

Portreath Harbour Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held at the Portreath Institute
on Friday 25th January 2013 at 7.30 pm

Present:

Colin Higgs	Georgie Higgs	Martin King	Neale Hall
Mike Warren	Ian Bramley	Ed Farnsworth	Steve Davies
Jan Veasey	Dave Veasey	Doug Coates	Mark Clancey
Simon Warren	Joyce Duffin	Keith Porter	Peter Clemo
Graham Walters	Junior Walters	Tony Parrott	Lee Barker
Nigel Beswetherick	Marc Griffin	Ron Wooten	Stuart Bray
Ed Farnsworth	Simon Stovell	Nick Hopley	Justin Skelton
Brian Paramor	Paul Wicks	Kevin Williams	Tim Salisbury

The Acting-Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance.

Apologies: Colin Reed, Pete Harding, Sally-Anne and Mike Bennett.

The Acting-Chairman read the minutes of last year's Annual General Meeting and these were signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

The matters arising from last year's minutes would be discussed as items on the Agenda.

Acting-Chairman's Report

Colin apologised for not being able to produce a written report as he had been ill during the past few days. However, he reminded the meeting that there had been a change of Chairman towards the end of the year and he had filled that position. After all the machinations of the last few months the Association was still going. As far as the lease is concerned, we are within striking distance of it being finalised. It's been a long haul and thanks must go to Mike Warren for his efforts on the Association's behalf over the past few years.

Secretary's Report

As you will know, I have taken back a few things from the Treasurer that really should have been the Secretary's responsibility anyway. Mike Bennett took them on when the previous Secretary became ill. So I am now overseeing the boat insurances and membership.

You will have to forgive me if you think I've become too bossy, but now that we are under the "control" of Cornwall Council and more particularly Andy Brigden, we must make an effort to be seen to be more professional and to look as if we know what we are doing! We really don't want to be labeled the poor relation in the County's Harbour stakes, it won't get us anywhere.

Treasurers' Report

First of all, huge thanks to Simon Stovell and his staff for getting the accounts ready for tonight. There have been some recommendations from Simon which have come out of this year's audit.

We have £2,000 or so left in the account and £9,052 in the high interest account.

We have had some really big bills this year. Kerrier DC were very slack when it came to the rent. Consequently we have had huge rent arrears to pay as well as this year's rent. We have queried it, but as yet have not received a reply from Cornwall Council. Another bill we received was for rates and this was also backdated. I'm pleased to say that we now have a 100% rate rebate. There has also been a one off charge for conveyancing regarding the lease.

One of the recommendations from the auditor was regarding cash payments from members. It was not always easy to record cash payments, whereas cheques are easier to trace. Also craning in payments will need to be recorded more accurately.

The Committee decided this year not to pay into South West Ports because we thought it wasn't benefitting the Association in any way.

Election of Officers

The Acting-Chairman read out the results of this year's votes.

Chairman – Nomination withdrawn

Treasurer – Colin Reed

Secretary - Jan Veasey 28 votes Simon Warren 4 votes

 Jan Veasey elected as Secretary

Vice Chair – Mike Warren 1st year

Four Committee members –

Dave Veasey 3rd year 36 votes

Mark Clancey 2nd year 29 votes

Doug Coates 3rd year 28 votes

Martin King 1st year 24 votes

Simon Warren 1st year 21 votes

After announcing the results, the Acting Chairman told members that there can only be 4 Committee Members. Therefore Simon Warren would not be voted in. At this point, Mark Clancey withdrew his name from the voting process. He explained that he had become disillusioned with what had happened over the last few months and did not wish to become a Committee Member. The Acting Chairman reluctantly accepted his decision and Simon Warren was voted onto the Committee.

At this point the new Vice-Chairman, Mike Warren took over the chair from Colin Higgs. Colin and Georgie Higgs left the meeting.

As the nomination for Chairman had been withdrawn after the nominations had closed, it meant that the Association had no Chairman. Mike Warren preferred not to be Acting Chairman for the whole year. Therefore he proposed that the Secretary should send out fresh nomination papers for the post of Chairman. It was requested that this be done by postal vote and not email. The closing date would be within two weeks of the nominations going out so as to elect a Chairman before the next Committee Meeting in March. This was seconded by Graham Disney.

Items raised on Voting Slips

1. Jemma Smith proposed that there be a reduced rate of membership fee for husband and wife, possibly £30. Suggested last year and not sure if discussed or outcome if it was.

This item had been discussed by the Committee after last year's AGM and it was decided that as a member's partner need not necessarily have to take out membership to enjoy the benefits of being a member of the Association, membership charges would stand. The meeting decided to let the Committee's decision stand for the coming year.

