

THE CACHALOTS

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY 17th JANUARY 2013. 18:30HRS

Those present

P.Grant, (Chair), D.Stocks (Hon Secretary), B. Peck, D.Gates, T.Clark, I.Downer, P.Leece, A.Tinsley, I.Thompson, T.Winsborough., I.Stirling, L.Morris, S.Harwood, R.Kelso, G.Cartwright, G.Angas, M.Wallis. G.Draysey, J.Mileusnic, D.Dunn, H.Roberts. K. Dagnall, I Salter, P.Marriott, N. Basset, C. Coote, F. Pederson, M.Grant, L. Odd, I. Odd, J Whorwood,

1) Apologies

R.Olden, K.Owen, R.Pretty, , J.Smart, J. Bowden, R. Plumley, L. Hall, R. Pretty.

2) Gone Aloft

The meeting stood and observed a two minute silence in memory of the members Gone Aloft: Rob Wilton, John Smart, Gerry Dalton.

3) Minutes of the Meeting (19/01/12)

These were accepted as a true record of the last AGM

Proposed; R. Kelso, Seconded; I. Salter.

4) Matters Arising

There being no matters arising.

5) Report of the General Committee meeting of Thursday 18th November 2010 .

The report was accepted by those present, however an observation was raised by GC that the dates clashed with the next meeting being the 6th June which was the night of the SFS rehearsal.

6) Storekeeper's Report

Copies of the Club accounts for the year ending 31st October 2012 had been distributed prior to the meeting and additional copies were available to members.

B.Peck presented his report using these accounts and was hopeful that in 2013 the club would break even; a copy is attached for information and to complete these minutes. GC pointed out that the utility bills had increased two fold, BP responded that this was due to an oversight in invoicing last year.

The Accounts for 2011 / 2012 were accepted. Proposed R.Kelso, Seconded I. Salter.

RK reminded the meeting that the Storekeeper had earlier forecast a loss of £3K this year and wished to thank the Storekeeper in reducing the loss to that which had been forecast.

7) Boatsteerer's Report

The Boatsteerer gave a verbal report and proceeded by proposing a vote of thanks to both Richard and Liz for all their help throughout the year and wished this to be minuted.

Looking back on 2012 with it's inevitable ups and downs starting with a poor financial forecast and ending on a more positive financial footing as the new tenancy agreement began to take effect. The club had increased membership fees as a result of the earlier poor financial forecast and they are now £35.00 for retired members and £45.00 for full members, the term full member is to include Sea, Country and Port membership.

The bursary having been presented for three years had come to the end of it's initial agreement and under the stewardship of PM a revue was undertaken to see if the bursary money could be better spent whilst retaining the original objectives, PM will present his findings later needless to say a bursary award in 2012 was not presented. The SFS once more was spoilt by the weather and all proceedings had to be performed within the cathedral but in spite of this the service was very enjoyable. It is however important to mention the decline in numbers attending the count was some 147 people in the congregation and a note should be made to encourage more attendees this year. Editorial Note: A sincere vote of thanks should be noted to the ladies who provided refreshments as always they were well received.

The inclement weather continued throughout the year and a direct result of this was the cancellation of the children's ship visit, at which the Cachalots offer their help it is organised by the Southampton Ship Owners and in particular Whittaker Tankers. We will offer our support to this event in 2013 with the hope that the weather is much better and the event can be scheduled as usual.

The Boatsteerer updated the meeting on the next event being the Sea Pie Supper, ticket sales were in line with last year which was encouraging. Captain Ian McNaught Deputy Master Trinity House will be the Principal Guest and we look forward to another enjoyable supper.

The Lord Lieutenant Dame Mary and Christopher Fagan have sent apologies as has Lord West both of whom have previous engagements, the Dean of Winchester and his Lady have accepted our invitation and therefore the top table numbers are similar to previous years.

