

**Minutes of a Council Meeting of the  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOAT OWNERS  
Held by tele conference at 11.15am  
on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

The meeting was held by teleconference because of the lockdown for the Corona virus.

**Present:** Helen Hutt, Mike Rodd, Ken Hylins, Mark Tizard, David Fletcher. Peter Fellows Phil Goulding, Anne Husar, John Devonald and Peter Braybrook, Peter Brayley

**Apologies** none

**1. Election of officers**

The meeting discussed the apportionment of officers for the coming year.

Chair Mike Rodd: proposed by Mark, seconded by Ken, all agreed.

Vice chairman: Mark Tizard proposed by Mike Rodd and seconded by Phil

General Secretary: It was agreed that Mark would continue as Secretary on the same basis as the last year with shared roles.

Treasurer: Helen Hutt

Editor: Peter Fellows

Web and membership David

Ken Hylins: Welfare officer

Phil Goulding: Continuous Cruising, winter stoppages and River Severn

Minutes sec: David will continue for the time being.

External relations. Anne Husar Is happy do some writing, editing, proofing. Will be titled as Publicity Officer.

Other officers:

John Devonald: Tech representative & Regional reps for SE.

Peter Braybrook: Can do investigations also West Midlands rep.

Matt Thompson: NW rep

Peter Brayley: River Trent

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

- i. Minutes of last council meeting, 16 October 2020 were agreed.
- ii. Matters arising.
  - a. No other items not on agenda.

**3. Policy discussions: matters requiring agreement and action from this meeting**

- i. Terms and Conditions

We discussed the way forward and decided on two actions:

Firstly to write to the All Party Parliamentary Group members and the Waterways press highlighting the two key areas of concern discussed at the AGM viz CRT seeking to exercise powers beyond those granted by the relevant Acts and the GDPR risks in the revised proposals. Mike will contact other boating organisations to see if they would be prepared to co-sign the letter.

Secondly to prepare a detailed submission on the whole consultation taking account of our legal advice (and comments raised by members by email and at the AGM). This will be circulated for review pre submission to CRT.

Mark and Anne will prepare the first ASAP so that we hit NABO News deadlines, the second to follow.

ii. London Congestion

Simon is to prepare a document for Council to review prior to submission to CRT. There is concern over the timing of the consultation and a general feeling that CRT should first complete all the outcomes of the 2018 strategy and then evaluate them prior to launching a Consultation on further action. Helen has said that the boater's representatives have the same concerns and are raising them with CRT at a forthcoming meeting.

**4. Reports**

- i. NNUF The complicated politics continue. Mike will keep us informed
- ii. NAG. There have been no recent meetings. The next one is in December. There has been considerable discussion about the passage booking system, with little support for the system on Harecastle and Anderton. This is on the agenda December. CRT have instructed Fountains to ensure that all woody growth is removed on the towpath, fringe and washwall during the winter cut to edge.
- iii. BSS There was an AC meeting this week and Alison and David attended. The office reported that the backlog of examinations was being worked off, but has some way to go. Examinations are expected to continue though the November lockdown. Full examiner training is still targeted for January. It is expected that a number of examiners will retire. The gas training of examiners is nearing completion. One course will take place next year for those with medical concerns. A TC is planned for November continuing the work on ECPs and training material.
- iv. Lockdown issues. Ken reported that CRT have been sending out block letters from Leeds and getting into trouble. They have been reports of them not understanding current restrictions. We need to keep a look out for this. Checking on leisure boats for condition during the lockdown has been raised, there are indications that it should not be an issue. On insurance validity if boats cannot be checked, owners should check with insurers if they are worried. Rules about travelling to the boats might be an issue, can this be considered non-essential? CRT consider that essential maintenance is allowed. Some marinas are not allowing access. Some lack of understanding on agreed use of canoes when boats cannot move is rather surprising.
- v. The web site is running on the latest software in all categories and backups have been done. The software checking site integrity is reporting clean every week. Spam levels on the email system are good. There have been a few email rejections for Microsoft accounts in mid October but these did not occur at the month end email. There have also been a few rejections for mails sent to BT addresses.
- vi. GDPR. Nothing to report. Chair was going to look into a review. There are four members who have not agreed to privacy terms. The scans of NN editions from 1997 are complete and on the web site. I have the 1998 copies to hand and will get them done in the coming days.

**5. Finance**

- i. Nothing to report
- ii. Balances are as follows:

Barclays current a/c	1454.54
Barclays deposit a/c	4622.89
PayPal	339.48
Redwood	15613.43

TOTAL

22,029.34

**6. NABO News**

The next issue will be produced this week, copy date 21 November

Items include:

- Second item on share ownership
- Marks towpath talk
- Item on boat names
- First pass at the term's consultation.

Peter has plenty for this month.

**7. AOB**

There is an area of Regents Canal towpath with old cabling that needs to be dug up but they have not thought about mooring rings. Helen will ask at the Boats Rep meeting.

No other items

Meeting closed on time at 13.50.

**8. Next meeting**

10.00 am Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January by teleconference

Minutes approved by Chair 16 January 2021

*Mike Rodd*