

# A VOICE ON THE RIVER

News for all living on the Cam

July 2005



## Council Mooring Proposals — Latest News

After the consultation, which reported in March, the city council have come up with a statement of their intentions for mooring. This is what it says about timescale:

1. *The Executive Councillor and Community Services Scrutiny Committee will consider the detailed implementation policy in November 2005.*
2. *It is anticipated that application details will be available in December 2005 and that applicants will be informed of the outcome in February 2006.*
3. *Eligible applicants will then be able to purchase a Moorings Licence in March 2006.*

And these are the proposals:

1. *The Mooring Licence Fee will be set at a fee equivalent to Council Tax Band A.*
2. *The implementation policy will give prime priority to existing boat dwellers in the areas covered by the Moorings Policy. This assessment criterion will be backdated to prioritise boat dwellers resident/who would have usually been resident on 24 March 2005.*
3. *70 Mooring Licences will be available for the areas covered by the policy via unreserved, unnumbered berths.*
4. *A waiting list for applicants who are unsuccessful in obtaining a Mooring Licence for 2006-7 will be held.*
5. *Applicants must have appropriate current river registration and commit to retain and renew where necessary the said registration throughout period of the Mooring Licence.*
6. *Concessions on the full price will be considered through utilisation of Leisurecard A criteria.*

7. *It is anticipated that the Mooring Licence Fee could be paid in instalments.*

The council and Cam Conservators think that there were fewer than 70 boats resident in March this year, so they believe that everyone who applies and meets the criteria should get a mooring.

### How we pay and what we get

Camboaters committee members have met council officers and done a lot of background work to try and influence the new policy. The latest meeting was on July 25th.

- They committed themselves to spend a proportion of the licence income (we don't know how much yet) on river projects. Top of the list are new water points and rubbish disposal. **We intend to make sure the issue of facilities is constantly at the top of the council's agenda.**
- They are looking at making the fee payable in 10 monthly installments, like council tax. Possibly the river licence could be paid this way too.
- There will be no discount for people living alone on boats. There will, however, be discounts for those on means tested benefits.
- Licences will be per person, not per boat. This means that you can't sell a licence along with your boat. It also means that those who have bought new boats since 24th March should be OK.

At the end of August Camboaters are due to talk to council officers about where specifically we want money spent. This is our chance to get things right, so if you have any thoughts, contact a committee member (see list overleaf). We will collate all ideas and pass them on.

### How will the council know who are genuine liveaboards?

They intend to get their information from the Cam Conservancy. Data protection laws apparently prevent them from publishing a list, but they have said that any boater who is worried they might not be officially recorded (as per point 2 above), should email Geoff Facer (CamCon Control Officer), on [gfacer@ntlworld.com](mailto:gfacer@ntlworld.com).

### Why no individual berths?

Most boaters who responded to the council's survey, back in February, said they preferred to move around rather than have designated mooring spaces. This suits the council from an administrative point of view.

Having said that, we pushed hard to try and get a mooring fee that was based on boat length. Time and again we were told that they just want to get a simple system up and running, then they'll be open to changes.

We'll keep you posted.

## IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT THE BOAT OPEN DAY, OVERLEAF



Hi, Mike here (NB Barkley). Luther, who started the newsletter, and worked tirelessly for a couple of years, has bequeathed it to me. I can't possibly bring the same style and energy to the task (who could?), but I'll do my best. Any questions, articles, news items, points to make, moans, photos etc, please visit, call (07734 107747) or email [mikeshoopshank@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mikeshoopshank@yahoo.co.uk).

# Boat Open Day — Sunday 7th August

Last year's first Boat Open Day was a huge success, aiming to make Cambridge residents aware of, and more sympathetic to, those who live on the river. This was a great help in getting the Midsummer Common ban deferred. Although there's no immediate threat this year, we're doing it again — the more people we can keep on our side, the better!

## Help Needed!

You should receive a poster with this newsletter. Please put it in your window. **Also we need stewards on the day.** If you can spare just an hour of your time, please come along on Sunday 7th August to help prepare for the event, or keep an eye on people as they visit the boats.

Although this event is good for Cambridge, we believe it benefits boaters too, and it's great fun, so please help!

## Camboaters Committee 2004-5

Contact one of these people if you want an issue dealt with, or to air an opinion.

**Robin Cocker** — NB Uisce  
**Toni Smith** — NB Lily Margaret  
**Richard Allen** — NB Wind in the Willows  
**Monica Guy** — NB Tomfoolery  
**Mike Smith** — NB Barkley  
**Mark Rogers** — NB Lily Margaret  
**Emma Cosham** — NB Shambles  
**Ali Taylor** — DB, Jesus Green  
**Lisa Bonetti** — WB Stanley Barham  
**Luther Phillips** — NB Corn Dolly  
**Adam Collison** — DB, Jesus Green  
Two posts are vacant.

# Camboaters AGM — 13th September

It's getting on for a year since Camboaters was set up, in a frantic and exciting mass gathering above the Boat House pub. This time last year Cambridge liveaboards had no single voice. By creating a community association, we made our voice heard — the county council, city council and Cam Conservators are all obliged to consult community associations before they do anything.

This first year has been rough at times, but we're getting there. This year's AGM will be held on Tuesday 13th September, venue to be decided.

At the AGM, Camboaters members can vote in a new committee. And any member can stand for election. We urge you to:

- Join Camboaters if you haven't already. Until October this is £5.
- If you're a member, come to the AGM, have your say, and vote.
- Nominate someone, or stand for the committee.

## How to nominate

There are thirteen spaces on the committee. Currently two are vacant. You can stand for any post. (All the

current occupants must resign and stand again if they want to.) We really want to get more representation from Stourbridge on the committee.

To nominate yourself or others, please use the form below, and return it to any member of the committee. This must be returned by 3rd September.

Members can also propose a motion. Again, let one of the committee know if you want to do this. A copy of the Camboaters constitution can be downloaded from [www.camboaters.co.uk](http://www.camboaters.co.uk), or see Richard Allen.

---

## Camboaters Committee Nominations

I want to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

I want to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

I want to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

Posts on the committee: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Media Liaison, RBOA Rep, Operations, CamCon Rep, Events, Morale. There are 4 additional posts, with no specified role. Please return this form to any member of the committee by 3rd September.