

Questions and Answers at HLF Meeting 3rd November 2016

Q Peter Lockett Wendover U3A

You say we need 100 volunteers for the bid, is that in addition to the current number?

A James Clifton CRT

Any support that the U3A organisation could bring would be beneficial

Q Ken Aylmer Chiltern IWA

Of the 1.6 million quoted HLF bid – how much from HLF as opposed to whole amount

A JC CRT

WAT funds will cover 15% HLF 85%

Roger Leishman WAT

Phase 3 A41 – Wendover – Costed in 2012 as 2.6 m 2015 costs likely to be 3 m

The HLF bid covers work from bridge 4 by contractors, WAT volunteers to work up to bridge 4

Q Mike Wright WAT Restoration Worker

Does 1.2 m just cover contractors

A RL WAT

Yes – volunteer costs are extra

Q John Brice Chiltern IWA

In a past lottery application WAT was criticized for only apply for funds to cover a part of the Wendover canal restoration and not applying for the total length.

A JC CRT

HLF are quite happy to fund for part of the project

Q Colin Tufnell Buckland Parish Council

Granted land near A41 “PRIMROSE COPSE” only access via dangerous cart track, the Parish council has section 106 payment to use for community access via wooden bridge.

A JC CRT

Please give me further details after meeting as this community use would strengthen our bid.

Q David Jarvis IWA Restoration Committee

Will CRT take over maintenance of the towpath

A JC CRT

It always has

RL WAT

Although WAT take control of the canal bed at the point of restoration, CRT has always maintained the towpath

Q David Jarvis IWA Restoration Committee

Will the canal towards Wendover (phase 3) which is kept at a low water level leak when it is returned to its correct depth

A Richard Baker CRT

We do not know if it is watertight, original planning was to investigate and test this as the restoration neared completion. If contractors are used and phase 2 completed by 2017 CRT will have to bring forward feasibility study to align with new deadline

RL WAT

Water levels can be at various levels due to rainfall, it has been as high as 6-8 inches below original height. Fluorezene used to check for any leaks (coloured green water can be traced). Best method will be to put stop planks in and raise level gradually.

Q Dave Chapman Chiltern IWA

How much of the 3 m for phase 3 will be needed for bridge alterations

A RL WAT

At 2012 costing –

Buckland Wharf Bridge £300,000 Old A41 Bridge £600,000

Halton Bridge £900,000 may be lift, swing or normal canal bridge

CRT issue guidelines for air draft of bridges.

Dave Chapman Chiltern IWA

Looking at other restorations, these could be assessed individually.

RL WAT

Old A41 bridge would need a fender, to ensure boats travelled through the centre.

It was planned to have a narrows section leading from the Little Tring Winding hole to stop wide beams from entering further along the canal, as otherwise they would have to reverse back. A notice board would explain the situation.

Q Dave Chapman Chiltern IWA

Would a plan for bridges help the HLF bid as it would give a broader aspect?

A Chris Sargeant WAT

No, narrative at bottom of HLF bid explains the situation

Q Boyd Williams WAT Restoration worker

His wife is a volunteer at Wendover Library and she finds that many of the general public do not realise that Wendover has a canal. Can we educate the general public more, can CRT help?

A JC CRT

CRT Press office can help, Western Turville reservoir volunteers got £500 from the Wendover Parish Council even though it was not in their area. This was to improve access which flooded in winter.

Dave Chapman Chiltern IWA

The canals were built for £ profit originally, they should now be publicised as “community profit”

Q Philip Wareham WAT

HLF funds will cover from bridge 4, how will this differ from now

A RL WAT

Volunteers work 7 days per month contractors will work full time, they will also have increased efficiency due to not having to clear site the after every 7 days work. Contractors will have access along cart track at bridge 4 and will be working in 3 places along the dewatered section.

Q Peter Locket Wendover U3A

Newspapers always publish negative details, i.e. when canal floods.

A RL WAT

Water levels are taken at regular intervals, the aquatic plants hold the water back, so it floods near Wendover. WAT would like CRT to dredge a channel alongside the towpath so water could flow more freely. WAT members give talks to local groups.

Q Steve Smith WAT
Contracting philosophy, is it CRT or retendered?

A JC CRT
A CRT Term contractor who will work with WAT. These Term Contractors have been chosen from a table of competitive rates.

Q Bill Morton WAT
What will be the attraction at the winding hole?

A RL WAT
A41 winding hole is in a rural area, various mooring bays have been constructed for overnight stays along the restored section.

Q Mike Wright WAT
Does the HLF project include extending the winding hole?

A RL WAT
WAT restoration volunteers will be available to work on 2 projects, extending the winding hole and raising the towpath at the Green Park narrows.

Q Brian Harris WAT
A charity walk gives more publicity than the planned marathon.

Bob Berry WAT
Towpath near Green Park not good for runners.

A JC CRT
Joe Sammon CRT Sports Participation Manager is aiming at the couch potato to encourage more active lifestyle, not fast professional runners. Miriam CRT has run the route with a camera and checked to make sure there are no obstacles.

Jon Kelly WAT
Has run this route, it is OK

Q John Reynolds WAT
The main purpose of the restoration must be to get the water through to the reservoirs naturally.

A JC CRT

This is included in the HLF bid. Electricity will be saved when water flowing naturally. This will also give a saving of CO2 (a good green image).

RL

WAT

HLF interested in how maintenance will be financed in the future, this electricity cost saving can be used for this purpose.