






Bromley & District Branch (BSAC #26)

64th Annual General Meeting Minutes

President: Dave Newman

-  **Location: The Bridge Leisure Centre**
-  **Date: Monday 24 February 2020**
-  **Time: 7:30 pm for 7:45 pm start**

Total Members Present: 11
Total Non-Members Present: 1
Committee Members Present: 4

I. Welcome from the Committee

- a) Welcome is extended to all members and non-members present at the AGM. **Neil Clegg brings the meeting to order at 19:47.**

II. Secretary: Approval of Minutes from AGM 2019 (see attachment)

- a) 1 amendment: spelling of "Rountree" (correction from "Roundtree").
- b) Proposer: Neil Clegg. **Motion approved unanimously.**

III. Secretary & Membership Secretary's Report (Neil Clegg)

- a) Motion to approve new fees postponed until after accounts discussion
- b) Discussion re Instagram, Twitter, etc. Moderation requests and photo consent etc. Sandra reiterates welfare angle. There is a consensus that we should branch out on social media channels to attract new members to the club.
- c) Neil has said the dual role has worked out well as Secretary & Membership Secretary are quite similar roles. He is happy to continue in this dual-role.

IV. Treasurer's Report (Mike Burke)

- a) Dinner dance did not happen, leaving us with a hole in our funds.
- b) We are not in a great place financially, with upcoming expenses. We are close to zeroing out the current account.

- c) We should reclaim 50/50 from Littlehampton (perhaps to the garages) so the marina fee is one thing we can cut. We have not had much use out of the boat since it has been stationed there. Sue Rountree reiterates that we won't really every fill that boat due to the membership, and tides, etc. Sue voices her preference to sell 50/50.
- d) Mike wishes to incentivise annual membership which slightly cheaper rates than the monthly membership.
- e) Nekton have contacted us about Crystal Palace hire. Mike is in favour of relinquishing our rental of the Crystal Palace.
- f) Neil has suggested removing Direct Debit from WebCollect payment fees. Members will then need to pay via bank transfer. Neil will action this during March, in time for renewal. Members paying via direct debit will have to make a standing order from their bank account.
- g) Sue enquired about rent for the garages, and there is concern about missing rental fees for the garages. Only the Rountree's boat rent income is present on the accounts. **Mike to follow up on missing rentals with the other renters (Simon Wheeler & Chris Adams). Paul will contact Simon Wheeler and confirm what arrears, if any, need to be paid.**
- h) Summary with NatWest saga. Mike has explained that £2000 was loaned to the club from his personal funds to make sure financial commitments could be met, including pool hire.
- Neil submitted the mandate to change signatories on 26 November 2019. A 7-10 day turnaround. Neil and Mike both launched complaints at the end of December 2019. NatWest were very poor in their handling of this. A case with the Ombudsman was also raised. NatWest have compensated us £250, but we are still waiting on a response from the Ombudsman.
- i) Mike has suggested shopping around for boat insurance to reduce costs. He welcomes advice from members. We use Westfield for the boats, and Aston Lark for the garages. Dave Newman feels we may be over-insuring the garages, given the condition of the building. Insurance costs have more than doubled in the 2019 calendar year. Mike suggests the 2018 line-items may be inaccurate. The accounts were correct as 2018 and 2019 costs both appeared in the 2019 accounts.
- j) Dave Newman gives approval to release £3,000 from the deposit account to keep the club afloat. Sue Rountree agrees. **Neil & Mike to action movement of money.**
- k) Bob Digby's comments on the accounts:
- i) Points out that fixed assets are using the wrong figures
 - ii) **Garages were valued – the figure needs to be adjusted into the accounts for 2019.**
- l) Sandra has not signed off the accounts, but this should be forthcoming in the coming weeks. Deadline for next committee meeting, then send out accounts to membership for approval.

