Tring. The final phase will be the subject of a further bid.

About 80 people from a wide range of organisations attended the meeting at Green Park, Aston Clinton to hear of progress to date and the proposed HLF Lottery bid.

The meeting was chaired by John Dodwell, Trustee Director of CRT, with presentations by Chris Sargeant, Chairman WAT and James Clifton, Enterprise Manager CRT, followed by a Question & Answer session.

The objectives are:

- Re-water a further 1¼ miles of canal
- Enhance 6¾ miles of towpath for walkers, cyclists and anglers ...

- Improve the linear waterway habitat in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Tell the canal's built & natural heritage stories
- Enable 3 miles of full navigation, from the Grand Union Canal at Bulbourne to the London Road (old A41)
- Encourage a wide range of leisure activities along the entire length

Stage 1 of the bid was submitted on November 16th with a decision expected in March 2016. If successful, we plan to submit Stage 2 by November 2016, with a decision in March 2017 and work commencing shortly after that. The result of the current bid will be publicised on the WAT website

The presentations, a summary of the Q & A session and a sample support letter are on the WAT website: <http://www.wendoverarmtrust.co.uk/hlf-bid.html>

Thank you to those who have written letters of support – you can still email or post them to me - and we will include them in the Stage 2 bid.

The pictures below illustrate a couple of achievements by the Wendover Arm Trust volunteers –re-building Little Tring Bridge and re-watering a section of canal.



Destruction in 1973



Today



West of Little Tring bridge
1996



West of Little Tring bridge
2007

Thank you for your interest and support!

Chris Sargeant – Chairman Wendover Arm Trust

26th November 2015 chairman@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

