

The Friends of Raymond

Minutes of the Friends of Raymond Annual General Meeting Held virtually on 6th February 2022

Attendees

Trustees and secretary

Nick Lake – Acting Chairman

Diana Golder

Roger Golder

Chris M Jones

Chris R Jones

Brian Seymour

Norman Townsend

Members who attended.

Ian Mulford

Christine Thompson

Paul Weal

Will Hewitt

Howard Williams

Sarah Mallett

Graham Newman

1. Apologies for absence

Clare Hewitt

Malcolm McKimmie

Nick Scarcliffe

Mike l'Anson

Mike Lee

Mo Murray

Neil Hankin

Raymond Dent

Irene Reeves

2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the last Annual general meeting were presented by the Acting Chairman and accepted. Two corrections to make were agreed to reflect attendees of the 2021 AGM.

3. Matters Arising and Outstanding

NL informed the meeting that following the resignation of CH as the Chair and Trustee he had agreed to act as Chairman for the AGM as required by the constitution.

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 the report for 2021 and outlined the extraordinary experience of the Charity again during the ongoing pandemic as described in **appendix 1**. The Charity had operated at a much smaller scale for the last 12 months though income had been sustained through sales of Jam and Marmalade, pop up events, fund raising by NT & KW and a donation from our Patron.

Docking of Raymond has been carried out to carry out evaluation of the leakage and revaluation of the boats carried out.

NL thanked all the Trustees and members for their continued support during 2021 during this time of significant uncertainty for the Charity.

5. Role of the Secretary

NL explained to the meeting the recent illness of the secretary, Robin Bishop (RB) and his resulting incapacity.

Following the illness of RB CRJ has taken on the role of the Secretary. All contact details, regulatory postings and Charity Commission requirements have been updated accordingly. All documentation relating to the Charity management is now held by CRJ following collection by RG & DG.

6. Election / Re-election of Chairman

It was noted that NL would act as Chairman for the meeting. Appointment of a new Chairman will be arranged in the coming weeks for approval by the Board at the next Trustees meeting.

7. Treasurer's Report and 2021 Accounts

NL presented the accounts (enclosed as **appendix 2**) and report (enclosed as **appendix 3**). 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. Proposed by DG and seconded by RG.
- b. The unaudited reports has been signed as a true record by the Treasurer and Secretary in the absence of the Chairman.

- c. Income had reduced by only £800 during the year despite the limited activity. Expenditure has increased by £1,500 to cover cost of boat maintenance during the year..
- d. The surplus for the year was reduced to £567 (2020 £2,814) and balance £6,589.
- e. Donations in the year were £1,000 from our Patron and £1,239 in income from fundraising by NT/KW. Cash in the bank was currently £5,760 and with impending insurance and other costs is likely to be around £3,450 by 1st April 2022.
- f. Boat Valuations were carried out in 2021 and paper valuation of Raymond reduced to £25,000. Nutfield value increased to £50,000.
- g. NL will be processing Gift Aid claim in the coming weeks and should produce around £600.00.
- h. GN queried the VAT status of the charity and proposed that the Marina may be able to assist in this matter.

8. Sales and Marketing Report

BS reported that sales had again been severely impacted by the pandemic and lockdown. 2021 sales income were however 4x that of 2020 with 3 pop-up events, Jam and Marmalade sales by Gongoozler and local sales. The efforts of NT/KW were particularly thanked for their efforts. BS hoped to restock the community café shortly and appealed for more donations.

New stock of Jam and Marmalade had been received for the proposed 2022 shows.

9. Membership Report

NL outlined the membership report (enclosed as **appendix 4**) for the year and noted little change in overall numbers of members despite the suspension in activities. New members were noted and overall a small increase in membership numbers. Increase in fees has resulted in increase in income overall.

10. Boat Maintenance Report

NT provided the boat maintenance report as outlined in the enclosed **appendix 5**.

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

Elum has been refurbished on Raymond and leakage to right hand side had been rectified after dry dock in August.

Variety of other works had been completed and seams recaulked by Rex Wain and his team.. Thanks was made to all involved in docking. NT was thanked for overseeing the maintenance of the boats during the lockdown after his presentation was curtailed by technological issues.

11. Shows and Events for 2020

No shows were attended during 2021 as all were cancelled due to lockdown. Plans were in place for boats to attend
Crick
Rickmansworth
Braunston Historic Boat Rally

Shows at Cosgrove (in conjunction with mb Roger), Linslade and Blisworth in July and August were being finalised. NL will co-ordinate the shows and events, and also the volunteers.

12. Publicity and News

It was agreed that we will continue to produce a monthly email newsletter to members to update them on events. SM requested that one could be produced ahead of Christmas that could be shared with her contacts.

13. Any other business.

Shipping Container – GN confirmed that the container foam spray is being arranged and NT will be fitting out the container for the Charity. SM asked if the container was damp- and vermin-proof if archive documents were to be stored. GN confirmed it was.

Jean Hankin – NL explained that Jean has passed away in October and trustees had attended the funeral. The Trustees will send their best wishes to Neil.

Website – NL proposed a vote of thanks to Jeremy Cooper for updating and improving the website. All documents will now be shared via the website. SM proposed contacting canal charities that FoR have connection with to reciprocate publicising each other's websites and this was agreed. Vote of thanks was made for the Chairmanship and Trusteeship of CH.

Chairman thanked all for attending in the difficult circumstances and it was agreed in person meetings would be preferable in coming months to assist with members getting involved in the Charity.

Meeting closed at 12.10