



The Association of Nene River Clubs

NBC OCC EBC BBC PYC MLWC MCC

ANRC Committee Meeting Friday 12th March 2016 at Oundle Cruising Club starting 8pm

Members Attending

John Brown – J. B. – (A. N. R. C. Captain),
Karen Scrivener – K. S. – (A. N. R. C. Secretary),
Paul Scrivener – P. S. – (P. C. C. Rep),
Ron Smith – R. S. – (E. B. C. Rep),
Dennis Sacker – D. S. – (N. B. C. Rep),
Mick Blackwell – M. B. – (N. B. C. Rep),
Dave Peryer – D. P. – (M. N. C. C. Rep),
Dan Cleveland – D. C. D. (B. B. C. Rep),
Dan Jones – D. J. (B. B. C. Rep),
Richard Ganderton - R. G. (A. N. R. C. acting Treasurer),
Josi Loveridge – J. L. – (P. Y. C. Rep),
Dean Chapman – D. C. – P. Y. C. Rep),
Bernard Keane – B. K. – (M. L. W. C. Rep),
Sylvia Keane – S. K. – (M. L. W. C. Rep).

Apologies for Absence

Jeff Walters (A. N. R. C. Vice Captain), and Adrian Cleaves (A. N. R. C. Web Master).

Minutes of Last Meeting Friday 8th January 2016

All in the meeting were asked if they had read the minutes, and if they were correct. The main part of the minutes was the piece from Sue Cant, outlining the approximately 4 years' hard work with Islip Footbridge, which has now sunk at present, but we will continue to harass other Council Departments for money. All were in agreement that the minutes were a true and accurate account.

Prop: D. P.

Sec: P. S.

Matters Arising

K. S. mentioned that Adrian Cleaves had sent an email to her on 7th March 2016, regarding the additional flag to the title at the top of the ANRC Website. The reply was that there is not enough room across the top. The size could be reduced but it would become unreadable. P. S. stated that it was just a suggestion.

J. B. asked if there were any matters arising from the last minutes, to which there was no response. J. B. asked that if anyone had any thoughts about it, to email the details to him or it can be discussed at the next meeting.

ANRC Website

J. B. mentioned that we now have another company offering ANRC Individual Members a discount. The company is J. H. Marine Glazing, who replaces Marine glass and reseals, is offering our Individual Members 10% discount on production of ANRC Membership Cards. This now makes the total of 13 companies offering ANRC Individual Members discount. J. H. Marine Glazing is based in Cambridgeshire, and P. S. added that he will to travel. We are still looking for more companies to offer ANRC Members more discounts. J. B. asked if everyone had been looking, which P. S. replied that he has been sending out the ANRC Introduction letters. P. S. also mentioned another company, a sign writing company, which he sent an Introduction letter to. J. L. asked if a list of the companies could be sent out to the Clubs, which J. B. replied that the list is on the website. J. B. then asked how many look at the website, to which S. K. replied that they tend to look at it quite frequently, but not recently. R. G. had his laptop on, and J. B. asked if he could bring the website up to read out the list. We need to promote the website. D. S. asked if the contact list had been sorted out, which J. B. added that the list provided by R. G. had typing errors.

Captain's Report

The new discounts have been discussed previously.

Completed Rally Programmes have been sorted.

We now have the RYA Affiliation Certificate for 2016, which had been sent to K. S. The ANRC has been a member between 20 to 30 years, and we had never seen one before. This is now displayed on the ANRC Website and ANRC Facebook page.

Not a lot has been happening since the last meeting, but the next meeting regarding Islip Bridge is due to take place sometime next month.

Vice Captain's Report

Jeff Walters, in his absence, had given S. K. his report from the Anglian Waterways Group meeting. The new Jabba telephone system for the EA was highlighted in his report.

J. B. went on to mention that if everyone went onto the website, the new winter closures were put on about 3 or 4 weeks ago, but the advice was to ignore as this went out of the window. The AWG meeting was about their expenditure. The minutes from the AWG meeting, once passed, are displayed on the website and well worth a read. J. B. suggested Clubs print and display them on their notice boards, or the ANRC print out and send to Clubs to put on their notice boards. The only one that is not on the website is the Nene Task Group at the moment. The only avenue to the EA is through the ANRC, there is no other option.