- m) Nekton hire will be suspended for the Cystal Palace pool due to lack of use.
- n) Discussion about future of 50/50
 - i) Sue & Mike Rountree wish to sell. The marina fees are very high and we do not use the boat. Tony snow in support. Mothballing for a year not useful to the club as it will devalue. To be discussed further in next item. Dave Newman strongly in favour of selling given our financial state. **We need to assess the notice period for the marina fees. Mike to action.**
- o) Membership – Bob & David has suggested membership fees based on forecast. Some middle ground can be met.

V. Diving Officer's Report (Paul Nickells)

- a) We did not get out much last year. We were invited onto 4 hard boat Brighton dives, all were blown out. We did have 5 divers booked on each.
- b) Getting 50/50 out was at laughable at best. Paul cannot offer any excuse. There was little response from the club to safely get the boat out. We need 1 or 2 on the boat at all time. Given Paul's position last year, no progress has been made. Paul is now in favour of selling 50/50. Paul feels if we sell 50/50, we have nothing to go out in, as it was bought to replace BD1. Paul is certain we need to move from Littlehampton, use the upcoming river run as PR material. Mike Rountree says that there are issues about the river run event, and it may not go ahead due to PLA issues.

Dungeness was an alternative suggestion for the home of the boat. Paul does not want to sell 50/50, but he feels the numbers in the accounts lean towards a sale. Mike raises issue of boat handlers and the small pool of handlers available. Sue discusses other options over using 50/50 negating the need for it.

- c) **Motion to sell 50/50 was made. This was classed as a diving only vote. 7 votes in favour and the motion is carried. Neil to send out a notice to all members. The committee shall handle the sale.**
- d) We are doing a lot of training, and we have had some fantastic additions to the club on the instructing front. This is going well. We cannot continue as we are to remain afloat. Paul feels we have not our presence felt in the local boroughs. Paul envisages getting the "club out there", and getting our presence felt.

VI. Training & Equipment Officer's Report (Roy Harding)

- a) Paul to report on behalf of Roy. Tony has jumped into the training role over the past year. The club thanks him for his help and the calibre of the students he trains.
- b) Paul is happy to see new equipment (e.g. the pool party) being tried in the pool

- c) There are several junior members, we are probably taking a hit with that as they do public exams. We are reaching out for new membership now, and we need to concentrate on the adults.
- d) Scoutfest at Downe is upcoming this summer. We are assured that it will be better this time. Paul is managing our presence at this event.
- e) Paul wishes to tap into local shows and events to promote the club, and work closely with other clubs to promote diving.

VII. Other Items for general discussion

- a) Boats have been discussed – see previous items.
- b) Membership: It is agreed, to up all adult rates, and keep junior rates. **Motion to get allow committee to manage this without further approval is carried. The membership will be kept informed. Mike & Neil to manage and action.**
- c) No further comments on increasing diving activity of the club.

VIII. Election of Officers for the Committee (effective from 1 March 2020)

Candidates Standing – MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

<u>Position</u>	<u>2019-20 Post Holder</u>	<u>2020-21 Candidate(s)</u>	<u>Result of Vote</u>
Chairperson	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>None standing</i>	<i>No candidate</i>
Diving Officer	Paul Nickells	Paul Nickells	APPROVED
Treasurer	Michael Burke	Michael Burke	APPROVED
Secretary	Neil Clegg	Neil Clegg	APPROVED
Membership Secretary	Neil Clegg	Neil Clegg	APPROVED
Dry Meetings Officer	Denise Betts	Denise Betts	APPROVED
Equipment Officer	Roy Harding	Roy Harding	APPROVED
Dive Planning Officer	Jeff Sharks	Jeff Sharks	APPROVED
Boats Officer	Pete Dalton	Pete Dalton	APPROVED
Committee Member (without portfolio)	Pete Dalton	Pete Dalton	APPROVED
<u>Proposed Appointees (not subject to membership approval)</u>			
Training Officer		TBC	
Welfare Officer		Sandra Chick	

Auditors of the accounts:

Denise proposes Tony Cundle to add to the auditors. Bob has agreed to do a final audit if the books are in a good order and Sandra is happy.

Auditors: Sandra Chick, Tony Cundle, Bob Digby (only for 2019 sign off)

IX. AOB

- a) No Items.

Close of meeting: 21:58