

NUAC Annual General Meeting

23 May 2023

7:35pm – 9:45pm

Minutes taken by: Jason Brewster

Version & Issue Date: 29/05/2023 v0.1

Present: Jon Weyer (JW), Patrick Aikens (PA), Jason Brewster (JB), Jim Sutherland (JS), Scott Maunder, David Shorter (DS) Dave Watson, Paul Pegg (PP) & Trevor Bunn.

Apologies: Scott Swift (SS), Paul Scarff, Richard Spicker & Steve Rawlings.

Minuted Items	Action Owner(s)
<p>1. Introduction</p> <p>Meeting held at The World's End, Mulbarton. Brief introductions given by attendees. JW opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes & Matters Arising</p> <p>JW reviewed matters arising from previous AGM run on Tuesday 17 May 2022.</p> <p>Simon Clay & Mike Hoyland Memorial awards</p> <p>JW indicated that a nomination had been received and would be discussed later in the meeting. The website would be updated to promote these awards and any winners.</p> <p>Wensum, Oram's Farm</p> <p>This matter would be revisited this season although given the undecided nature of the NDR western link it was expected that it would be deferred once again until next year.</p> <p>Minutes proposed by PA, seconded by PP and accepted as a true reflection by attendees.</p>	
<p>3. Review of 2022-23</p> <p>JW presented an overview of the season.</p> <p>Despite the loss of The Grove, this season was a return to business as usual with a full complement of officers, a smaller dedicated committee and a reduced membership.</p> <p>Nick Walpole and Scott Swift were managing waters and attending meetings. Jim Sutherland and Stuart Buck were available in a consultancy capacity. We also had the support of members Brett Larke and John Thorne at Snetterton and Filby respectively.</p> <p>The challenge of succession planning is no different now than it was when the club had twice as many members. Focus on new members who can provide support to the committee, especially regarding administration and IT skills. New members are vetted by partner fisheries, avoid poaching their existing/former ticket holders. We do not highlight our membership fee to prospective members or partner fisheries.</p> <p>JW was comfortable with reduced membership, good balance between size of committee and supporting demands of members. Mindful not to overload committee members with too many tasks.</p> <p>JB provided an update on membership, which had fallen from ■■■ (2021-22) to ■■■. There were ■■■ new members resulting from committee referrals. To cover our costs the membership fee will increase by £5. Not anticipating a general re-opening of the membership in 2023-24. If the committee had an opportunity for exclusive access on a water then the associated cost implications might warrant a general re-opening of the membership, and in this circumstance would expect to approach existing members to recommend to family/friends in the first instance.</p> <p>JW provided an update on our waters highlighting that water management was spread across the committee. Booking data proved helpful with managing existing access and when approaching new waters.</p> <p>The club reluctantly surrendered access to The Grove on 1st February. After a fantastic first season, a fish kill in 2016, and more latterly relentless fish predation and accelerating silting/weed growth the venue was a shadow of its former self. Despite the reduced fee and dedicated core of 8</p>	

helps the ever-increasing maintenance workload proved too much. The club had left on good terms with the owners.

Our new river access at Taverham Mills Fishery (TMF) had been lightly used through the season. We had received positive feedback from the fishery manager.

The Bridge Inn Fishery (BIF) had changed ownership and the new owner had been impressed with our members. He was happy to continue our access.

Our relationship with Hall Walk had been in place for a number of years and they know us as a club. This renewal proved to be a simpler process than last, and our smaller size had helped in this regard. Our reduced size was also instrumental in regaining access to pike fishing on Tom's Lake.

The ongoing weed problems on Hickling Broad had resulted in Whispering Reeds ceasing to offer day boat/canoe hires; could not guarantee being able to navigate a boat through a weed filled broad in the event of an emergency. Given our long relationship with the boatyard they had kindly offered us access to fish from their quay heading.

To maintain a differential between our access and that provided directly by our partner fisheries we introduced a maximum booking limit per member at BIF and Hall Walk.

Still looking for new waters and welcome suggestions from members especially if they have warmed up the owner to a possible arrangement. Given our history of providing boat fishing aware that Filby now remains our only offering. Will consider any offers of boat fishing although the costs of tolls, moorings & insurance would appear to prohibit the club facilitating its own boat.

Pleased to announce that SS had brokered access to Costessey No.1 Lake at TMF for 2023-24. There are 9 pegs on the lake and, along with the large head of silver fish, there were reported to be some tench, bream up to 12lb and pike into double figures.

4. 2022-23 Accounts

[The accounts will be removed/redacted when these minutes are published.]

Copies of the accounts were provided to the attendees.

PA confirmed that despite the reduction in members our outgoings had also fallen and the club had broken even. PA highlighted that the late payment to BIF appeared to indicate a surplus; this was not the case as seen by our liabilities (late BIF payment would be reflected on next season's accounts).

Based on the current budget for 2023-24 factoring in the new access at Taverham Mills, the loss of The Grove and the increased membership fee it was anticipated that the club would break even with a similar number of members as last season. The club continues to have large reserves to fall back on.

<<Accounts 2022-23 pdf removed>>

PA thanked Adrian Poole for auditing the accounts for the club.

Accounts proposed by JW and seconded by JS and approved by attendees.

5. Election of Chairman

JW thanked the officers, committee for their continued support.

JW confirmed he was prepared to continue in his role as "temporary" Chairman.

JW stood down and JB took chair of the meeting.

JW proposed by PA, seconded by JS and unanimously re-elected by attendees.

JB returned chair of meeting to JW.

6. Election of Treasurer

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<p>JW confirmed that PA will continue in this role.</p> <p>PA proposed by JW, seconded by DS and unanimously re-elected by attendees.</p>	
<p>7. Election of Secretary</p> <p>JW confirmed that JB will continue in this role.</p> <p>JB proposed by JW, seconded by PA and unanimously re-elected by attendees.</p>	
<p>8. Election of Committee</p> <p>JW confirmed that there had been no new nominations to join the committee.</p> <p>JW confirmed that Nick Walpole, Scott Swift, Stu Buck and Jim Sutherland will continue on the committee.</p> <p>Committee proposed by JB seconded by PA and unanimously re-elected by attendees.</p> <p>JW thanked Brett Larke and John Thorne for their efforts as non-committee members supporting Snetterton and Filby respectively.</p>	
<p>9. Any Other Business</p> <p>Simon Clay Award</p> <p>JW announced that Colin Heinen's capture of a specimen roach from the River Wensum, Lenwade had been deemed a worthy winner of this award.</p>	
<p>10. Meeting Closed 9:45pm</p> <p>JW thanked everyone for attending and for their contributions.</p>	