



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
(FOR ITEMS OUTSIDE OF WORKING GROUP MATTERS)

PLEASE NOTE THAT AGENDA ITEMS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING IN LINE WITH THE TIMESCALES SCHEDULE THAT HAS BEEN CIRCULATED

Please note the clerk will endeavour to include your request, however the clerk will decide its suitability in line with statutory guidelines and other agenda items may take precedence.

NAME:	<u>Nicola Cobb</u>	DATE:	<u>18 December 2024</u>
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AGENDA ITEMS - INSERT WORDING TO APPEAR ON THE AGENDA. REMEMBER TO MAKE IT CLEAR WHAT YOU ARE ASKING COUNCILLORS TO DECIDE. PLEASE ALSO NOTE IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A SPECIFIC RESOLUTION.

“To consider...” “To note...” “To review...” “To agree....”

- To consider further information following the agenda point in November as to whether NMPC wish to fund a community engagement canal trip with the Waterways Experience
- To determine which earmarked reserves budget heading funding to be debited from.
- To consider dates (subject to availability)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION - INSERT AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE SO THAT COUNCILLORS HAVE THE DETAIL THAT THEY NEED IN ORDER TO MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION.

Additional information for January meeting:

Waterways Experience is a registered charity. It runs three wide beam boats:

- One will take 35 people comfortably (or up to 40 if required although it will be a little cosy!)
- Two boats take up to 12 (no room for any additional numbers)
- All information on onboard facilities: <https://wexp.org.uk/residential-trips/about-the-boats/>

Direction of travel

Travelling in the direction of Watford may be more scenic and relaxing than towards Winkwell. A seven hour trip towards Watford would take you to the outskirts of Cassiobury (through the Grove Estate). In the opposite direction, you'd get to Winkwell. More information about the trips can be found here: <https://wexp.org.uk/boat-trips/day-trips/where-to/>

Timings

Timings are quite flexible as the boats can be run from 10am up to an hour before sunset (to allow for delays – they can't run in the dark). So a full day could run from 10-5, 12-7, etc. The latest finish time mid-summer would be 9pm. A half day could be 10-2, 11-3, 12-4, etc. Or they can do 5-9 in the evening.

It's also important to note that, during busy periods/seasons, there may be delays at locks due to increased traffic on the canal. Due to the size of the boats, they also cannot sit side by side in a lock with another boat.

Can we split a 7 hour (full day) into two trips if we have more than 35 people interested?

Typically, a full day trip is up to 7 hours and half a day is up to 4 hours. Timings are worked out around locations where the boats can be turned. So although it may be feasible to split a 7 hour trip, this would become two x 3 hour trips and may not get very far as turning locations are limited.

The cost of two half day trips also allows for the time required in between for a change of people, tidy up, etc. An option for splitting a 7 hour trip into two would be to transport people to a turning point (i.e. Cassiobury or Winkwell) so that a different group could join on the return journey, but this is not something offered by Waterways Experience.

Another option (depending on availability) may be to enquire about hiring a second boat for the same time if it looks like it's becoming popular.

Availability

The larger boat is very popular, particularly at weekends. At the time of writing this agenda request, availability for the large boat for 2025 is limited to the options below. I will request an updated list of dates near to the January meeting.

- February - 1st, 15th, 16th
- March - No weekend availability
- April - No weekend availability
- May - No weekend availability
- June - No weekend availability
- July - 5th, 19th, 26th
- August - 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 24th, 30th
- September - 20th, 21st, 27th
- October - 4th, 12th, 18th, 19th, 25th, 26th
- November – 2nd, 8th, 9th, 15th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd, 29th, 30th
- December - 13th, 14th, 20th, 21st, 27th, 28th

Prices

Prices for 2025 are the same as 2024 and can be found on the website: <https://wexp.org.uk/boat-trips/day-trips/what-does-it-cost/> (note: there is a "priority" rate for specific group bookings).

Children

Children must wear life jackets when on the back of the boat or outside the boat. All children must be accompanied by an adult, including if they are moving around the boat, getting on/off the boat, and outside the boat (e.g. at a lock).

Terms and conditions (including cancellation policy):

https://drive.google.com/file/d/18uV4juK0XQgtTe00ITuclVoFbKQx_huu/view

For reference only - Information provided for November meeting:

Information about the boat trips and the organisation can be found at: <https://wexp.org.uk>

A day trip, typically 10.00 – 17.00, will go as far as Winkwell to the North or Grove Mill going South.

A half-day trip (up to 4 hours) will get to Rose's Wharf (B & Q) in the North or Hunton Bridge in the South.

Boats have kitchens. Tea, coffee, squash, and condiments are provided. There are no catering services but Waterways Experience has an arrangement with Kings Langley Fish and Chip shop who can deliver (advised in advance – but ordered once on board). Additionally, Dallings and Kitchen at Inspired can provide buffet food from £8 per person.

Full details and other catering options: <https://wexp.org.uk/boat-trips/day-trips/food-and-drink/>

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS LIST NAMES OF ANY DOCUMENTS OR SUPPORTING INFORMATION TO BE ATTACHED. ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE REQUEST.

COSTS - INSERT DETAIL OF COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DECISION THAT YOU ARE ASKING THE COUNCIL TO MAKE (IF KNOWN).

For reference only - Information provided for November meeting:

Sheldrake 3 takes up to 35 passengers

2025 spring and autumn rates - half day (4 hours) £380 / full day (7 hours) £530

Sheldrake 2 and Close Shave each take 12 passengers

2025 spring and autumn rates - half day (4 hours) £175 / full day (7 hours) £250

Full cost details: <https://wexp.org.uk/boat-trips/day-trips/what-does-it-cost/> (note the page says 2024 but costs are the same for 2025)

Catering is available from around £8 per person (to be confirmed) using the options available via the website – for full details click individual links for menus: <https://wexp.org.uk/boat-trips/day-trips/food-and-drink/> (Fish and chip prices to be confirmed).