

“THE CACHALOTS”

THE SOUTHAMPTON MASTER MARINERS’ CLUB

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 11th JANUARY 2017 at 18:30HRS

Those present (18)

L R Morris (Chairman), I P Odd (Storekeeper), F N Pedersen, I R Salter, I E G Downer, D F Gates, T E Clark, C R Kelso, J N Mileusnic, L A Odd, G F Cartwright, A Cartwright, J N Noble, P A Leece, C A Robinson, R Pretty, B V Chipperfield, B E Peck (acting minutes recorder).

1) Gone Aloft since the last AGM

The meeting stood and observed a one minute silence in memory of the following members:

Sam Household, Roger Harding, Peter Drake.

2) Apologies

R C Plumley (Staff Captain), K Dagnall (Boatsteerer), J C Smart, P Grant, M A Grant, I B Thomson, B M O’Conner, A R Tinsley, L W Hall, N P Bassett, K J Owen.

3) Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th January 2016

These were accepted as a true record of the last AGM. Proposed C R Kelso, Seconded R Pretty.

4) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5) Management Committee Changes – Election of two Harpooners

The retiring Harpooner John Noble wished to be re-elected for another term. Rule 3(b) states “At least six Committee Members (whose title shall be “Harpooners”) who shall be elected at an AGM.” The Management Committee wished to elect Nigel Bassett to their Committee if there are no objections, making a total of seven Harpooner Committee members. There were no objections raised, and both John Noble and Nigel Bassett were duly elected.

6) Boatsteerer’s Report (written report presented in the absence of the Boatsteerer)

Since the last AGM which was my first as Boatsteerer great changes have occurred with our move from Queens Terrace to the Royal British Legion Club. The move was a bit traumatic at times but thanks to many of you rallying around and investigating alternative venues we luckily returned to the present Club Room. The downsize of the Club Room meant that many of our Memorabilia and Artefacts had, thanks to a valiant group, been wrapped and boxed before going into storage for the short term as it has been decided that the likelihood of us having a venue where all can be displayed is extremely unlikely. The Management Committee has therefore decided to make a comprehensive list of our items and offer them for sale to our members followed by auction house or a nautical dealer.

We have loaned the Quadrant, Octant and patent Log and stand to Honourable Company of Master Mariners, London who have agreed to include them in their insurance and to our loan conditions.

David Stocks has moved from the area and has decided to step down as a Trustee and has been replaced by Terry Clark. The Trustees of the Club are now Cachalots C R Kelso, B E Peck, J C Smart and T E Clark.

The Sea Pie Supper last February at St. Mary's Stadium went off well apart from a few mistakes and the lengthy response by our Principal Guest to the toast to 'Our Guests'.

The 2017 Principal Guest, The Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, who will be made a Stowaway, has been forewarned to keep it short as well as has our Club Captain.

The Shipping Festival Service last June was once again blessed with good weather and again my thanks must go to that valiant band of ladies and Cachalots for making it a success.

Praise must again be given to our Editor of 'The Cachalot Newsletter' who quietly works away in producing our Newsletter and Menus etc for our various functions, as well as updating the website.

I wish to thank Richard and all the other Club Officers Past & Present and not forgetting Liz for their help in what has been a quite difficult year.

However next year on 15th February we celebrate the 90th Anniversary of our Club which may cause a seismic tremor around dockland.

7) Storekeeper's Report (I P Odd)

The Storekeeper presented his report using the annual accounts for the year ended 31st October 2016 and reported that for the end of this year we had £35,704.40 assets. He then explained the various items of income and expenditure.

The Sea Pie Supper account showed a surplus of £7,043.00.

The Shipping Festival Service account was not received from the Cathedral until November and would therefore appear in next year's accounts.

250 Club Lottery – A total surplus of £910.00 was achieved, an improvement over 2015.

The Storekeeper was thanked for his hard work in preparing his report.

The Storekeeper's report was approved, proposed B V Chipperfield, seconded J N Noble.

8) Membership Matters (Douglas Gates)

The changes in the membership during 2016 being as follows:-

Members 310, Gone Aloft 3, Resigned or Deleted 16, New Members and members re-joined 8.

The Chair thanked Douglas Gates for his report.

9) Reports from Functions and Bursary Officers.

Functions Officer Peter Grant was not present, but several Entertainments Committee members updated the AGM on important items. The functions for the year showed a surplus of £1034. The most serious problem is that our normal caterer John Davis is retiring at the end of May and at present there is no obvious successor to do the Club Suppers, Trafalgar Night etc functions in the RBL Club Room.

'The Captain Peter Marriott Bursary Award' (John Mileusnic)

The Captain Peter Marriot bursary in its present form has been operating for the last three years, exclusively aimed at the two Sea Cadet units which assist the Master Mariners' Club at various functions. The bursary is only applicable to off-shore training on board the brig TS Royalist and the motor vessels TS Jack Petchey and John Jerwood.

The 2016 bursary was utilised by both the Southampton and Winchester units.

In July Able Cadet Callum Leverett from the Winchester unit undertook a voyage from Inverness to Oban via the Caledonian Canal achieving an RYA qualification on-route. He had been originally booked on the maiden voyage which had to be cancelled due to handover problems from the shipyard. He hopes to follow a career at sea.

During the October half term Southampton Sea Cadets made a unit booking of the TS Jack Petchey for the offshore training of 12 Southampton cadets. The cadets undertook a variety of fund raising events to cover

the costs. The MM were approached and with the full agreement of the management committee a payment of £500 was made for the equal benefit of the whole group. While this was a departure from the principles of a bursary, it was accepted that a unit booking of one of the offshore vessels is rare and quite difficult to achieve. To award a bursary to just two or three of the twelve would have been unfair. The management committee have given the go ahead for the 2017 bursary. Invitation letters will be sent out following this meeting.

The Chair and members thanked John Mileusnic for his report. It was also agreed that the continued award of the bursary must be kept under review in the light of anticipated declining Club finances.

10) Introduction to the Club Officers for 2017

The Chairman reported that the Past Captains had elected Robin Plumley as Club Captain and Flemming Pedersen as Staff Captain for 2017.

The appointment of officers for 2017 is as follows:

CAPTAIN R C Plumley MBE

STAFF CAPTAIN F N Pedersen

POST CAPTAIN L R Morris

BOATSTEERER (*Hon. Secretary*) K Dagnall MBE

STOREKEEPER (*Hon. Treasurer*) I P Odd

HARPOONERS B V Chipperfield, T E Clark, C C Coote, D F Gates, P Grant, J N Noble, N P Bassett.
(It may be noted that 5 Harpooners are due to retire at the 2018 AGM)

At the recent meeting of Past Captains it was decided that Captain Reg Kelso be invited to be the Honorary President during our 90th Anniversary Year for that year only. The position will not in any way interfere with the Club Captain's normal office and duties or running of the Club.

The Chairman thanked the Officers both past and present, the Club Members, and behind the scenes Richard and Liz for their help and support which was very much appreciated during his term of office

11) Any Other Business

At the end of 2016 Cachalot Clive Robinson had presented to the Club a paper entitled "The Future of the Cachalots – A Provocative Discussion". This had been posted on the notice board and had been discussed at both the Management Committee and the Past Captains' meetings. Clive was thanked for his thoughts and if the time came to alter the objectives of the Club then it would be given serious consideration.

12) Date of the Next Meeting

Wednesday 10th January 2018 in the RBL Club Room at 18-30 hrs.