

WIVENHOE OCEAN RACING CLUB

Minutes of the 1st Annual General Meeting
Held on Saturday 29th December 2007 at 11.00 hrs
At The Royal British Legion Hall, Wivenhoe

Present:

Committee :

Chris Barrett, Martyn Carrick, Laurence Knox, Dilly Meyer, Brian O'Dell, Andy Stollery, Anne Marie Pyett (*Minutes*).

Members:

Ian Barrett; Annie & Mark Bielecki; Lyndy Brown; Mike Downes; Rita & Nigel Eustace; Paul Foley; Michelle & Clive Howlett; Jayne Morgan; Peter & Jane Nicholas; Andrew Nicholson; Celia & John O'Donnell; Ted & Hally Palmer; Bob Pyett; Shona & Ken Raven; Kevin & Hayley Reed; Tom Roberts; Peter Robinson; Ian & Jan Ward; Andy Windmill (some 28 members)

Apologies for absence: Gerry Poulson (committee)

Welcome: The Commodore welcomed those present.

The Commodore's Report:

LK read his annual report (copy attached) – which was received with appreciation and thanks from those present, in particular for the following news: *"You have all, at sometime or another, been subjected to my monthly "Sunday Sermons" and been aware of a degree of enthusiasm for recruitment to the Legion. Your support for all this is deeply appreciated, and not only in this room, for the Wivenhoe Branch of the Legion has won the shield for the fastest growing Branch in the County - a shield of which I was blissfully unaware until the announcement of its award. And there is more! The collection for the Poppy Appeal by the Wivenhoe Branch was, this year, up 25% on last year to the tune of £7694.61. And all this on top of the fun we have had!"*

Treasurer's Report:

CB tabled his end of year report – which showed a profit on the year of some £1,300 which will be used for, among other things, an upgrade to the kitchen facilities. MC thanked CB for his report and congratulated all on the fact that we are in funds.

WORC's income is made up from:

£755 - membership fees in '07

£1,390 - monies raised on functions:

£300 - tie sales to date

a total income of approx £2,445.

Expenditure included:

£1,050 cost of ties – there are 80 ties in stock;

£700 glasses, crockery, cutlery & kitchen equipment;

£230 admin, printing & stationery etc

Total expenditure = £1,980

Monies in hand (our profit) - £465 plus fees from remaining stock of ties.

CB left the meeting following his presentation.

Secretary's Report:

MC expressed heartfelt thanks to all those who have helped with the events we have enjoyed in the past year, particularly Dilly Meyer. He also thanked all the cooks; those who clear up during and after events; those who guard the door and those who run the bar. As a mark of appreciation to all these people a small party will be held in January 08.

MC said that a table of events for 2008 had been prepared – a copy of which had been fixed to the notice board and would shortly be sent to all members (by e mail and by hand to those who do not have an email address). **Action :**
MC

MC also said that he would be seeking volunteers/helpers for the 2008 poppy collection which was so successful this year – carried out during the week prior to Remembrance Sunday (9th Nov 2008); Tesco have allocated 3 extra days for the collection to be held outside the Greensted Store. MC is looking for volunteers to man the collection table for periods of 2 hours.

WORC membership renewal reminders will be posted in early January to our current membership of 149 people (membership fees remain at £10 per annum (individual) and £15 per annum (couple). Those whose applications were accepted in December 07 will be carried forward to January (when their cheques will be cashed). It was decided at our last committee meeting that we may have to cap the membership. Therefore, when renewals are received in January we will judge whether capping is necessary. MC will include in this posting an RBL membership form for those interested in joining who have not yet done so – (£14.50 annually). **Action : MC**

MC further reported that the committee have decided that from January 2008 a House Committee will be formed, initially comprising MC and DM. The house committee will be responsible for implementing the events decided upon by the main committee and for stocking and running the bar. Tony & Wayne will be running the bar and MC & DM will be looking for co-optees to assist with planned future events.

Before closing, MC addressed the floor to ask if there were any questions arising from the Commodore's and Treasurer's reports – none were forthcoming.

