

Buckingham & District Angling Association

DRAFT - Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Founded 1910

Thursday 30th May 2024 – held at Woodfields

Chairman - Pete Williams

Committee Members Present:

Barry Smith	Simon Bumstead	Dick Hutchin	James Cavendish
Adam Gibbard	David Powell	Mick Powell	

In total 11 members attended plus 7 committee members – a total of 18. All attendees were recorded in the attendance book. The meeting was quorate (requires 14).

1. **President's Opening Remarks** - Pete Williams thanked the committee and volunteers for all their hard work on the improvements made at Woodfields.
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Nigel Bidwell, Bidge Barnes, Pete Callow, Mark Fenning, Dave Gillman and Vincent Riley.
3. **Acceptance of the Minutes from 2023 AGM held** on Thursday 25th March 2023.

The key items from the meeting were read by Pete Williams. No questions were tabled.

Steve Cory proposed acceptance, seconded by James Cavendish and passed unanimously by the meeting. A full copy of these minutes is available to download from the internet or from Simon Bumstead.

4. **Chairman's Annual Report – was presented by Barry Smith**

Barry thanked the committee and volunteers for their hard work over the last twelve months. He also thanked the Angling Trust and Environment Agency for the recent grant award of £2,300 to go towards improving the path and drainage at Woodfields. Also, a special thank you to Simon for his work coordinating the Buckingham River Warden group.

The key points from his report

Control of Weed – Woodfields – We have used water dye which has worked reasonably well to keep the weed growth down works below 30cm. This will be used going forward so we are optimistic we now have this under control.

Fishing – The fish stock has improved greatly with both tench, carp, crucians and bream being stocked over the past few years. We will continue to stock new fish when funds allow.

Match Fishing – This was near to non-existent in recent times but with the addition of a Spring and Winter series these matches now have over 20+ anglers attending these matches. So, these have been very successful so thank you to those that help with organising and running these matches. Also, the second annual Carp Cup match was recently held with 12 taking part.

River Fishing – this has been a bit disappointing because of the high river levels (caused by frequent flooding events). However, Lenborough has still been good for catching good sized chub when conditions allow. Also, more trout are being caught of both our venues and the town stretches.

River quality surveys using Riverfly Invertebrate sampling, Phosphate and Ammonia monitoring are taking place on a monthly basis when conditions allow. Nothing significant to report at this time.

We are currently in the early stages of obtaining the rights to another river stretch – more details will be communicated once we have firmed things up with the riparian owner.

Club Records - For the coming season we are going to start a new set of club records. This had been raised at the 2023 AGM. There will be one record list for fish caught at Woodfields and one list for fish caught on our current river venues - starting 1st June 2024.

We won't lose the legacy records but many of these are for fish caught on waters no longer on the BDAA ticket. Details on how to submit a record claim are available on the website and the noticeboard.

Ambassadors - We welcome members to become ambassadors of the club. Dick has been doing a great job as an ambassador with welcoming new members and generally representing the club in a positive welcoming manner. If anyone wants to help more in an ambassador role then please let us know.

Merchandise - We also plan to offer for sale some club branded merchandise – we will start with caps but if these prove popular, we will extend what we offer to perhaps include tee-shirts and fleeces.

Coaching – Fran Smith has joined us as a Level two coach to lead our coaching activities. We have three taster sessions planned during the summer.

Social media – Our FaceBook page has proved very popular as a communication means with over 100+ people following us.

Closing Words - As an organization we should focus more on the natural habitat and the environment and how we can improve things at our lake and the Upper Ouse River system. We need to continue to be inclusive and appeal to other groups and continue working with the many organizations, stakeholders and land owners that have an interest.

Thank you again for your support.

Questions were invited. None raised

Dick Hutchin proposed acceptance of the Chairman's report, seconded by James Cavendish and passed unanimously by the meeting.

5. Treasurers Report – was presented by Simon Bumstead

5.1 A copy of the Income and Expenditure sheet for 2023 was distributed.

5.2 The accounts for 2023 have been audited by John Rose - Signed copies held on file.

5.3 Accounts for 2023 Highlights

Income £12,631

Key items Membership £10,085, up by 35%

Donations totalling £1,593 though we should mention one was from Pete Gilbert who also donated a bench though he has now sadly passed.

