

# Buckingham & District Angling Association

## Minute of Annual General Meeting

Founded 1910

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – held at Woodfields

**Chairman** - Pete Williams

**Committee Members Present:**

Barry Smith

Simon Bumstead

Nigel Bidwell

Richard Burdon

Mark Fenning

Walter Barnes

Five members were present making a total of 12. Their names were recorded in the attendance book. The meeting was not quorate (requires 14) – however no changes to constitution were proposed.

1. **Chairman's Opening Remarks** - Pete Williams thanked all those attending and remarked what a fantastic achievement the committee and volunteers had done regarding the installation of the Otter fence.
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from James Cavendish.
3. **Acceptance of the Minutes from 2019 AGM held** on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

The key items (those that were voted on) were read.

Mark Fenning proposed acceptance, seconded by Steve Cory and passed unanimously by the meeting. A full copy of these minutes is available from Simon Bumstead.

Note the 2020 AGM was cancelled because of Covid Restrictions.

4. **Chairman's Annual Report – was presented by Barry Smith – and is available to download from the Association's Website.**

**Key Points from Barry Smith's report: -**

- 4.1 Barry thanked all for attending the meeting.
- 4.2 Barry also thanked everyone involved and who helped with the clearance work in preparing the lake for the otter fence installation last autumn and winter. We do need to congratulate ourselves on a great job. Also, a special thank you also needs to go to both the Angling Trust who helped fund the project and the contractor Embryo and their sub-contractor, led by Richard Formosa, who installed the fence.
- 4.3 During the pandemic the Angling Trust served us well lobbying the government to allow fishing after the first lockdown. It has been evident that the sport has grown in popularity during this period, with its promotion of mental well-being being an important aspect. The club has also benefitted during this period from increased membership.
- 4.4 Just prior to the otter fence being installed in February 2021 we did lose a few carp to an otter so the committee decided to stock 250lb of smaller carp and 7,000 small silver fish to help improve match weights and for juniors fishing after the fence was installed.
- 4.5 Response to our recent survey to members indicate that Tench seems to be a popular choice for any future restocking decisions.
- 4.6 We also had problems with cormorants visiting the lake over the winter so we decided to deploy ropes across the lake to try to deter them. We also successfully applied to the Angling Trust and received a grant of just over £1,000 for predation protection. So, this money will be used to fund

two mannequins, a couple of fish refuges, crayfish traps and two wildlife cameras so we can monitor if the measures we have taken are working.

- 4.7 Weed at the lake continues to be challenging, though if we get the restocking right that might help. At present we are holding working parties here every Thursday to cut and clear the weed and a thank you to those that are involved in helping.
- 4.8 The rivers continue to recover from the pollution event of June 2018. During the last year, though the lockdown and in order to stay local, I have tried all our venues with good catches including silver fish and chub.
- 4.9 We have also held a working party at Roman Bridge in order to tidy-up and make some of the fishing areas more accessible.
- 4.10 We have also been successful in gaining another grant from Buckingham Town Council in 2021 to repair and improve the fishing pegs at Woodfields. We obtained a grant of just over £350 which we thank the council. We also received a grant in the previous year for just over £1,000 which help fund the second double peg. Both double pegs have been a real success and have proved very popular with the members. A thank you to Nigel who carried out this work.
- 4.11 Match fishing numbers – those attending have improved. No much more to say on the subject.
- 4.12 Finally, I wanted to say this is **our club** and we need you all to support our club.

You can do this by just being a member. Last year we raised contributions above our running costs which helped us fund the improvements.

We also need help going forward with fence line maintenance and weed clearing – it does provide an opportunity to gain enjoyment by putting something back in to the club. Making this place a more pleasant venue for all to enjoy. Just spread the word the more help we have to keep this club going forward and more the work load just doesn't fall on a few of us who currently help out.

- 4.13 Questions were invited. No questions were tabled on the chairman's report.

Mark Fenning proposed acceptance of the Chairman's report, seconded by Steve Cory and passed unanimously by the meeting.

## **5. Treasurers Report – was presented by Simon Bumstead – and is available to download from the Association's Website.**

### **Key Points from Simon Bumstead's report: -**

- 5.1 A copy of the Income and Expenditure sheet and Balance sheet covering the 19-20- and 20-21 year's accounts was distributed.
- 5.2 In summary the last two years has seen a big turnaround in the club's position.

