



# *The Association of Nene River Clubs*

NBC OCC EBC PYC MLWC MCC BBC

## **ANRC AGM Meeting on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at Oundle Cruising Club starting 8pm**

John Brown welcomed everyone to OCC and the ANRC AGM. A slightly disappointing number so far with only 29 Members attending, with someone on the way.

### Apologies for Absence

Harold McManus (EBC), Josi Loveridge (PYC), Dave Loveridge (PYC). No further apologies had been received.

### Minutes of Last AGM Meeting (Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016)

John Brown stated that everyone should have received their minutes, had they read them. The floor replied that they had.

Minutes from the last AGM were passed as a true and accurate account.

Proposer: Dennis Sacker

Seconded: Bill Barry

### Matters Arising

No matters were raised from the floor.

J. B. raised the issue of Trustees that was not on the agenda, that this would be added on the agenda as item 12, which the floor agreed.

The issue of the missing pennants was raised from the floor, asking what decision was concluded. It was explained that there is still a little bit of confusion, that there is certainly not that many missing. After a lot of enquiries, trying to get information from the Treasurer, a conclusion was made that there is about 1/5 still missing. These would have been given as free pennants to Clubs and various Organisations, and not recorded. There are about 20 pennants in stock now, which were entered on the balance sheet at retail price and not cost price, with the retail price at £10 and the cost approximately £6. It was asked from the floor if this matter was now closed, which the reply was yes, this matter is now closed. This had been an exhaustive investigation.

It was asked from the floor if Terry Pacey had agreed to the vouchers, but John Brown unable to answer this as the Treasurer resigned prior to the AGM. John continued that he presumed that Terry had accepted the £25 vouchers and stated that hopefully to do this again this year.

### Captain's Report

There has not been a lot going on. There have been more discounts added, with the lists advertised on the website. John Brown asked Adrian Cleave how many hits the website has now had, which Adrian replied that he had not checked but is still going very well. John Brown thanked Adrian for the maintenance and upkeep of the website.

John Brown mentioned the most important subject for years, Islip Footbridge, is due to be replaced in May 2017. The cost of this was around £200,000. Letters were sent to all ANRC Clubs and other non-affiliated Clubs and other Organisations. Apart from the donation from the ANRC, PYC, Jenny Sullivan (in memory of Ralph), MLWC and AWCC and a promised donation from EAWA. This was a little disappointing, as the bridge has been a difficult and dangerous bridge for many boaters. It is going, and hopefully completed by the end of May, and John has been promised that this will not affect the navigation for the Rally. A lot of hard work has been done by Sue Cant, who has really pushed this through the EA, even though technically this has nothing to do with the EA.

The attendance for the Dinner and Dance was pretty good but could have been better. Hopefully this will improve this year. John Brown asked Paul Scrivener if any information had been received yet, which Paul replied that the room has been booked and currently just waiting for confirmation of the menus. The venue is at Barnwell Village Hall.

The Harbour Masters trophy was awarded to Norman Croot of Northampton Boat Club, because of all the hard work he had done for the Rally, organising the boats, etc.

The ANRC Rally at NBC was a roaring success. Bar takings was about £8,000, etc. It was a very good Rally, and the talk of Rallies not being profitable is unbelievable. This year the Rally will be held at PYC and promises to be different. There will be entertainment and singers throughout each day every day, and hopefully everyone will be able to attend.

On a very sad note, Ralph Sullivan passed away this year. He was longstanding Member, and was well known by everyone, and a lovely man who will be sorely missed.

Unfortunately, Jeff Walters had decided that he will not be standing again as Vice Captain this year, as he is possibly planning a cruise throughout the year. He has personal commitments and will hopefully return next year.

John Brown wished to thank the Officers, Committee Members, Clubs and Membership for their help over the last 12 months. It has been taxing sometimes, but it has been encouraging from reports from Members. It is very rare that a complaint has been made. Thank you to everyone, for all their help. Have a good boating season and a safe one. We will see everyone at the Rally. Don't forget that other Clubs have entertainment on during the summer as well, and please try to attend as many as you can.

## Vice Captain's Report

No report received.

## Secretary's Report

Over the past 12 months it has been a little busy, with letters being written to generate donations for the Islip Footbridge Project, sent to Clubs and Organisations, which has been quite successful.

Letters were also written to protest at the proposal of the non-reversal of locks on the Nene, and that this was not a good practice for the River Nene for obvious reasons. Letters were sent, one letter sent to Downing Street. It was mentioned that no reply has been received yet, but John Brown added that the practice of reversing the locks was still taking place in strong stream. The River weirs are not capable of taking flood water.

Please do not forget to keep checking the ANRC website for up to date discounts and current information.

Karen thanked the ANRC Committee for their valuable time, attending all the meetings to bring the Committee up to date with the affairs of the River Nene. Karen also thanked all the Club Reps for attending the Committee Meetings for the past 12 months. Karen also thanked the Clubs and everyone who attended the AGM for their support over the past year. A safe and enjoyable boating season was wished to everyone.