Barry who donated the picnic table – and two donations from Steve Cory and Pat Dunkley for Fish stock and John Harris

One Grant - from BTC for £ 250 – fish refuge repair and relocation.

Expenditure £9,145

Key Items - Woodfields Development £2,284 included Peg repair (Hire plant, materials hard core /sleepers) Paved area; extra money spent on the cabin

Maintenance £2,110 included Fish Feed (£450) / Dye Dyofix (£660)

Excess of Income over expenditure £3,486.

Though this wasn't planned as we budgeted for a break-even year but the Fish re-stocking planned in 2023 got pushed in to 2024.

Accumulated Fund - Cash Assets £13,016 as of 31 December 2023

- 5.4 Membership 2023-24 at 303 – up from 265 from 2022-23. If we exclude River Wardens about 10% increase. All in All – the numbers are good.

5.5 Going forward

- a) No Increase in Permit prices or River Day tickets
- b) Increased Guest Tickets to £8 - weekend but remains at £6 for weekday
- c) All current river fisheries remain on the ticket.
- d) Woodfields remains a member only venue.
- e) Four outlets selling permits and day tickets
- f) Tingewick PO, Gone Fishin, Jakemans, Tackle Tavern
- g) So far this year we have gained grants totalling £2,660
- h) BTC £ 270 to fund River Warden group with replacement equipment and £2,390 from EA which will go towards the cost of the recent path and drainage improvements recently completed and a new fishing platform on peg 2 planned in the autumn.
- i) Fish Stocking spent £4,335 earlier this year on more tench and bream
- j) Club continue to support the Buckingham River Wardens and in Nov we became a partner of the UBOCP. No cost to the club -but will provide a good umbrella organisation for the RWs for any on-going support and gives us a forum to understand and provide input for any planned improvements on the Upper Great Ouse.

Questions were invited. None raised

Mick Taylor proposed acceptance of the Treasures Report, seconded by Steve Cory and passed unanimously by the meeting.

6. Appointment of auditor

Andy Linford proposed that John Rose be appointed as auditor for 2024 accounts, seconded by James Cavendish and passed unanimously by the meeting.

7. Match Secretary Report – was presented by James Cavendish

- 7.1 James Cavendish gave a summary of the match position and thanked those that helped with the running of the matches given he is not available to always attend. He offered to step down if someone else wanted to take up the post but no-one stepped forward.

Questions were invited None raised

8. Resolutions

Charlie Green has submitted proposal suggesting that we should discount permits for Ladies to £10. After much discussion it was agreed that the committee would review and consider the proposal.

Recent Rule Changes

- B18 All members fishing association waters must have a valid Environment Agency Rod License.

New Rules added

C14 The use of "The Magic Twig" - Self Hooking Device is prohibited on Association Waters.

E8 Members should not fish outside their swims and members should observe the half way rule for pegs with no island opposite them. When fishing pegs at either end of the lake members should be cognizant of those members already fishing.

Members should be courteous to others fishing at all times.

9. Election / Re-election of Officers and Committee members

9.1 Two members Adam Gibbard & Pete Callow joined the committee since the last AGM and now need to formally elected

Proposed by Simon Bumstead and seconded by Steve Cory and passed unanimously.

9.2 Re-Elections - five committee members to be re-elected – it was agreed so we don't have over 50% of the committee standing for re-election at an AGM in three years' time to change the terms served as follows: -

Richard Burdon to be elected for one year term.

Mick Powell, David Powell to be elected for two-year term

Richard Hutchin & Mark Fenning to be elected for a full three-year term.

Proposed by James Cavendish and seconded by Frank Thompson and passed unanimously.

There are currently no positions available as we are at our full complement of 12.

9.3 **Life Membership** – No New Life Members Proposed

10. Next AGM – Thursday 29th May 2025 at 7.30. Venue Woodfields.

11. AOB

11.1 Dick Hutchin raised his concern about the removal of Canadian Goose eggs from islands in that is this the best way to address their presence. It was agreed for the committee to review and decide how we should tackle the issue.

11.2 Dick Hutchin asked if the club would consider the provision of umbrella anchorage points. It was agreed for the committee to review and decide how or if we should provide these.

11.3 Andy Linford thanked the committee for their hard work.

12. Closure of Meeting by the President Pete Williams at 8.40pm.