



Nick Lake, Acting Chair  
06.02.2022

## **The Friends of Raymond**

### **Minutes of the Friends of Raymond Annual General Meeting Held virtually on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

#### **Attendees**

##### **Trustees and secretary**

Clare Hewitt - Chairman

Robin Bishop

Diana Golder

Roger Golder

Chris M Jones

Chris R Jones

Nick Lake

Nick Scarcliffe

Brian Seymour

Norman Townsend

#### **Members who attended.**

Mike l'Anson

Mike Lee

Ian Mulford

Mo Murray

Henry Rayment

Diane Robson

Christine Thompson

Paul Weal

Will Hewitt

David Jowett

Howard Williams

#### **1.Apologies for absence**

Alison Cockerill

Malcolm McKimmie

#### **2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were presented by the Chairman and accepted.

#### **3.Matters Arising and Outstanding**

There were no matters outstanding and due to the virtual meeting format any matters raised it was agreed would be discussed at the next Trustees meeting.

#### 4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman presented her report for 2020 and outlined the extraordinary experience of the Charity since March 2020 when the pandemic commenced as detailed in **appendix 1**. The Charity had effectively been in suspended animation for 12 months though income had been sustained through loaning of the motor boat to Narrowboat Trust for the coal runs, fund raising by NT & KW and a donation from our Patron.

CH thanked all the Trustees and members for their continued support during 2020 during this time of significant uncertainty for the Charity.

#### 5. Election / Re-election of Chairman

NL proposed CH to be elected as the Chairman for the coming year 2021-22. Seconded by CRJ. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

#### 6. Treasurer's Report and 2020 Accounts

NL presented the report ( enclosed as **appendix 2**). The following items were noted:-

- a. The Chair and Trustees had seen sight of the accounts and agreed unanimously to accept them as a true and accurate record.
- b. The unaudited reports has been signed as a true record by the Chairman.
- c. Income had reduced by only £1500 during the year and expenditure reduced by £2,900 from £8,000.
- d. The surplus for the year was £2,814 and balance £6.022.
- e. Donations in the year were £1,217 from NBT, £1000 from our Patron and £572 in income from fundraising by NT/KW.

#### 7. Sales and Marketing Report

BS reported that sales had been severely impacted by the pandemic and lockdown. 2020 sales income was only 10% of the previous year and was mainly down to shows led by NT/KW who were thanked for their efforts. Two IWA talks had also been undertaken that produced a small amount of sales.

It was noted that a large amount of stock was being held and would require assistance to by members to purchase and use before the expiry date.

#### 8. Membership Report

NL outlined the membership report for the year and noted little change in overall numbers of members despite the suspension in activities. The appeal to members to assist with providing additional funds had been well received and provided much needed funds. New members were noted particularly those associated with NBT.

NL noted that the previous years volunteer hours analysis had shown starkly the amount of commitment provided by volunteers and it was agreed to repeat the exercise once the Charity activities recommence.

#### 9. Boat Maintenance Report

NT provided the boat maintenance report as outlined in the enclosed **appendix 3**.

Despite the lack of shows and boat movements NT had overseen a range of maintenance and repairs that were required.

The winter 2020-1 had seen leak in bow at Raymond that had been managed through use of pumps and noted that A Poleglase work had prevented previous ingress.

Work parties would be required during the coming year to ensure boats are maintained to an acceptable standard. It was agreed that new cloths were required for both boats.

Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to NT for overseeing the maintenance of the boats during the lockdown.

#### 10. Shows and Events for 2020

No shows were attended during 2020 as all were cancelled due to lockdown. It was agreed to monitor if any shows would be held during the coming months and consider if the boats should attend.

#### 11. Publicity and News

NL confirmed that a newsletter was in production and it was particularly important during the pandemic to keep in contact with members. It was agreed that the Chairman would produce a monthly email newsletter to members to update them on events. JH offered to assist with future newsletters and it was welcomed by the Chairman.

#### 12. Any other business.

Discussion took place on the current position of Government funding for Charities and it was noted that there was limited available that could be sought. It was noted many charities were considering merging to ensure continuity of their operations.

CT discussed the opportunity of providing training to the Charity to train members as steerers and receive helmsman qualifications from RYA. It was agreed to note the offer for future consideration.

Chairman thanked all for attending in the difficult circumstances.  
Meeting closed at 13.00.