Election of Office Bearers:

MC said that the eight members of the current committee (Chris Barrett, Martyn Carrick, Laurence Knox, Dilly Meyer, Brian Odell, Gerry Poulson, Anne Marie Pyett and Andy Stollery) had expressed their willingness to continue – Andy Stollery, however, wished to stand down from the main committee and assist instead on the newly formed house committee.

A vacancy is therefore open for a Flag Officer on the main committee. Jayne Morgan was proposed for this post by Leisl Barrett and her nomination seconded by Chris Dickinson.

MC thanked Jayne Morgan for agreeing to join the committee if elected and requested those present to vote to accept her as Flag Officer on the main committee. A show of hands affirmed Jayne's appointment with acclamation from the floor.

MC then asked the floor to vote to endorse the election of the officers of the main committee. A show of hands affirmed the re-appointment of the six existing members of the main committee.

MC thanked AS for his invaluable input whilst serving on the main committee and for volunteering to continue to support WORC as an active member of the house committee.

BOD thanked the committee on behalf of the body of the floor.

Any Other Business:

WSFF & WORC : BOD proposed to the meeting that the precursor to WORC, WSFF, be re-formed as "The 1995 Club" to organise daytime events of the type run by the original WSFF. He further asked that this be done under the umbrella of WORC.

BOD also requested agreement for the £500 carried over from WSFF to WORC at its inauguration be returned to WSFF/The '95 Club. These funds, he reported, would be donated to the RBL Wivenhoe Branch (ring-fenced for parcels to our troops). BOD also said that this £500 had not been included in the Treasurer's presentation to the meeting today.

These proposals were opened to the floor for discussion.

- 1. AS said that the sum of £500 had been vired from the WSFF account to the newly formed WORC account a year ago and he could not see any reason that it should now be vired back. Aside comments from the floor indicated agreement with AS.*
- 2. Ian Barrett pointed out that it had been his understanding that WSFF had become WORC. He further said that he had been led to believe that WORC's hire of the RBL building for events and WORC's encouragement of its members to join the RBL were some of the tools that had now resulted in the achievements outlined by LK in his address – saving the Wivenhoe branch from closure. He felt that to form yet another club within WORC would be divisive.*

If certain individuals now wished to reinstate WSFF as The '95 Club, Ian felt it should be done as a completely separate entity and have no connection to WORC.

3. *Mark Bielecki said that he did not understand why we needed an additional club other than WORC and RBL. He further said that this proposal suggests extra layers of bureaucracy within WORC; he felt that this would be divisive and unnecessary.*
4. *It was however generally, but reluctantly, agreed that BOD's proposal that the original £500 passed to the WORC account from the WSFF account should be repaid to WSFF when it is reformed as The '95 Club . Further it was agreed that the returned £500 be donated to the RBL Wivenhoe Branch (ring-fenced, as stated by BOD in his original proposal, for parcels to our troops).*

To prevent further and increasingly confusing discussions, MC summarised the proposals and requested that the floor vote that:

WSFF money (some £500) originally vired to WORC would now be repaid to the WSFF.

That the WSFF/The '95 Club would not have any affiliation or connection with WORC.

A show of hands confirmed that the membership (represented by those present) wished to see the action as outlined by MC adopted.

BOD thanked the floor for their consideration of the original idea and accepted their decision.

Clothing: It was agreed to make renewed efforts to sell WORC ties held in stock. MC said that it was hoped that WORC polo shirts and slim t-shirts would shortly be available. Annie Bielecka was assured that she would be welcome to use her WORC tie to form cuffs on a jacket – possibly further ties could be utilised to make bikinis for the WORC flotilla to Greece in 2008!

Bob Pyett asked if a list of all members could be put on the notice board. He also asked if a similar list of those WORC members who have joined the RBL be made available. **Action:** MC and Ian Ward

It was pointed out that before lists of WORC or RBL members can be displayed, permission has to be sought from the membership. Ian Barrett said this can be simply carried out by an appropriate sentence being inserted in the membership form requesting this permission. **Action: MC.**

Date of next meeting: The next committee meeting will be held at 20.00 hrs on Monday 21st January 2008 at LK's home in the Old Chapel.

Signature of
Commodore.....Date.....