

# Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Clubs

Affiliated to The Basingstoke Canal Angling Association & Angling Trust ESTABLISHED 1879

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## **CALPAC AGM Meeting Minutes Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

### **Meeting opened at 8.05pm by Bob Smith**

#### **Apologies for absence**

Alphonsus Duffy, Augustine Duffy, Dean Hawkins, Frank Reisinger and Peter Alexander

#### **Review minutes from previous AGM and any matters arising - None**

Proposed by David Blake and seconded by Denise Wheeler

#### **Attendees**

Alfie Harris, Bob Smith, Bramley Greenfield, Carmel Jones, David Adby, David Blake, Denise Wheeler, Jim Hamilton, John Bygrave, Malcolm Corner, Mervyn Pollard and Roy Pollard

### **Presidents Address by John Bygrave**

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. First, I would like to thank and welcome everybody who has bothered to attend this meeting.

As this is my first AGM as president I think I should tell you this address will not be as long or as flowery as my predecessors, who had a stronger concept of the English Language than "wot I've got".

I would like to say thank you to my fellow committee members for the work they have done over the past year and include our bailiffs in this gesture.

While I am speaking of committee and bailiffs I would like to express my concern at the lack of recruitment on both fronts, we do need more members to put their heads over the parapet and help the existing people. This would also include attending association matches which are attracting less and less members (maybe we are just getting to old) which brings me to another point, it would be nice if the new people were younger members, preferably under 100 years of age.

We are lucky in the few people we have got sharing the workload, although sparse in numbers they do the best they can and better in some instances, like everyone else they all have their own lives to lead outside CALPAC.

In the case of our bailiffs they are few but in my opinion, do an excellent job and sorely need an increase in numbers. As regards the committee they all do their jobs with varying success but I would like to pick out for special thanks our secretary and membership secretary who despite personal problems have both managed to do their jobs well.

I am sorry to have been so negative in my first address but in my opinion if we do not recruit more younger members I cannot see CALPAC continuing much longer.

## Election of Tellers - Not Necessary

### Secretary Report by Carmel Jones

Evening everyone. Thank you for making the effort to attend this year's AGM. Also thank you to all those who attend the monthly delegate meetings and I would really like to encourage more of you to come along and consider getting more involved in CALPAC.

I would like to thank you all for your patience and support during the year as without you all, my role would be much more difficult. Special thanks to John Bygrave as he never moans even when I am behind with things and always there for advice or a laugh.

It has been a tough year for many of us juggling CALPAC duties with work commitments as well as family and health issues but despite all that everyone has done an amazing job and all efforts are appreciated whatever job you are doing, such as our web master Malcolm, our bailiffs, committee members or simply attending a work party as without you all we cannot keep going.

I would like to wish everyone a healthy and enjoyable season ahead and appeal to more people to help promote CALPAC and of course encourage more people to come forward and become a bailiff or part of the committee, so that those who want a break can do so knowing that people are in place to continue the hard and good work their predecessors have put in to help CALPAC be the great fishing association it is. Good night.

### Fisheries Report by Dean Hawkins

Good evening to everyone present, and please accept my apologies for not being in attendance this evening.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for their kind thoughts expressed in the 'get well' card I received. It really was unexpected but was all the evidence I needed to remind me that I had made the right decisions previously, of firstly becoming a member of CALPAC, then joining the committee as Fisheries Officer. Season 2017/18 has been a strange season for me personally regarding my work, where I feel I have not actually done very much but achieved a great deal. All the work parties went well, and were very well attended apart from Yalding Two. Burhill Estates carried out some exceptional work along the RIVER Mole, which was totally unexpected. Padworth Parish Council cut the pathway along our section of the river Kennet, which has benefitted both CALPAC, Thatcham AA members and Ramblers alike. The committee also allowed me to purchase equipment to make my life much easier, which benefits everyone in the long term.

I have as you know instigated a project on the Southern Channel of the river Kennet at Padworth, which after initial meetings I felt was going to end up like many other good ideas, on the back burner. This I have now found to be, anything other than the back burner, because much has happened recently to progress the project forward much faster than I expected. I received an email from the EA asking me to apply for a site permit to stock Barbel and Chub into the river at Padworth, because an application had

been made for 1000 Barbel and 500 Chub from Calverton Fish Farm. I have subsequently done this, sent a copy back to the EA to process the application and a copy to Carmel for CALPAC's records. I also received an email to say that EA Officers would be working on the river around the Southern Channel to monitor water levels. I was asked if I could inform the Bissett Trust and David Seaman, as they may require access to their land, which I subsequently did. I then received an email from Martin Salter introducing me to Keith Johnson, who is the Treasurer of the Kennet Valley Fishery association, which is the financial arm of ARK (Action for the River Kennet). Keith controls the fishery development funds which clubs can bid for. There is £35,000 in the pot this year, with the applications being sent out to clubs on May 1<sup>st</sup>. I will be making a joint bid on behalf of CALPAC, Thatcham AA and RDDA, for a share of the funds towards the restoration of the Southern Channel. I have already introduced myself to Keith, which may or may not influence our bid!