## Proposals

Karen Scrivener advised that there was one proposal for this year, with relation to Clubs Subs. The ANRC financial year starts on 1<sup>st</sup> January each year, and that in the past payments have been requested to be paid by then, in fairness some Clubs have been including payments within their own Club Subs. The ANRC Committee decided, at the Committee Meeting prior to the AGM, to put forward the following:

The receipt of the ANRC Club subscription payments should be extended, for payments to be accepted between 1<sup>st</sup> January and 31<sup>st</sup> April each year, to take immediate effect.

Proposed: Ron Smith

Seconded: Adrian Cleave

The proposal was unanimously passed by majority show of hands, no-one against.

## Balance Sheet

John Brown stated that as there is no Treasurer answers to any questions will be limited. John stated that there is money in the bank, and that the ANRC do offer an interest free loan to Clubs for projects. John asked if anyone had any questions regarding the balance sheet provided by the resigned Treasurer, and he will do his best to answer them. A query regarding what the management expenses were was received from the floor. John explained that this was everything rolled into one, such as bills, fuel, postage etc. John stated that he did not know why it was rolled all into one, but the balance sheets were only received a couple of weeks ago. John had contacted Terry who explained that the previous Treasurer wanted the balance sheets done differently, which is why the costs were rolled into one. There was not enough time to question it.

The mooring rent was queried from the floor, whether this was being paid again this year. John replied that he hoped so, and that Jeff Walters was in charge of the mooring and has the board. The key is still required so that access can be gained to erect the sign. Ron Smith stated that a key was given to both Jeff Walters and John Brown. John requested volunteers to help erect the sign. This request will be put onto Facebook with a projected date.

A slight raise in the Membership subscription was noted by a Member from the floor, and that the Membership fee was raised. John answered that the raise applied this year, but would not show on the balance sheet until next year. A query about the number of Members the ANRC had, which the reply was approximately 337 (not just Individual Membership). John was still waiting for Membership lists to come through. No further questions were asked.

Proposer: Paul Scrivener

Seconded: Ron Smith

## Election of Auditors

Terry Pacey was put forward as proposal as the Auditor.

Proposer: Paul Scrivener

Seconded: Fred Gwenin

John Brown asked the floor if they were all in agreement to give Terry a £25 Marks and Spencers' voucher again, as he is doing the accounts for nothing. The floor were in agreement.

## Election of Officers

Moving onto the Election of Officers, this year we have received the following nominations, with the following Proposers and Seconders. John offered the positions to the floor for anyone who wished to stand for Committee.

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NOMINEE</u>	<u>PROPOSER</u>	<u>SECONDER</u>
<b>Captain</b>	John Brown	Mick Lyons	Dave Peryor
<b>Vice Captain</b>	Dennis Sacker	Brian Gowler	Karen Scrivener
<b>Secretary</b>	Karen Scrivener	John Brown	Sylvia Keane
<b>Treasurer</b>	Paul Scrivener	Karen Scrivener	John Brown

John Harris was proposed for the position of Treasurer by Alan Buckle, seconded by Brian Gowler. This went to a vote by show of hands. Paul Scrivener had seventeen votes, John Harris had nine votes. Paul was elected Treasurer.

### Trustees

John Brown brought to the attention of the floor, the subject of the requirement of Trustees. The only information that John has in relation to any current Trustee, is John Crisp. The query about what the duties were of a Trustee was raised from the floor. John explained that a Trustee is a figure head of the Association, who looks after the finances and assets of the Association should it be dissolved. Trustees decide, or act by the Committee, of what is to be done with the finances and assets to ensure fairness. There are no financial burdens on Trustees, and are there just to ensure that there is nothing unjust happening with Club funds, etc. The question of how many Trustees are required came from the floor, which John Brown stated three would be suitable for the time being. John Crisp is one, so propositions for two more were needed. Brian Gowler was proposed by Dennis Sacker as one but Brian declined the position. Leanne Brown proposed John Brown, which was seconded by Paul Scrivener. John Brown proposed Ron Smith, which was seconded by Adrian Cleave. Sue George proposed Adrian Cleave, which was seconded by John Brown. The nominated Members were elected into the positions of Trustees by a unanimous show of hands. Four Trustees are now in place.

