



THE WENDOVER ARM TRUST WORKING PARTY NEWS

ISSUE 96

April 2013

Many thanks

You will recall that in the February Issue I said that, due to the excessive amount of water that has to be pumped out of the canal bed, three 100 metres lengths of delivery hose had to be purchased so that we can pump into the nearest manhole or a re-watered section. Previously we have pumped over the towpath down the bank but the ground is now so saturated the water runs into the adjoining farmer's field. We are very grateful to Bob Barry for sponsoring the three lengths of hose and couplings and to Carolyn Leonard for sponsoring additional couplings in memory of her late husband, Geoff, who was one of our volunteers until he had to give up due to ill health. The extra couplings enabled us to halve the 100 metres lengths that were difficult to handle and are now in 50 metre lengths on hose reels made by John Reynolds.

March Working Party



Roger Leishman

AFTER 3 LOST MONTHS RE-LINING IS ON THE MOVE AGAIN

During March it was encouraging to get re-lining on the move again. 20 metres of both banks were profiled ready for lining, both banks lined with Bentomat and the blocking and coir rolls laid.

Also, at the March working party, the memorial seat for Ray Powell in memory of his late wife, Ann, was installed and is ready for a dedication ceremony in May or soon after.



Roger Leishman

April Working Party

A further 20 metres of both banks were profiled and the spoil used to cover the top of the banks and Bentomat lining on the bed of the canal for the previous 20 metres. This included a concrete 'sleeping policeman' that is laid across the joints of the 20 metre lengths of Bentomat used along the bed of the canal. This not only protects the overlap joint of Bentomat against damage from future over-dredging but acts as a strut between the bases of the concrete blocks along the two canal banks.

The process of profiling ahead of lining and using the spoil to cover the previous length of lining is very economic as it avoids double handling of spoil and can be achieved using one tracked dumper instead of two.

Thanks to a dry week, apart from overnight rain before the last day, the towpath bank was lined, blocked and the coir rolls laid for another 20 metres.

Transport

We have been having a running problem over our transport. Thanks to the kindness of Sheila Lewis the Transit tipper lorry has been stored between working parties in her barn at Hastoe Hill. During working parties it is brought to Tringford and was stored overnight in the locked yard at Tringford Pumping Station. Unfortunately it was broken into and parts stolen on two occasions so we had to take it back to Hastoe every night it was needed on site rather than leave it in the yard. The question of claiming repairs and replacement parts on the insurance policy was explored but after taking the excess into account and the loss of a £600 no claim bonus built up over 8 years, it was decided not to make claims.

We then had the inspired thought that we could leave it locked in the oil store at Tringford and we cleared our equipment to one side to leave the required space. Ray Orth carefully backed the tipper in only to find that the oil store was not long enough! Red faces all round.

Our next thought was to get a Transit without a crew cab but it turned out that no Ford Transit lorry was short enough to go in the oil store so it was agreed that the next step was to part exchange the vehicle for another make short enough to go in the oil store.



THE NISSAN CABSTAR

Thanks to John Reynolds who, assisted by Tony Bardwell, sourced a replacement vehicle, a Nissan Cabstar and a deal was agreed and it now resides in the oil store at Tringford. We were very sorry to see the ex BW vehicle go but there was no other choice.

Whitehouses

On the 9th March the WRG Forestry Team spent the day felling the prunus tree at Whitehouses. A sad event but CRT were very concerned over the damage the tree roots were causing to the water control structures that allow water down into Wilstone Reservoir and it was also directly over the site of a new chamber CRT need to build as part of their new water control system.

Herts County Council former tip at Bridge 4A

The WRG Forestry Team was unable to deal with felling the three trees on this site in March but will be returning in April or May to complete the job.

When we consulted a timber merchant about selling the timber from the felled trees, we were told that a large dunny (builder's) sack of logs would sell for £100. In the event it has been found that this is too much so we are asking for a donation to Trust funds from any takers. We have already sold one bag of cherry wood to a wood turning enthusiast for a £60 donation.

Trust Membership

Katherine Deaney, our Membership Secretary, is busy with our charity partners Golden Giving developing a new online membership system. Once completed, the Trust will be able to recruit members online, as an alternative to paper forms and existing members will be able to pay online using a credit / debit card to renew their subs in addition to cheque or standing orders. For those who do not use the internet, payments can still be made by cheque or standing order and a new telephone renewal line will be operational to take credit / debit card payments over the phone.

Katherine would like to recruit a small group of Trust members to pilot the system and also give feedback before it goes live.

If you would like to help out, please get in touch with Katherine via membership@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk or call 01442 246523. All volunteers are welcome, it would be good to have members who use the internet and those who do not, as the system needs to be multipurpose!

Six-monthly financial and physical report

This seems to come around only too quickly and can be found on the next page. Six-monthly seems a bit of a misnomer as we have only carried out restoration works proper for 3 out of the 6 months! It is my hope to report on a completed Stage 2 in my next report.

