



FUND BRITAIN'S WATERWAYS

Questions for MLC session

**Wednesday November 2024 from 10:30 to 13:00 with an option to
continue until 13:30**

1. Introduction to the Middle Level Navigation

What is the history of the Middle Level navigation, what are the key features and structures and their condition, how is it managed, how many staff and how was the navigation funded before Middle Level Act 2018?

2. Financial accounts of the Middle Level Navigation

How have navigation matters been funded since the 2018 Act, what contribution is made by boat licensing fees, who provides the major part of the funding and is there any funding from the public purse or individual donations or elsewhere?

3. Middle Level Boat licensing fees and charges

How have MLC determined the level of navigation charges for boats based on the Middle Level, for those in transit and for those with Anglian passes and CRT/EA Gold licenses, what problems have arisen including enforcement and are any changes proposed?

4. Planned improvements to navigation

What improvements to navigation have been made since the introduction of charges, what work remains to be done to achieve the IWA recommendations for the provision of facilities on the link route between Stanground and Salter's Lode locks and when will this work be completed?



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5. Denver crossing.

What is being done now to sort out the siltation problems on the tidal crossing before next year's boating season and in future?

6. Monks Lode

Are MLC's navigation notes and website being updated to include the increased length of navigable water on Monks Lode and should this be publicised more widely?

7. Fens reservoir near Chatteris

Are MLC aware of any proposals from the sponsors of the scheme to use water transport during the construction phase and to fund improvements specifically for navigation and are their other possible funding sources for improving navigation as part of this project?

8. Best practice

Are there any areas where the MLC considers it is using best practice and other navigation authorities might be able to learn from it, and conversely any areas where MLC feels it could benefit from other navigation authorities' experience and sources of funding?

9. The impact of recent environmental legislation

How has the work of MLC itself been impacted by new Environmental legislation and how does it affect the work of volunteers carrying out improvements and maintenance of on the Middle Level or indeed on other navigations well away from any environmentally sensitive site?

10. The future

Finally, what does MLC believe to be the major challenges and opportunities for the Middle Level navigation in future years and what would enable MLC to increase the level of public benefit and economic growth in the area around the MLC?