### A.O.B.

MLWC asked where the Rally will be taking place next year. John replied that it should be MNCC, but a couple of offers had been received to take this on, but this is to be discussed at the next Committee Meeting. Skouldings Rest had been mentioned but John was not aware if this had been discussed at MLWC Committee Meeting. Bill Barry asked if the MLWC was to hold it, which John replied no, the ANRC would host it but on Skouldings Rest. Bill advised that he could put this forward to the Committee. OCC was another suggestion, but John Harris replied that they would not be able to at this present time. J. B. added that all options are open. John then mentioned MCC. Brian Gowler answered that MCC were waiting until the Rally this year to see how it's done before a decision is made. John then mentioned another option of using the new mooring, and stated that the Rally will happen, it's just a case of where. NBC are unsure of whether to hold it. The event brings with it a nice profit for the host Club. The ANRCs' Rally in 2011 brought in a profit of between £3000 to £4500, with the help and generosity of MNCC with the use of the land and their help. John added that it is just a shame that MNCC are refusing to return to the ANRC fold. The possible problem of using the new mooring, because of the lack of fresh water, was raised from the floor. John answered that there is a water point just under Fotheringhay Bridge, but the reply was it would be difficult to get the water especially when catering is involved. John replied that if this did happen, holding the Rally at the mooring, then this would be a problem. John added that generators would be easy to get hold of, free of charge, through the company that has taken over his employer. John also added that water bowsers, so that there would be running water, would not be problem either. Toilet blocks are expensive. There would have water, the three Marquees, power, and the large flat land behind the mooring.

John suggested an elson disposal, but we would need volunteers, but the only difficulty will be the road access. At the ANRC Rally in 2011 could not fault the volunteers. A decision needs to be made over the next few Committee Meetings, but the preference would be to hold it at another Club, as this means the Club will profit from it.

Dennis Sacker asked about the moorings from the EA. John confirmed that there are seven moorings in the pipeline. Dennis asked if John could confirm where these possible moorings will be. John replied that we do not have these moorings, but the ANRC are currently in negotiations with the EA for them, free of charge. These negotiations have stopped due to the elections. EA had advised John that they are not able to do anything until after the elections. Ron Smith mentioned that at the recent Nene Task Group meeting, Ron had mentioned about grant in aid but the answer was that the EA would not discuss this as they were in a hurry. John Brown and Jenny Sullivan stated that the moorings requested were in Nassington, Cogenhoe, Woodford, and other sites. The contact for EA estates has changed twice due to change in staffing. With the Club Moorings, these additional moorings would take the total up to fourteen moorings. John has started this many years ago, but John is having doubts about getting more moorings because of trying to get volunteers for the maintenance of the moorings. The other thing is policing them, as it would be impossible to police. John suggested putting the locations onto the website.

Adrian Cleave mentioned that at the recent Nene Task Group Meeting, the Tuesday prior to the AGM, a proposal was shown for a grant of £25,000 to produce a proposal for enhancing the image of the Nene Valley. If the proposal is accepted, it is being put forward to the Lotteries Commission/National Lottery/Sports England. It is looking very positive that the Nene Valley could get a grant of £2.4 million towards various activities along the Nene, £500,000 of which could be nominated for three new EA moorings on the Nene. One proposed mooring is at Chester Farm, the Farm World on the A45, which is associated with a Roman dig. The idea is to encourage visitors to these points of interest to enhance the image of the valley. There are still in negotiations to the most suitable locations for the other two. Nothing has been finalised yet, but the proposal that was shown was a large document with a lot of work done, showing the great length of the valley. Another subject Adrian mentioned is that regarding the non-reversal of locks, Guy Tsomie failed to show up, and has also failed to explain why Titchmarsh Lock has been reversed nine times during the periods when the floods were up. Guy had apologised for his absence due to ill health. Adrian also stated that regarding Islip Bridge, the proposed dates for temporary closure of the river for the lift off of the bridge will be 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017, and the lift on of the new bridge on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017. The bridge is being built as we speak, but these dates are all subject to other bridge works that are going on, because of the crew that is necessary for the lift off of the old bridge and to lift on the new bridge. There is a chance that the lifting off of the bridge could be put back to July. Adrian also stated that they had addressed the comment from the IWA, about the closure of all the East Anglian Waterways. A point was raised that this was political and disproportionate to the actual proposals involved. The proposals were that they were not maintaining some waterways in The Lincolnshire part of the waterways, which had about six boats in six months. Welchs' Dam had also been mentioned at the meeting, about the excellent work done getting boats up that part and opening up the waterway. The IWA has a fantastic volunteer workforce. The ANRC has been trying to get the EA to use volunteers for years, but they were not having any of it. Adrian stated that the EA has now been persuaded into looking into using volunteers, like the IWA, and to cover their backs they have a company who will manage the volunteers by providing the training. This will ensure less likelihood of volunteers claiming against the EA.

Thank you everyone for coming, see you all during the Summer, and have a safe boating season.

The next Committee Meeting will take place at Northampton Boat Club on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 8:00pm.

The meeting concluded at 8.55pm on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

**Captain**  
**Mr John Brown**  
22 Marlow Rd  
TOWCESTER  
Northamptonshire  
NN12 6AS

**Vice Captain**  
**Mr Jeff Walters**  
99 Fleetwood Close  
March  
Cambridgeshire  
PE15 9NB

**Treasurer**

**Secretary**  
**Mrs Karen Scrivener**  
153 Boughton Green Road  
Kingsthorpe  
NORTHAMPTON  
Northamptonshire  
NN2 7AA