General Notes

All volunteers receive and sign for the Trust's Restoration Handbook that includes full Health and Safety requirements for the restoration works.

The handbook is the property of the Trust; if you leave the working parties for any reason, please return your Handbook to either Ray Orth or myself.

Hard hats for use at all times and high visibility jackets to be worn on sites with mobile plant in use are kept in the store at Tringford and must be drawn/returned there.

The first aid kit is kept in the store, one in the Transit tipper and two are available for up to two working sites. Each qualified first-aider will have their own kit with him/her when on site.

Also available in the store at Tringford are ear defenders and goggles that must be worn when using trimmers, angle grinders, concrete breakers and the like. CRT will supply hard hats, gloves and footwear with reinforced toecaps on request. We normally work from 9am to 5pm (or dark if earlier!).

There are breaks for morning tea/coffee, packed lunch and afternoon tea/coffee. We take our own food and drink.

DATES FOR WORKING PARTIES

So you can plan your diary ahead, the following are the dates of future working parties in 2013:

DATE	WORKING AT	WORK TO BE DONE
2013		
Friday 3 rd May to Thursday 9 th May	Stage 2/3 lining	Bed and bank lining.
Saturday 4 th May and Sunday 5 th May	Whitehouses (KESCRG)	Whitehouses restoration and access footpath. Replace coping stones on wharf wall.
Friday 7 th June to Thursday 13 th June	Stage 2/3 lining	Bed and bank lining.
Friday 5 th July to Thursday 11 th July	Stage 2/3 lining	Bed and bank lining.
Saturday 6 th July to Saturday 13 th July	Whitehouses (KESCRG)	Whitehouses restoration and access footpath.
Saturday 3 rd August to Sunday 11 th August	Stage 2/3 lining	Bed and bank lining.
Saturday 3 rd August to Sunday 4 th August	Whitehouses (KESCRG)	Whitehouses restoration and access footpath.
Friday 6 th September to Thursday 12 th September	Stage 2/3 lining	Bed and bank lining.
Friday 4 th October to Thursday 10 th October	Stage 2/3 lining	Bed and bank lining.
Friday 1 st November to Thursday 7 th November	Stage 2/3 lining	Bed and bank lining.
Friday 6 th December to Thursday 12 th December	Stage 2/3 lining	Bed and bank lining.

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WENDOVER ARM CANAL RESTORATION PHASE II PROGRESS REPORT AS AT 11th APRIL 2013

CANAL LINING

Item	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6	Stage 7	Total
Total length	321m	350m	350m	350m	350m	337m	-	
Complete to date:								
Bulk Excavation	321m	350m	128m				-----	
Capping to pipe	321m	350m	110m				-----	
Tipping to offside bank	321m	350m	80m				-----	
Tipping to towpath bank	321m	350m	80m				-----	
Profiling offside bank	321m	270m					-----	
Profiling towpath bank	321m	270m					-----	
Lining towpath bank	321m	265m					-----	
Lining offside bank	321m	250m					-----	
Level and line bed	321m	245m					-----	
Planting banks	60m	-----					-----	
Mooring wall length	50m	50m	-----	50m	50m	-----	237m	
Excavation	50m	50m	-----	50m			-----	10m
Blinding	50m	50m	-----	50m			-----	
Wall base	50m	50m	-----	50m			-----	
Wall upright	50m	50m	-----	50m			-----	
Backfill	50m	50m	-----	40m			-----	
Estimated Cost	£128,272	£150,000	£175,000	£175,000	£166,250	£98,725	£53,725	£946,972
Cost to date/final	£128,272	£136,188	£21,281	£11,542	£571	£273	£633	£298,760

FOOTBRIDGES & VARIOUS OTHER WORKS

Item	Stage 8 Bridge 4	Stage 9 Bridge 4A	Stage 10 Whitehouses	Stage 11 Cart track Narrows	Stage 12 Removal of bunds	Stage 13 Winding Hole nose	Stage 14 Nuttalls Bund	Total
Footbridge	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Excavation	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Blinding	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Wall base	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Wall upright	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Backfill	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Heritage work	-----	-----	20%	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Other work	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	100%	
Estimated cost	£20,122	£20,031	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£10,000	3,501	£113,654
Cost to date/final	£20,122	£20,031	£5,180				3,501	£48,834

SUMMARY INCLUDING OVERHEAD COSTS

	Lining	F/bridges & other works	Clear bed, & Temp'y Works	Environ't Reports	Materials In stock	Admin	Tools & Equip't	Vehicle	Unallocated contingency	TOTAL
Estimated cost	£946,972	£113,654	£22,000	£3,245	£0	£25,000	£6,000	£15,000	£49,000	£1,180,871
Cost to date/final	£298,760	£48,834	£19,591	£3,245	£15,756	£21,304	£5,302	£13,690		£426,482

A red figure indicates a final cost/physical progress.

A green figure indicates a revised budget figure, either to match a finished cost or to give a re-appraisal in the light of experience to date.

