

**The Colne Valley Youth and Community Association**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**held online on Thursday 12 November 2020**

**Present:**

Bernie Banks, David Gilbert, Neil Maddock, Brian O'Leary, Karen Smaggasgale, Jenny Vickers

**1. Apologies for Absence:**

Eammon Doherty sent his apologies.

**2. Chairperson's annual Report for 2019: by K. Smaggasgale**

Karen thanked everyone for attending and thanked the Arthur Beale marine shop for hosting the Zoom meeting.

She highlighted that this meeting was unusual and we had followed advice from the Charity Commission for how to run the meeting appropriately. Our members will have the opportunity to vote on key decisions through an online vote after the meeting.

This has been a very difficult year with both the ongoing works of HS2 and Covid 19. Lockdown in March and the furlough of staff was followed by limited opening and a curtailed Summer Season. Finally, there has been the very sad closure of the Centre due to HS2 taking possession of the site. On behalf of the Trustees and Committee (who sadly have not been able to meet in these difficult times), Karen would like to extend her thanks and appreciation to all the staff for their incredible hard work and commitment. Schools and individuals have continued to use the Centre right up until the end and it has given much needed respite for many. So thank you all.

The closure of HOAC is devastating. But, we are positive that these sad times will only be the beginning of something new and wonderful.

welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported that the centre had had another amazing year, thanks to the staff's continued loyalty.

**3. Presentation of Centre Report for 2020: by N. Maddock**

A copy of the full report is available on the HOAC website.

Neil reported that as Karen had just mentioned it has been a very difficult season for a number of reasons, although the centre report includes what we have done this season there is obviously a massive drop in the provision that we have been able to provide which will result in the centre making considerable losses for this season, fortunately the trustees have ensured we have reserves set aside for such situations.

No HOAC run clubs were able to run this year, the race committee however worked hard to ensure we were able to have some racing at HOAC over the summer culminating in the Final Fling regatta which saw 40 boats racing in very challenging conditions.

It is sad to report that Bert May, commodore of QSC had a stroke earlier in the season, his army of QSC helpers continued to bring him to HOAC to ensure he kept up with how the summer racing was going and are also keeping QSC ticking over until he is fit enough to take the helm again.

HS2 have finally taken control of the majority of the centre and from the 1<sup>st</sup> October we have been closed to the public (although we did sneak some sailors onto the lake in October to complete their Dinghy Instructor Assessments!)

LBH and HS2 have been struggling to agree on various issues regarding HOACs move but I am now pleased to announce that they have sorted out all of the outstanding issues and the design team are back on board tasked with getting HOAC set-up for the 2021 season.

Unfortunately we are still unable to announce where the new HOAC site will be, but hope we will be able to update you soon.

Since closure the staff have been packing up the site ready for the move and are looking after the members boats that remain on site.

Finally, Neil thanked, local MP's and councillors, LB Hillingdon, HOAC Management, Trustees, Committee Members for their continued support. To Bert May and Wal Saunders who have been on top of HOAC's maintenance for many years, who both stepped down at the beginning of the year before the chaos of HS2 and Covid ensued. To all Volunteers and Young Leaders who although have not been able to help out as much as normal stand ready to support when we need them and finally to all our users for their continued support and for braving the HS2 security to use the centre this season..

#### **4. Presentation of Audited Accounts for 2019/2020: by Dave Gilbert**

Dave presented the accounts to the trustees, as these had been circulated before the meeting there were no questions or queries arising.

The Centre has had another successful year generating income, to which Dave thanked Neil and all the HOAC Staff for their continued hard work.

General expenditure has been low with no capital expenditure of non-moveable items, due to HS2 and the need to maintain reserves for relocation.

- Jenny Vickers proposed that the presented accounts be accepted.
- Bernie Banks seconded this.
- **The vote to be held via an online link (see HOAC website).**

It was also recommended that we remain with our current auditors, Sterling Grove Accountants Limited.

- Bernie Banks proposed this
- Jenny Vickers seconded this
- **The vote to be held via an online link (see HOAC website).**

A copy of the Audited Accounts is available online on the charity commission website or from the HOAC Office

#### **5. Questions to the meeting**

As members could not be present at the meeting they were invited to submit questions in advance.

Brian O'Leary asked 6 questions all relating to the management and responsibilities and legal aspects of the move these will be answered at the next trustee meeting once the information has been acquired from LBH and HS2.

## **6. Election of The Colne Valley Youth and Community Association Committee:**

Karen thanked the outgoing committee for their eagerness to serve despite the fact we have been unable to meet due to Covid-19. Moving forward we intend to run meetings for the coming season, initially online and hopefully in the new year face-to-face meetings could take place. The current committee are all happy to re-stand for the coming season, Brian O'Leary also felt he would be better serving on the committee rather than as a trustee so Karen proposed voting the existing committee and Brian on as one group

- Karen Smaggasgale proposed the motion.
- David Gilbert seconded this.
- **The vote to be held via an online link (see HOAC website).**

The proposed committee consists of Brian O'Leary, Susan Howells, Nick Manthorpe, Richard Manthorpe, Bert May, Jon Neale with Karen Smaggasgale (Chairperson) and Dave Gilbert (Treasurer) as trustees on the committee.

## **6. AOB:**

Full minutes will be re-produced once voting has completed.

Click on the link to vote (voting will close on 22<sup>nd</sup> November)

<https://doodle.com/poll/4mmq68c72h9xsec9>

## **7. Date of next AGM: 11th November 2021**

**Proposed first committee meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 online**

**AGM closed at 8:47pm**