I am, as you all know, not the person I was previously at the moment, so would not have attended the work party at Manor Pond on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March. I do though need to be at Padworth on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March to manage the Tree Cutting along the Southern Channel with Thatcham AA Members, and because I need my partner Liz to chauffeur me around all the time, I cannot expect her to do this every Saturday. I will be in attendance at the work party on the river Mole on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April, Liz has already agreed to take me, how much work I can personally carry out on the day will be determined by how fit I am then. Fortunately, this work party has been very well attended in recent years, so it should still be a successful day.

Finally, let us all hope that the constant rainfall we have suffered this winter, has sufficiently filled the underground aquifers enough to ensure our rivers are in good condition this year.

We are very fortunate to control some of the best river fishing in the South of England, we just need the fish to respond to visiting angler's baits. They can then spread the word about how good our venues are, and return themselves to try another day.

Good night everyone.

### **Interim Treasurers Report by John Bygrave**

Not a lot to report, if you look at the balance sheet prepared by our secretary you will see we have made a profit on the year as I predicted. It is not all good news though, if you look at our income you will see that is down by about 10% from last year, that is explained by the reduction in membership which spills over into so many other things, less people joining means sales of keys, badges, night permits etc, are almost certain to go down, though this year not by as much as you may have thought. By the same token expenditure is down also, according to the balance sheet by some 30% which is not a true reflection of the state of play as some of our water rents have been paid late and have not appeared on this balance sheet, they will show in next years. The true state is

expenditure is down by about 12% and means we have still made about the same margin of profit as we made last year.

I did not do any advertising this year which may have reflected in the reduction in membership but the prices rose so dramatically I didn't think it was worth it.

If anyone has any questions let's hear them and I will try and give sensible answers. There were no questions

### **Competition Secretary by David Blake**

No report as such but I do feel we need a strategy of some sort to increase members, whatever their ages.

Although there are not as many match fixtures, CALPAC is normally well represented.

Tight lines for all on the coming season.

### **Membership Secretary by Denise Wheeler**

Good evening everyone, it's nice to see you all again.

This season has been difficult for me as my husband suffered a very life-threatening stroke, but I have still been able to keep up my duties as membership secretary.

Unfortunately, we are down on memberships this year but seemed to be up on night permits, mostly at Manor Pond. I would like to thank Phil at Monor Pond for helping me with night bookings etc, it was a great help.

Over the last few days I have had a lot of phone calls about joining CALPAC so fingers crossed we will have a better year.

I end my report by saying a very big thank you to my very special friend Carmel who has kept me in the loop with CALPAC and been there for me when Tony has been very ill.

I would also like to thank everyone who has sent emails, phoned me and visited to see how Tony is getting on and if I need anything, so a big, big thank you to all of you.

Let's hope next season will be better not just for fishing but also my husband Tony.

This ends my report, tight lines everyone. Denise

### **Election of Officers**

### **Proposed**

President

John Bygrave

Vice President

Jim Hamilton

Chairman

Bob Smith

Vice Chairman

Jim Hamilton

General Secretary

Carmel Jones

Treasurer

John Bygrave

Fisheries Officer

Dean Hawkins

Members Secretary

Denise Wheeler

Competitions Secretary

David Blake

**All above were re-elected.**

### **Election of General Committee Members**

Currently, Alphonsus Duffy, Augustine Duffy, Malcolm Corner, Peter Alexander and Phil Oakeshott.

We are also pleased to have recruited two new general committee members Alfie Harris and Bramley Greenfield who were at tonight's meeting. Proposed by Denise Wheeler and Seconded by David Blake and all in attendance in agreement.

### **Items Discussed in Other Business**

- David Adby asked who currently has the Invicta Shield trophy in their possession. No one in attendance has it, David Blake will contact Peter Alexander to double check if he has it and at the same time get the box of trophies back so we can do a stock take, any engraving that is outstanding or repairs if necessary
- Denise Wheeler mentioned that Epsom Council would like some fish to be removed from Great Lake, which we have hold ongoing permission for, we simply need to provide notice. If fish are going into closed water no health check required. It was mentioned that Stew Pond has enough due to the silt issue however if any club needed some fish maybe we could provide for a sum, which we could use towards maintenance at Stew Pond. Yalding 2 was also mentioned for some more fish.
- Dean Hawkins received an email from a member who was not happy about recent visits to Manor Pond regarding parking, swims and attitude of a bailiff which was making him re consider re-joining CALPAC this season, so much so that he had emailed Dean Hawkins complaining. Dean answered him and asked if he could describe the bailiff as it does not sound like one of our bailiffs and could be someone impersonating one of them. Also, Dean suggested that they contact us straight away in the future with any issue, as it would be easier to investigate that way. Obviously, we encourage them to re-join as we do not wish to lose any members and there are always two sides to every story

Meeting Closed by Bob Smith at 8.55pm and Minutes by Carmel Jones

**Next Meeting Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 8pm**

**Venue: The Thomas Wall Centre, 52 Benhill Avenue, Sutton, Surrey. SM1 4DP**