The Boatsteerer made his intentions known that he would like to retire from the position during 2013 although new recruits for the position and as Harpooners were not forthcoming. The lack of volunteers and the fact that the club room may not always be available has lead to an investigation into how best to run the Club for the future, GA is looking at this with a view to reducing the committee structure etc. more on this subject later, until such times as the structure changes the club officers will be as stated below in item 10.

RK asked about the future of the sea staff captain's position DS replied that this had remained in abeyance until such times as the review had completed.

GA proposed a vote of thanks to DS for the two years service and reminded the meeting that the Storekeeper wished to resign his position and thanked him for nearly seven years in office, this was well received by all present.

8) Membership Matters

D.Gates presented his report. The changes in the membership during 2011 being as follows:

Total members at 31st. January 2013 351

Gone Aloft 3

Resigned or deleted 12 and 3 (15)

New Members and members re joined 11 with 2 pending
The membership was still in decline.
The Chair thanked D. Gates for his report and approved his report.

9) Reports from Chairmen of Sub-Committees

1. Terry Clarke presented the entertainments committee report as functions officer 2012, 13 items were organised including a trip to Bletchley Park the aim was to make a small profit from activities and this year this was set at 15%, none of the functions made a loss and collectively they raised £10,381.00 at a cost of £9,251.00 showing a surplus of £1130.00 and that is 12.2% a similar program has been drawn up for this year. RK thanked TC for his successful year in office.
2. Peter Marriott reflected that there was not a great deal to add to the reports made at the E&F and General Committees but reported that the Bursary had been put on hold as it was felt that it wasn't reaching the objective that it had been designed to meet it was therefore put on hold until a better format could be found, views were sought from the members by means of the Cachalot magazine but nothing had come forward. Three items had been discussed in the committee meetings namely: a) Fund Southampton Sea Cadets b) Look to the Super yacht seafarers and c) seek views from the Ship Owners Association. This is still work in progress.

10) Introduction to the Club Officers for 2013

Copies of the "Club Officers for 2013" were available for members
The Chairman reported that the Past Captains had elected J. Noble as Club Captain and I. Odd as Staff Captain for 2013 and D. Stocks as Boatsteerer
The Chair welcomed and introduced J. Noble and I. Odd to the AGM and hoped that they would enjoy their respective appointments. The appointment of officers for 2013 is as follows:-

CAPTAIN	<i>J. Noble</i>
POST CAPTAIN	P. Grant
STAFF CAPTAIN	I. Odd
SEA STAFF CAPTAIN	I. Odd
BOATSTEERER	D. Stocks
STOREKEEPER	B. Peck
FUNCTIONS OFFICER	to be appointed
MEMBERSHIP OFFICER	D. Gates

It was noted that the rules state that one third of Harpooners retire prior to the meeting and one third be elected but at this time no volunteers had emerged.

11) The Cachalots committees and the future

GA presented the findings saying that two things had prompted the review the first being the lease which could require our vacating the premises within one month and the second the shortage or lack of volunteers to help.

The review will look at the various functions and the work to be undertaken the priority for this club being to run a social club with the added responsibility of organising two external major events namely the SPS and the SFS. The review placed a few proposals for debate and this is ongoing.

12) Any Other Business

PG informed those present that a cheque would be presented to Mr and Mrs Thornton in the Club room on Friday the 25th of January at which a buffet will be available the cheque valued at £255 was the proceeds from the Christmas Lunch and Dinner.

BP advised that traditionally a collection at the buffet helped to pay for the buffet but on this occasion it would go towards the charity.

RK responded to GA's review with a warning that 28 days was a short time period to move the items from this room and a plan was needed to be formed in case this is needed.

DS reminded everyone that the SMMC as a club would survive into the future even if the present facility has to be vacated, saying that the members were the Club and not the administration HQ and that is why the review is presently in place to ensure that the Cachalots survived into the future.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 1925 hrs

13) Date of the Next Meeting

Thursday 16th January 2014 in the Clubroom at 18:30 hrs.