

**MINUTES of a COUNCIL MEETING of the
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of BOAT OWNERS**

Held at the Waggon and Horses, Oldbury on Saturday 3rd September 2011

Present: David Fletcher (Chair), Simon Robbins , John Slee

Stephen Peters ,Geoffrey Rogerson ,Sue Burchett, Howard Anguish

Andy Colyer

1. APOLOGIES

Council member Richard Carpenter (who left before the meeting began).

2. Minutes of 2nd July 2011

a) Minutes were approved

b) Matters arising have been dealt with or are on today's agenda.

3. Nabo future and Council Planning for next year

Nominations are needed for next Nabo News. **Action All**

Howard gave notice that he wasn't standing for council. His sensible views will be missed and council thanked him for his work on Nabo's behalf.

Howard agreed to go to the next WUSIG meeting. **Action Howard**

Sue also said that she wouldn't be standing this time.

David is willing to stand for chairman for another year to work with the NWC transition but would be happy to stand down if others wish.

The AGM is to be named the Members Meeting with the emphasis on the 'road show' part of the meeting with the agm taking up as little time as possible in the morning.

There is a need to stress the need for new council members but also stressing that the work doesn't have to be onerous.

A list of tasks to be published in Nabo News with a list of skills that are required.

Suggestions made were Mins sec; publicity; technical; authorship; press; rallies; membership; legal; IT; charity; regional reps and user groups.

There were suggestions made on the format of the meeting with flip charts and post it notes.

4. Licensing, Moorings and Charging

Our response to the moorings consultation has been accepted. Thanks to Johns hard work.

John is to clarify if this now has to go to further consultation **Action John**

BW asked John to produce a simple version. He has refused but suggested that the existing version was OK with the footnotes removed.

Mark Beasley advised that there are dangers in 'codes of conduct' because the Court may use them as custom and practice.

Discussion took place on living on boats with children and work. Consensus was that people should order their lives to abide by the guidelines.

K&A update

Andy reported on a lack of progress. Damien who is leading the project is long term sick. The next meeting is 11th September @ Chippenham which isn't at all convenient. The subject will be enforcement. It was stressed that overstaying boats are not all live-aboards.

The impact of the new marina @ Foxhangers was mentioned.

Lea & Stort update

The moorings are to be run by the stakeholders. There are some problems with overstaying but they are not all live-aboards as London Boaters obtained statistics. The announcement this week shelved previous plans. No improvement to facilities unless roving mooring permits are brought in is blackmail. BW are likely to have little control over moorings during the Olympics as Security will have control.

Roving Mooring permits are seen as a way of buying there way out of a problem and completely 'Ultra Vires'. Papers from Ivan Hare and Stuart Sampson supporting this were shown.

In 20 years of trying Simon has got planning permission for 8 residential moorings.

There was a huge response to the L&S consultation.

Simon to find email on Stuarts response to RMP and circulate. **Action Simon**

Houseboat terms.

There are minor rules that are unenforceable and 2 main rules. BW are not liable for anything going wrong with the mooring – unfair terms. Assignability clause. HB can be assigned by law 95 Act and 71 Act are not consistent. Simon has grandfather rights so is unaffected. Simon has achieved a success and it now needs to go to wider consultation. ball now in Sally's court.

5. Other Consultations, IWAAC and Euro fuel

It is Nabo's wish that IWACC continues. **Action Howard**

Euro Fuel Belgium is making waves about our use of red diesel and the 'split'
Action David

6. Reports from meetings, Our solicitors, NNUF EA, Interim Trustees NWC

Our last solicitors bill expected shortly. It was considered a gross misuse of public funds for BW to use QCs in the Davies case.

David came away from a meeting with the trustees feeling upbeat. They will not accept a funding package that doesn't stack up. Thought that the trustees should be left to get on with it as they will have the responsibility. Geoffrey asked about a constitution. Nigel Johnson is doing a lot of the work rather than DEFRA. Simon suggested that boaters should be represented in proportion to payment and has a wish list. PM's comment – if 50 people write to me I have to do something about it.

7. Finance

Stephen reported that the bank balances to date are :- Santander £3900;
Barclays current a/c £5182 and deposit £17,726 giving a total of £26,808

Paypal balance is £33.41 for on line membership. Both John and Stephen have access to this account and Melanie is happy. Melanie is to be asked to transfer money from Paypal to Barclay's account. **Action Stephen**

Andy queried remuneration for loss of earnings which was discussed but not agreed.

8. Charity covered above

9. Web Matters

John is to carry on getting membership on line by Christmas. Peter to put interesting bits from NN on web site. **Action Peter**

Our views on the latest news need to go on web site.

10. NABO News articles and deadlines.

Peter Fellows – editorial & asking for volunteers Andy Colyer - Steering group – Broken record a personal rant. David - Chairman's piece, Solid fuel stoves and water in diesel tanks. Simon & David – Update on Houseboat consultation Simon's success. Howard – Strategy NWC one regions take. John liaise with Geoffrey – Moorings Strategy. John – Stoppages. Geoffrey – article on housing on canals. Louis Jankel – Volunteering on the Thames. Sue Pseudonym

Deadline Saturday 10th September

There is a wish to go to colour printing but quotes on a like for like basis are needed. A colour version to go on the internet. NN is a good marketing tool.

Richard has options for three adverts thought to be Towergate insurance; Coverite Cratch Covers & Midland chandlers at £1000 per page per year.

All were in favour of colour copy and adverts.

It was suggested that we may save money on postal distribution and RBOA are to be asked about their method. **Action David**


11. AGM details

Staffordshire Boat Club has been booked and boat club members are to be invited. (**Action Richard**) It was suggested that a Trustee should talk to us. One format suggested was Brainstorm – Agm – Lunch - Trustee.

12. AOB

Everyone happy that everything had been dealt with.

Meeting ended at 3-45pm


Approved
15/10/11