

The Friends of Raymond

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Meeting Held virtually via Zoom on 28th January 2024.

Attendees

Trustees/Committee

Nick Lake - Chair
Chris R Jones - Secretary
Chris M Jones
Graham Newman
Brian Seymour
Norman Townsend

Members

Mo Murray
Christine Thompson
Martin Sac
Paul Weal
Miked l'Anson
Michelle l'Anson
Tracey Little
Alan Robertson
Phillip Reeves
Irene Reeves
Sarah Mallett
Alison Cotterill
Colin Wilkes

1. Apologies for absence

Diana Golder
Roger Golder
Nick Scarcliffe
Howard Williams
Rich Greenhall
Malcolm McKimmie
Henry Rayment
Will & Clare Hewitt
Keith & Gill Astley

Mr CR Jones took the Chair.

2. Minutes of the last meeting.

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

3. Matters Arising and Outstanding.

None.

4. Changes to the Committee

CRJ explained that since last year's AGM the board of trustees had agreed to reduce the number of Trustees to 5 trustees from the last meeting of 2023. This was in part due to the ongoing problems with changing bank mandates, the directorship of the two dormant companies of the Charity and also to form a management committee of the Charity comprising trustees and officers of the Charity.

The board now comprises:-

NL(Chair), CRJ (Secretary) DG, CMJ, and BS.

Officers who have now joined as part of the overall management committee and will be invited to attend all trustees meetings are:-

Graham Newman

Norman Townshend – Boat Manager

Nick Scarcliffe

Roger Golder

Will Hewitt

Tracey Little – Treasurer elect

Michelle l'Anson – Membership Secretary elect.

5. Election of the Chair for 2024.

CRJ informed the meeting that GN had stood down as Chairman & a trustee part way through 2023 for personal reasons but had agreed to stay on to the management committee. CRJ proposed a vote of thanks to GN for leadership of the Charity for the last two years and this was passed by the attendees.

NL had taken on the Chairmanship following GN resignation.

CRJ requested any nominations for Chair for 2024. NL was proposed by BS and seconded CMJ. There being no other nominations a vote was taken and NL was confirmed as Chair for 2024.

NL took the Chair.

6. Chairmans Report for 2023.

NL provided the Chairmans report for 2023 and amongst the highlights of the year was the successful recruitment of two new members to officer posts, TL and M I'A to assist with the management of the charity.

The National Historic Ships UK Grant identified by NS was a great opportunity to seek external funds for the ongoing restoration of the vessels and after an application to the fund a grant of £1500 was provided which has been used partly for repainting Nutfield cabin.

NL reviewed the events and shows of 2023 which was very successful in terms of income received through hard works of members. In addition a significant amount of work has been carried out to the boats by members at docking and contracted works at Brinklow.

7. Accounts, Treasurers Report

NL provided the Treasurers Report and 2023 accounts that were accepted by the AGM and signed by the treasurer and Secretary in lieu of the Chairman.

Income for the year to date is £12,472 compared to £11,629 in 2022 and expenditure £17,487 due to planned maintenance works (£8706 in 2022). Boat maintenance accounted for £12,772 of the expenditure.

The balance on the accounts at 31st December 2023 was £4497 (£9512 on 31.12.22) and with the fixed assets of the boat valuations from 2021 the total worth of the charity was £79,497.

In more detail it was noted that individual donations accounted for £5135 with particular mention of NT & Kath Wheeler providing £1865 through his fundraising efforts. Other sales at events also contributed £3319. HMRC Gift Aid and GASDS claims brought in income of £1777.

As mentioned above boat maintenance was exceptional cost in 2023 of £12772, with other costs being £2034 for boat operating costs, admin of £1651 and sales costs of £915. Thanks were made to all those involved in sales in 2023.

At 26 Jan 2024 the bank account balance was standing at £3480 and boat insurances have been paid for the year.

TL will take on the treasurers role shortly and the bank mandate has been amended to facilitate her management of the accounts.

Overall 2023 was a very profitable year and particular advances in preserving the boats have been achieved and they are in a far better condition than 3 years ago when the position of the charity was very uncertain. Particular thanks were noted for the efforts of NT, KW along with generous donation from Braunston Marina both the donation but also free use of their facilities.

8. Sales & Marketing Report

BS provided the Sales & Marketing report that was provided in the papers. BS has collected latest stock of jam and marmalade and commenced deliveries to local sellers. 45% of sales income came from these sales and a thank you was proposed to IR for her involvement in arranging this unique product for the charity over 20 years ago. 450 jars were in 2023.

Sales stock for 2023 was very encouraging especially in book sales. Thanks were also expressed to all those who assisted on the sales stand in 2023.

A banner for Raymond is still in development.

9. Membership report

NL reported that Membership is holding up well with 69 paid-up memberships at the date of the meeting the same as the start of the year. 7 membership have been gained and 7 not renewed.

M I'A was welcomed as the new membership secretary and will take on the role from NL shortly

10. Boat Maintenance plans/schedules for 2023.

NT provided the report on the boat maintenance carried out in 2023 and his report was provided in the papers.

Works that were commissioned at Brinklow were discussed in detail with the extensive works to Nutfield cabin were noted. Redecoration of the cabin by WH were noted.

Raymond has received two dry dockings in the year include new Gunwales at Brinklow to enable the new sidecloths to be installed. Works to remove rotten wood, redecoration of the cabin sides, roof, masts and stands were also carried out in the year.

The pumps in the boat has also been greatly improved this year and alongside the installation of a radiator in the cabin over winter and clothing up has protected the boat greatly during the winter months.

The boats have received many compliments over their improved appearance this year and NT thanked everyone involved for their assistance with boat maintenance during the year.

11. Shows & Events 2024

NL outlined arrangements for the boats to attend various shows in 2024.

Docking at Braunston has been agreed for Nutfield at Easter weekend.

The Rickmansworth show is in doubt and may be an alternative event is arranged and Crick historic boats part is being managed by HNBC. Members will be updated on progress in regard these events as crewing will be a determining factor.

The Braunston historic will be the main show for 2024 in June and followed by Cosgrove and Linslade in July. L&H are arranging an event at Brownhills and it was agreed to consider this event.

Raymond may be docked in August at Braunston and members suggested potential events at Saltisford in September should be considered and Banbury in October.

Scarecrow weekend in September will take place in 2023.

12. Publicity and News

NL apologised for the lack of recent newsletters but intends to send out a short monthly newsletter shortly.

13 . Any other business.

None

Meeting closed at 12.50pm.