



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Monday 11th February 2019

7.00 pm at The Esplanade Club, The Esplanade, Watchet.

Minutes

Ray Ventura chaired the meeting

Apologies: 3 people gave their apologies

Attendees: 19 people were in attendance

1. Minutes of the 2018 AGM approved and signed by Ray Ventura (Chair)

Ray read out the minutes of the 2018 AGM.

Proposed – Bruce Scott; Seconded – Martin Stevens

The minutes were approved.

2. Report of Officers for the year 2018/2019

a. Chairman (Ray Ventura)

The following summary of WBOA's past year was reported:

- i. **East Quay Progress:** The WBOA provided comments pertaining to the Onion Collective's planning submission for the East Quay, with issues raised including:
 - There was no mention of the additional car parking spaces that are needed.
 - In an emergency, such as a boat fire on the quay, is there safe access for extremely heavy emergency vehicles?
 - Has the structural integrity of the quay been researched (not just surveyed) such that there is no risk of heavy vehicles destroying the wall edge, with the potential serious consequences?
 - The toilet and shower facilities in the new scheme appear less than currently exist.In addition, Ray has written to both the Onion Collective & West Somerset Council regarding our concerns, with replies received clarifying that either the investigative work is incomplete OR the answers are disputed.
- ii. There has been continued liaison with key players (Marina, West Somerset Council & the Onion Collective) regarding the mud in the harbour and dredging and the East Quay.
- iii. Dredging appears to be reaching a significant stage, with the imminent arrival of the new dredger. The performance of this new device is crucial to the future of the Marina. As chair of the Mud Working group, WBOA will recall the team when there is feedback on the new dredger, or if the need for a full-depth dredge becomes clear.
- iv. Social events happened in 2018, with an extended programme planned in 2019. Cathy Yuill reports regularly to update on events that have happened, and to give information about future events.
- v. Yard Security will be improved as of 1st April 2019. A recording system will be implemented, giving improved member control in both our yard and workshop.
- vi. A Crew Hoist project was put on hold as funding opportunities were very difficult. This project is to be to be re-visited in 2019.
- vii. Rowing has taken a big upturn in 2018, with a continuation of plans and a rowing programme in 2019. Chris Webb has done a great job in reviving interest in rowing.

- viii. Plans for a membership drive this year: As the WBOA positions itself to do things better, and to offer members more, it would seem a good time to try to recruit new members from as many berth holders as possible. The Committee are taking this action on board.
- ix. Tim Taylors response to WBOA questions: This will be reported on during the general meeting following the AGM, however, noted below is part of a recent letter sent by Ray to Tim Taylor, regarding the need for increased contact with him during 2019.

“There are several reasons why I think this, and further meetings are important in addition to the general benefits of face to face communication with the Marina owner. I am more optimistic about the future of the Marina and the Quay than I have been in a long time.

1. The work and investment you and your team have put into the whole dredging saga should not be understated and clearly shows commitment to the Marina’s future. We appear to be getting toward a dredging solution; yes, it has a way to go and few outside our involvement will not believe it until it happens. But that’s life.
2. The East Quay appears to be nudging forward to a project that should look a whole lot better than what we have. From our perspective the project has always been “can the Marina operate in a safe and effective way”. Our last conversation suggests you are close to being comfortable with the plan; if you are happy, it should mean the Boat Owners are happy. WBOA is still asking questions re any surveys on the wall (letters to OC & WSC) with 100-ton cranes moving around etc. We have seen nothing on this but hopefully the OC and the Council have done their homework.
3. WBOA is now trying to up its game in many areas, thanks mainly to fresh input on our Committee. We have a new Social Secretary who is now preparing and implementing an events plan, and we hope Matt and his team are able to join us on occasions. We are making changes to our workshop and yard security and reviewing our H&S procedures, and our Rowing Section is very active again now. We have representation on the Harbour Board (we will get their minutes and action published eventually) on WHAC and Coastal Communities and we are re-establishing our links with the BCYA and other Sailing Organisations. We have had an excellent relationship with Iain up to now and hope to continue this with Matt in his new role.”

In summary, Ray reported that if it all comes together, then he feels his reason for optimism is justified.

b. Membership Secretary

At the start of this year, there was concern about membership, which dwindled to 40 members. Now however, we have 56 members in total by the end of the year, predominantly due to the active rowing section. Of these, 7 are honorary members, 5 have a family membership and there 44 individual members). Rowers now are full members, rather than just paying for the rowing events they attend (nb: people attending rowing events currently pay £2.50 per row and will therefore become full members over time).

3. Treasurer's Report for the Year 2018

a. Presentation of Accounts and Balance Sheet.

The WBOA accounts for the year were presented for adoption. As WBOA donated £1000 to Minehead RNLi in 2018, this impacted on the financial bottom line. Additionally, income was reduced as fewer copies of the tide tables were sold last year. Yet, sales have improved to date, this year. Otherwise the financial ‘bottom line’ looks healthy with the value of the Yard remaining at £75,000.

b. Adoption of Accounts

Martin Stevens reviewed the accounts and they were adopted by all, with no concerns or queries raised. He made the point that, in 2002 the WBOA adopted the principle that the fees are increased each year by RPI, which was 2.7% in December 2018. In view of this, fees will rise by a pound to £29.50 in 2019.

4. Election of temporary Chair to cover the business of agenda item 5

Sam Westmacott took the chair during item 5, Proposal Number 1.

5. Election of Officers to the Management Committee for the Year 2019/2020 (Proposal 1)

There being no other nominations, it is proposed that the following be elected to serve as officers on the Management Committee for the year 2019/2020:

Commodore	-	Bruce Scott
Chair	-	Ray Ventura
Vice Chair	-	Chris Danby
Secretary	-	Mike Yuill
Membership Sec	-	Martin Stevens
Treasurer	-	Martin Stevens
Minutes Sec	-	Mike Yuill
Yard	-	Brian Rich
Rowing	-	Chris Webb
Entertainments	-	Cathy Yuill
Safety	-	Richard Holt
Boating	-	Vacant

Proposal 1: Proposed – Roger Lancaster Seconded – Harvey Bruguier
Adopted unanimously.

The AGM meeting closed at 07:30 hrs

WBOA Clothing: this was an item on the ordinary meeting in February 2018. Mike Yuill reported that he had approached Cotton Street in Watchet (Janet Tapp), who will create a WBOA design for £30, and this can then be embroidered for £5 on each item of clothing that people would like to have embroidered. It was agreed that the WBOA fund the £30 for the development of the embroidered design, but that then individuals pay the £5 to have their own items of clothing embroidered. Martin Stevens has the WBOA full logo and will email this to Mike to liaise with Cotton Street. **Action: Martin and Mike**