

MINUTES OF AGM HELD AT LEEDS 18 NOVEMBER 2000.

There were twenty members present and Mr Ian White, the North ~~West~~ ^{East} Regional Director.

The Chairman told the meeting who the council members present were then introduced Mr White, who gave an explanatory speech about the building, its uses and the work covered in his region. He welcomed NABO to the NorthWest Region.

Apologies had been received from – Peter Lea, Peter Foster, Stephen Peters, Andrew Sherrey, John Stevens, Nigel Parkinson, Mike and Ros Smallwood, Mike and Susan Abon, D Harris, David Beyzont, Penny Barber and Roy Appleton.

1 Minutes of previous meeting.

The minutes of the ninth AGM in 1999 were agreed to be accurate.
Proposed Roger Davis, Seconded Sally Piper.

2 Chairman's Report.

3 To receive the financial statement for the year ending March 1999.

The accounts to March 2000 had been circulated. As Andrew was absent Geoff Rogerson went through the details to everyone's satisfaction.
The accounts were accepted as correct and thanks given to Geoff for standing in.
Proposed Derek Hackett, seconded Sadie Dean.
There was a formal vote of thanks to Ann Tilman, the auditor.

4 To determine the annual subscription fees.

It was agreed that subscription should remain unaltered.
Proposed Chris Boxall, seconded Stuart Sampson.

5 To elect council members.

Outgoing council members were thanked from the floor for their work during the past year and council expressed special thanks to those not standing for re-election.
There was a formal vote of thanks to the chairman.

Standing for election were – Sue Burchett, Roger Davis, Sadie Dean, Peter Foster, Graham Freeman, Derek Hackett, James Mason, Stephen Peters, Trevor Rogers, Geoffrey Rogerson, Stuart Sampson and Andrew Sherrey.

They were duly elected, proposed Geoff Piper, seconded Terry Lomas.

6 To appoint the auditor.

Ann Tilman was proposed by Roger Davis and seconded by Trevor Rogers.

This concluded the formal business of the meeting.

There was a break during which the new council held a brief meeting.

Officers of the new council were introduced as –

- Chairman Sue Burchett
- Vice Chairman James Mason
- General Secretary Graham Freeman
- Treasurer Andrew Sherrey
- Membership Secretary Roger Davis

The new council had agreed to coopt Helen Gardiner to join them.

There followed a session of open discussion with some questions directed at Mr White who spoke for BW.

Topics included-

- the structure of council
- feedback from members and reps.
- different application of BW rules in different regions
- the legality of some authorities' rulings
- members giving up boating because of expense and bureaucracy
- shortage of mooring space, especially in London
- concern over the 6 mile moving rule
- the BSS complications
- licence application refusals
- towpath cycling
- council expenses and food

I was agreed that the choice of venue this year had not been a good one, simply because it wasn't central.

It was suggested that the AGM be held in the summer at a venue suitable for members to attend by boat, and not have to worry about closures.

Mr White was thanked for his generous and excellent hospitality.

NABO CONSTITUTION

1. The Association shall be known as the National Association of Boat Owners.
2. The objects of the Association shall be as follows:
 - a) to provide effective representation for owners of vessels on Britain's inland waterways on any subject or matter which is relevant to the owners of such vessels.
 - b) to organise events, demonstrations, rallies or other activities which in the opinion of the Council will further the object in clause a) above, but not to organise or actively engage in any event which would in the opinion of the Council bring the Association into disrepute.
3. In furtherance of the above objects, the Association shall have the following powers:
 - a) to assist financially or otherwise any appropriate bodies whether official or otherwise;
 - b) to promote by visits, meetings, publications, exhibitions or lectures, any of the above objects;
 - c) to secure publicity for the promotion of the objects of the Association
- 4.(1) Persons supporting the objects of the Association set out in Clause 2 and owning a vessel capable of use on Britain's inland waterways shall be eligible for full membership subject to clauses 4(3-) to 4(3)d).
- 4.(2) Persons supporting the objects of the Association set out in Clause 2 and not owning a vessel capable of use on the Britain's inland waterways shall be eligible for associated membership subject to clauses 4(3-) to 4(3)d).
- 4(3) Organisations supporting the objects of the Association set out in Clause 2 shall be eligible for affiliated membership subject to clauses 4(3-) to 4(3-).
 - a) The persons are not representatives of businesses or organisations whose aims in the opinion of the Council may be incompatible with the objects of the Association.
 - b) Being admitted by the Council as members. The Council shall have the power to refuse any membership application and need give no reason unless a formal request for one is made.
 - c) Agreeing to be bound by this Constitution