**On 31 Jan 2019 – we had £4,965 in the bank account – 156 members, an unprotected lake with occasional visits from Mr Otter, membership down because of the pollution event in June 2018 affecting half of our river venues.**

**On 31 Jan 2021 – we had £7,110 in the bank account and an installed Otter Fence protecting our asset Woodfields. 261 members and river venue catches improving.**

So as a club I think we done pretty well.

- 5.3 The accounts for 2019-2020 have been audited by John Rose - Signed copies held on file.

**For 2019-20 Income £4,133    Expenditure £3,438    Accumulated Fund £4,965 to 31/01/20**

**Membership** - Total 179. Adult 69, Concessions 67, Juniors 10, Complimentary 33.

5.4 In early 2020 we wound up the Upper Ouse Angling Coaches Association and transferred the final balance £871 to the BDAA balance sheet.

5.5 The accounts for 2020-21 are still with the auditor though were presented as un-audited.

For 2020-21 **Income £15,268 Expenditure £14,689 Accumulated Fund £7,110** to 31/01/21

**Membership** - Total 261. Adult 134, Concessions 81, Juniors 19, Complimentary 27.

5.6 For 20/21 we added a £10 levy which has also been running for the current year – with the levy earmarked for the Woodfields Development Fund (WDF)

We have three funds, the balance at 31 Jan 2021 standing at

Working Capital Fund	£3,879
Coaching Fund	£842
WDF	£2,389

5.7 No decision has been made on permit prices for 2022-23 and we may keep the levy or consolidate it within the normal permit pricing.

5.8 There are plans for future stocking later in the year – Likely around £3,000 will be spent.

5.9 Questions were invited. No questions were tabled on the treasurer's report.

Walter Barnes proposed acceptance of the Treasures Report, seconded by Nigel Bidwell and passed unanimously by the meeting.

**6. Appointment of auditor** – Walter Barnes proposed that John Rose be appointed as auditor for 2021-22 accounts, seconded by Nigel Bidwell and passed unanimously by the meeting.

**7. Resolution.** - There were no resolutions tabled.

**8. Election / Re-election of Officers and Committee members**

8.1 Ratification of the election of Walter Barnes, Nigel Bidwell, James Cavendish made in committee following the cancellation of 2020's AGM to serve for a further two years.

Because of Covid we had to cancel last year's AGM. However, following that cancellation we had to make some decisions regarding the matter of not holding an AGM. One was the appointment of committee members which we proceeded with in committee at 6th August committee meeting.

Therefore, AGM needs to ratify the decision - Proposed by Simon Bumstead and seconded by Frank Thompson and passed unanimously.

8.2 Re-election of Barry Smith, Mick Powell, David Powell, Mark Fenning and Richard Burdon having each served three years and wishing to stand again.

Proposed by Steve Cory and seconded by Walter Barnes and passed unanimously.

8.3 Three vacant committee positions. No nominations received to date however Richard Hutchin made it known he would like to stand.

Proposed by Simon Bumstead and seconded by Nigel Bidwell and passed unanimously.

8.4 Election of Trustee – following Bernard Lewis's resignation.

Simon Bumstead explained the role of a trustee - this is an honorary role - essentially as trustee you are one of the four names entered on the title deeds for Woodfields. The Trustees, who are currently President - Pete Williams, Vice President - John Harris and myself, as per the constitution, shall and can only act in all respects, in regard to any property of the Association held by them, in accordance with the directions of the Committee. The control is always with the management committee.

That said, as we have done previously, the committee has agreed, in committee to put forward Nigel Bidwell as trustee. Nigel has served the club for a number of years and has put a considerable amount of work and effort in making this a well-maintained fishery year after year. Therefore, it is only right that Nigel should be nominated and appointed.

Simon Bumstead proposed Nigel Bidwell be appointed trustee seconded by Richard Burdon and passed unanimously.

**9. AOB**

9.1 Barry further reported that the provision of the portaloos for the summer period has already proved popular – the costs of which are £25 per week. This is something that is likely to be extended for a longer period next year.

9.2 Also the club is looking to apply for a HS2 amenity grant which will likely include a covered area / shelter for members and maybe a permanent toilet.

**10. Next AGM** – Proposed date of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at 7.30 Venue to be arranged was accepted as this has already been advertised on the Membership card.

10.1 It was suggested the committee should consider holding future AGMs at Woodfield's though not in March – so the committee will look at proposing a change to the constitution to move the AGM to early summer.

**11. Closure of Meeting by the Chairman by** Pete Williams at 8.15pm.