2. Doug Coates

i. Review policy on appointments – nominations and voting

Doug explained that he wasn't keen on self-nomination. He thought that although at first someone he had nominated in the past hadn't wanted to stand for office, after a bit of persuasion they agreed and went on to make very good officers of the Association.

After discussing the pro's and con's of both systems it was proposed to adopt them both.

Proposed Doug Coates

Seconded Peter Clemo

Unanimously carried by the meeting

ii. He went on to say that at the moment counting votes was in the hands of the Secretary and the Secretary could get it wrong. He was suggesting that a small committee of members took on this task.

Proposed Paul Wicks

Seconded Peter Clemo

For 17

Against 2

Absentions 1

This proposal was carried.

iii. Review parking permit policy

Doug thought that the system worked very well. However, Graham Walters requested that a

Guest Permit be given to boat owners which would be available for guests. This guest permit would then be given back to the boat owner at the end of the trip.

Some members were concerned that this would be abused. There were enough people parking illegally in the harbour now. A discussion followed.

It was proposed that members could apply to the Secretary at the beginning of the year for an additional guest ticket. This would be trailed for a year.

For 15

Against 5

Absentions 3

The proposal was carried.

3. Dave Veasey proposed to revoke the rule that restricts members of the management committee to serve for a maximum of 3 years.

After a discussion it was decided to keep the rule as it was felt by the majority of members that it gave the opportunity for fresh views to be heard on the committee.

For 4

Against 11

Abtensions 5

The proposal was rejected.

4. Colin Reed

- i. Association to complete a mooring chain report for coming year.
- ii Skip for rubbish down at bait shed end.
- iii Commercial fishermen to pay for all the electric in black shed as I believe that they are the only ones who use it (all other users to pay a token £5? for a day's use – for discussion. If feasible to implement in the 2014 season).
- iv. Commercial fishermen to pay rent for storage of gear in black shed – not a huge amount but a token amount – to be discussed and if feasible to implement in 2014 season.

It was decided that all of these items were matters to be discussed by the Management Committee and would therefore be put on the Agenda for the next Committee Meeting.

5. Ian Bramley

- i. Commercial boats to go in the front harbour, alongside the hardstanding.

It was felt that this item had already been put into practice, and where it was possible, commercial boats would be offered moorings on the hardstanding side of the harbour.

- ii. Why has a crane not been purchased with money donated by the council for that purpose?

This item had been raised at previous meetings. This money was not actually specified for a particular purpose, just that it should be used by the commercial fishermen. It was suggested that the present commercial fishermen should get together and decide what they wanted to do with the money and let the Committee know.

iii. Would it be possible to apply for a grant to build a new bait house with possibly an ice machine?

It was decided that a sub-committee be set up to look into appropriate grants for these and other items requested by the commercial fishermen. The sub-committee would be made up of Ian Bramley, Mark Clancey, Simon Warren and Dave Veasey.

6. Ed Farnsworth

The 18' rule for the back harbour.

This rule had been introduced to protect small boats from being damaged in the back harbour. A discussion followed when it was pointed out that

- a. bigger boats would mean less moorings and
- b. we wouldn't need the rule if the decision was left up to the committee.

Proposal: To rescind the rule restricting boats in the back harbour to 18'.

Proposed Doug Coates
Seconded Neale Hall

For 14

Against 6

This proposal was carried

7. Paul Wicks – Change the venue of the Christmas Dinner. It was decided to put this item on the agenda for the September General Meeting.

8. Mike Warren

i. At the discretion of the committee any long standing member may be awarded honorary membership of PHA, entitling them to free membership, parking within the rules of PHA and the ability to vote.

A short discussion followed.

Proposed Mike Warren
Seconded Dave Veasey

For 21

Against 0

Abstention 1 The proposal was carried.

ii. Proposal that Trustees of the Association be given the right to sit in on any Committee Meeting.

It was explained that the Trustees had been made responsible for every decision that the Committee or Members of the Association make. It was therefore thought that they should be given the option to sit in on any closed meeting.

Proposed Mike Warren
Seconded Dave Veasey

For 22
Against 0
This proposal was carried.

Any Other Business

Mooring Chains

Neale Hall remarked on the condition of some of the mooring chains. Some needed removing and renewing. Mike Warren told the meeting that in his opinion the rear chain proposed for the back of the harbour would happen this year. This would mean that at least the back 2 rows of boats would be attached to this chain.

Lease

The new lease with Cornwall Council had just about been finalized after a lot of work had been put into it.

The Vice-Chairman told the meeting that there would not be a General Meeting in February as the Committee will be discussing and allocating moorings at this time. The moorings list will be posted on the notice board, and on the website.

With no other business to discuss, the Vice-Chairman brought the Annual General Meeting to a close.

The next General Meeting will be on Friday 1st March at 7.30 pm.

Signed.....

Date

Martin King
Chairman