- d) Paying the subscription fee.
 - e) The organisations Or the persons representing them not having aims which in the opinion of the Council may be incompatible with the objects of the Association.
5. The Council shall have power to elect to membership any other person they consider suitable for membership, subject to 4(3)c), or to co-opt to membership of the Council such additional members as are considered necessary. Such co-opted members shall be eligible to vote.
6. The Association shall:
- a) provide membership application forms.
 - b) provide a copy of this constitution on request to any new member or anyone seeking membership.
 - c) levy and collect membership subscriptions as they fall due.
7. Membership of the Association shall lapse two months after failure of a member to renew his or her subscription.
7. The management of the Association shall be carried out by a Council herein after referred to as "the Council".
- a) The Council shall consist of not less than four and not more than sixteen Association full members.
 - b) The Council shall elect the Association's Officers who shall comprise a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. An Officer's title, e.g. "Chairman", describes the job, not the sex of the holder.
 - c) Members of the Council shall be elected at the AGM and shall retire every year, but may offer themselves for re-election. Council shall make arrangements for postal voting in these elections by members who are not able to attend the AGM.
 - d) Those seeking election or re-election to the Council shall be nominated by a proposer and seconder who shall be fully paid up full members. The person nominated shall endorse their willingness to stand for election. Nomination forms must be received by the Secretary not less than forty two days before the AGM.
 - e) In the event of a contested election a ballot of those present shall be held and two tellers to collect and count the votes.

f) Any member seeking election to the Council who is, or has been in the last 12 months prior to appointment to the Council, a member of any management committee, or board of directors or has held any position of influence during that time in any organisation which represents any user group connected with the inland waterways or any organisation which obtains income from the inland waterways or from activities connected with the inland waterways, shall declare their interest at the time of being nominated for the Council. In the event that no such declaration of interest has been made and such an interest is subsequently found to exist. then that person will be debarred from continuing to serve on the Council.

8. The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year to:

- a) Receive the Chairman's report.
- b) Receive audited financial statements for the previous financial year ending on 31st March.
- c) Determine the annual subscription rates.
- d) Elect the Council members
- e) appoint an auditor. The auditor shall be a member of a professional body recognised by the Companies Act 1955 as Auditors, but need not be currently registered as an Auditor. The auditor must not be an Officer of the Association or a member of the Council.
- f) Consider any proposed alterations to the Constitution
- g) Deal with business brought forward by the Council or members' resolutions. Such resolutions duly proposed and seconded must be received by the Secretary not less than forty two days beforehand, and shall be circulated to all member,, before the meeting.

9a. Full members joining the Association less than 42 days before the AGM shall not be entitled to vote at that AGM.

10. A notice convening the AGM shall be sent to all members, together with an agenda not less than twenty one days before the date of the meeting.

11. A Special General Meeting may be called by sending to the Council a resolution or resolutions signed by at least twenty five full members to be held within eight weeks of receiving such a resolution or resolutions

- a) Notice convening this meeting shall be circulated to all members not less

than fourteen days before the date of the meeting.

b) The meeting shall consider the resolution or resolutions referred to above but shall conduct no other business.

12. Only fully paid up full members over the age of eighteen years may vote at any General Meeting.

13. The Chairman shall call a meeting of the Council as required but not less than once every three months.

a) A special meeting of the Council may be called on the written application of at least three of the Council members.

b) Any member of the Council absenting himself or herself for three consecutive meetings without reason acceptable to the Council shall be deemed to have resigned from the Council.

c) The quorum at a meeting of the Council shall be one third of the number of the Council members holding office at that time, but shall never be less than three, and shall include one of the Association's Officers.

d) Vacancies on the Council may be filled by the Council and any Association member thus co-opted holds office until the next A G M.

e) The Council may make rules of procedure not at variance with this Constitution.

f) The Council is authorised to prepare a news sheet and other matter for members' benefit.

g) The Council may exclude from membership any member if there is evidence that the actions of the member are in opposition to the objects of the Association, or are likely to bring the Association into disrepute, providing that a resolution is passed by a two thirds majority of the Council. Prior to exclusion the member shall be informed of the intention to exclude, and shall be given the opportunity to state his or her case at the next meeting of the Council.

h) Minutes of all the Council meetings shall be taken and shall be endorsed as a true representation at the following meeting of the Council. All minutes shall be available for inspection by any member of the Council and by any member of the Association except for minutes involving personal matters relating to individual members which shall remain confidential.

i) Notice shall be given to every member of the Council, and should be at least 14 days in advance of all meetings of the Council. In special circumstances shorter notice may be necessary but shall never be less than 48 hours. Where less than 14 days notice has been given, the reasons for the short notice shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

14. Alterations to this Constitution can only be made at the AGM or at a Special General Meeting, notice of which must specify any proposed changes. Any alteration to the constitution must have a two thirds majority of those present voting in favour of the resolution, provided that no alteration is made to this clause, clause 2 or clause 18.

15. The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the Association. Accounts shall be paid on the signature of any two of the Officers of the Association.

16. The Association shall not accept donations or any other forms of benefit where such donations or benefits are given subject to conditions which would restrict the activities of the Association or where the donor may obtain influence over the Association in consequence of giving the donations or benefits.

17. The Association may have a President who shall be invited by the Council to hold office for the following year.

18. if on the winding up or dissolution of the Association there remains after the settling of all liabilities any property whatsoever, this shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association, but shall be given to such a registered Charity or charities established for similar charitable purposes as the Association shall decide.

Amended AGM November 1998