

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOAT OWNERS

**MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING held at The Waggon & Horses, Oldbury on SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER 2002**

**Present:** James Mason (JM)                      Graham Freeman (GF)  
              Stephen Peters (SP)                    Gordon Reece (GR)  
              Caie Graham (CG)                     Adrian Stott (AS)  
              Sue Burchett (SB)                    Stuart Sampson (SS)  
              Trevor Rogers (TR)                 Carole Sampson (CS)  
Peter Lea was present as a visiting member.

**ACTION**

**Apologies for Absence:** received from Paul Herbert, Mark Northing, Geoff Rogerson, Peter Foster, Peter White, and Michelle Harris.

It was agreed by all present that Stephen Peters should take the chair for the first part of the meeting.

**Election of Officers - 1) Chairman.**

A vote was taken, and with a majority of 7 votes to 2, Peter Lea was invited to remain for the first part of the meeting.

Discussion took place about the validity of the election at the AGM. It was agreed that whatever had happened in the past, such an election always had to be ratified at the next Council meeting, which was today. SP asked for those interested in standing for chairman to identify themselves - there were two candidates, James Mason and Sue Burchett (proposed SP, seconded TR).

Allegations, which had been brought to the attention of some Council members and were felt could bring NABO into disrepute, together with the merits of both candidates, were discussed.

The ballot, counted by PL and SP, announced by SP was: Sue 6, James 4.  
Sue Burchett was therefore elected as chairman of NABO for 2002 - 2003

James M, Graham F and Caie G, left at this point, announcing their resignation from Council.

Sue B. asked SP to continue to chair the meeting.

**- 2) Vice Chairman.**

Proposed CS, seconded SP, Trevor Rogers was nominated. He declared the following interest:

a) chairman, Upper Thames user group, b) Director of a company in the process of purchasing land from BW, c) a member of the Kennet & Avon Canal Trust.

The vote: 6 in favour, 1 abstention (~~Trevor~~)

**- 3) Secretary.**

Proposed TR, seconded SB, that Carole Sampson continue in the role. All were in favour.

**CO-OPTION** - Proposed SB, seconded TR, that Peter Lea be co-opted onto Council. He declared the following interest: a) His firm audits accounts for TBA, Wendover Arm

Trust, and maybe also for the Foxton Inclined Plane Trust, b) Hon Auditor for the (Historic) Narrowboat Owners Club. All were in favour. **Action**

**- 4) Treasurer.**

A member (David Harle) has offered his services as treasurer, but was unable to attend either the AGM or this Council meeting. CS read out his e-mailed cv. After discussion, it was decided that:

- it would not be good practice to co-opt him without having met him
- it is better that a treasurer be a council member

In the meantime, proposed TR, seconded GR, Stephen Peters will wear the hat and liaise with Andrew Sherrey for the signing of cheques and Jon Darlington to take on the work for six months, whilst easing David Harle into the job. Andrew S. had informed the secretary that it has been normal practice over the past few years for him to send Ann Tilman (Hon Auditor) a case of wine just before Christmas, as a thank you for her services. SB will organise this. **SP**

Definition of the Audit. This could not be concluded today. PL will attend to this once he has seen previous minutes. To be deferred to the next Council meeting. **SB**

Signatories to bank accounts. The secretary was aware that GF had done some work on this, but the actual state of affairs was not known. It was agreed that the new signatories would be SB, TR, CS and SP. Stephen Peters to see to this. **SP**

**- 5) President.**

SB to contact Penny Barber. Proposed PL, seconded SP, CS to write afterwards to ask Bill O'Brien to continue for a second year. (See AGM later.) **SB**  
**CS**

In view of the time taken over the above deliberations, it was obvious that the agenda could not be covered in this session. The important matters were identified to be dealt with.

**The Way Forward.**

SB to 'phone absent Council members to inform them of the day's events. **SB**

SS to draft press releases, to be circulated around Council for urgent approval. **SS**

SS to draft releases for the website and NABO News. **SS**

SB to contact BW informally. **SB**

CS to write letters to the outgoing and incoming BW chairmen for SB to sign. **CS/SB**

It was agreed to attend next year's National Rally, SB or CS to fill in the form. **SB**

SB to contact Aileen to invite her onto Council, possibly as London Regional Secretary. **SB**

Nigel Parkinson was suggested as a NABO representative at technical meetings.

TR to contact James M. to arrange collection of NABO property. PL to accompany him, **TR/PL**

**Earls Court Show.**

CS read out what she had learned so far. 2nd-12th January 2003, 10a.m.-7p.m. (9p.m. on Thursday 9th), stand numbered 57C. Setting up after 28th December. An examination of the paperwork left behind by GF revealed the cost of this as being far in excess of what was understood from the last meeting. In view of the extra costs involved - travelling expenses, manning etc., it was decided to try to opt out of the event. In the case of all monies being forfeit, then we would mount a static display, which could be manned from time to time. CS to pursue this matter. **CS**

### **Penton Hook Rally.**

CS read out what she had learned so far, concluding that the outstanding £500 payment for the NABO share is due on Tuesday. It was agreed to go ahead with this. CS to contact Mike Shefras (chief executive "Boats on Show Ltd"), to state that the share should be held in the name of Sue Burchett, Trevor Rogers and Stephen Peters, then obtain signatures from them agreeing that they hold it on NABO's behalf, and to pass on AS' phone number as our contact for the rally. AS then to arrange a meeting with him, Ian Hartley (Penton Hook Marina) and SB to discuss our involvement. CS to contact the Environment Agency at the Reading Office to discuss the possibility of concessions.

Action

CS

AS  
SB  
CS

### **Minutes.**

21 / 09 / 02. Proposed SP, seconded SB, with those present who were there in favour, the minutes were accepted as a true record.

12 / 10 / 02. Amendments - 1) the meeting was held at less than 14 days notice, due to it being an extraordinary meeting called to discuss BW's licence proposals.

2) AOB item 7 - Earls Court Boat Show cost. This was thought to be incorrect, correct figures not known.

Proposed GR, seconded SB, with the above amendments the minutes were agreed.

CS asked that all members present should contact her as soon as they have read future minutes to approve them, or say if there are any errors. This to speed up the item at the next meeting.

ALL

### **Newsletter Advertising.**

SS distributed details of advertising rates for 2001 and 2002, and proposals for 2003. These were agreed, SS to contact Roger Davis with these details.

SS

### **Issues which need to be addressed.**

TR identified the following:

- Watergrid Issue,
- Project Clearwater,
- Overstaying on Visitor Moorings,
- Licence Proposals,
- Mooring Conditions,
- Boats without Moorings,
- BSS,
- Costs.

CS asked that they be prioritised for inclusion into future agendas.

### **Moorings Issue.**

SS had received an e-mail from a member concerning the hike in costs for the Battlebridge moorers. It seems that most of them have agreed to pay, so NABO would be wasting a lot of time in taking up this issue. SS to circulate the e-mail to Council.

SS

### **A. O. B.**

#### **Dates of future Meetings.**

2003 AGM - Saturday 15th November. CS proposed that it should be held again at the Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge, and a different venue found for 2004. It was agreed that she will arrange and book the event.

CS

Council meetings -

- 25 January,
- 8 March,
- 26 April,
- 7 June,
- 19 July,
- 6 September,
- 4 October, and
- 29 November.

The meeting closed at 3.30p.m..

Signed: 

Date: 25 - 1 - 03

Proposed P. Coa .

Seconded. A. STOTT