J. B. raised another subject, of the Middle Level Commissioners, and their proposal and amendments for the Navigation that they are wishing to charge. J. B. checked that everyone had a copy of the proposal, which everyone did. R. S. stated that this is their third attempt, and has been going on for some time. This has been to Parliament on several occasions. J. B. asked if we were going to give our support or not. R. S. answered that we need to bear in mind that they do not receive any money from navigation, and all work done without funding from navigation has made boating along that stretch brilliant. The funding that they get is from land drainage and water supply, but they have done a lot of work to make the navigation clearer. R. S. then went on to say that if they could do this with no navigation money, what could they do when they put a small charge on? D. J. added so long as it is in with line with mutual registrations and licences, as no-one would want to pay a separate licence, which J. B. agreed. R. S. added that it would more than likely be in line with what the Cam Commissioners have done. P. S. also stated that he felt that would not operate a separate licence as it is still part of the Old Nene. J. B. asked for a show of hands to support the proposal, which all raised their hands, no one against, and so the agreement to support the proposal was passed. S. K. asked if we would be writing to the Middle Level Commissioners, which J. B. replied yes, that K. S. will send a letter of support.

Secretary's Report

K. S. began that a few subjects that were on her list had already been discussed, such as the RYA Certificate.

All ANRC information, communications, and Dictaphone recordings are now downloaded onto a USB stick, and that there will be no paperwork unless requested.

K. S. went on to add, reference what J. B. had mentioned about the contact list, she had sent out a couple of emails to confirm who the Club Secretaries are, because of the up and coming ANRC AGM. All the paperwork had to be sorted and sent, so that they could be sent to all the ANRC members of that Club in plenty of time. K. S. asked if everyone could forward onto her as soon as possible, the details of their Club Secretaries.

As per the last meeting, a get well card was sent to B. K., wishing him all the best after his operation.

J. B. added the subject of AGM propositions, and asked everyone if they had any. Propositions have got to be received 21 days before the meeting. With the agreement of the Committee, it is suggested that we send them to the Secretaries of each Club, and that they can forward them on, and to put them on the web site and Facebook page, as it will save a lot of money. J. B. asked how the members felt about it. D. J. suggested putting it on the web site. J. B. replied that there are some members do not have computers. J. B. reiterated the question, does the Committee have any propositions to be put forward? D. J. asked about how far we had got with the Rule Book, and changes to the rules. J. B. answered nowhere, which is why we are asking this now, do we want to change it? D. J. replied that there had been plenty of meetings discussing changing the rules. The only one recently mentioned is the proposition to open the membership to the whole of the UK. Personally, J. B. is not in favour of it as it is open to members of River Nene Clubs and affiliated and associated waterways, and feels that this is enough. J. B. is the Chairman of the AWCC South East Region. On the last AWCC meeting they had a new Club Member, Lion Hearts Cruising Club who are an AWCC Member. The Commodore of Lion Hearts Cruising Club, Mr Christopher Durham, has sent an application form and a cheque wanting to join the ANRC. As the Club is affiliated with the ANRC through the AWC, Mr Durham is accountable through that organisation. J. B. asked what everyone else felt, as we have enough members and potential members on this river, but what did everyone else think? Not all applicants have been accepted, we are very tight on membership.

Another subject was increasing the membership fees, but no proposition has been received. D. S. added that he had spoken at their Committee Meeting, and discussed the increase of the Club subs to an additional £1.00 per boat. D. S. went on to state that this would be a proposition from NBC, to increase the Club Boat subs to £1.00 per boat, basically doubling it. R. G. felt that this would be the wrong way to go about it, and personally £5.00 for an Individual Membership is not enough. It was then mentioned that the £5.00 subs was introduced about 15 years ago, and R. G. went on to say that this would have devalued over the years. R. G. and J. B. both personally disagree with increasing the Club subscriptions to £2.00 per boat. D. J. asked if the ANRC need to increase its' funds, which J. B. replied that we will need to. D. J. the asked by how much do the ANRC need to increase by, which J. B. replied that he did not know. The River Nene is a working man's river. R. G. suggested increasing the fees little and often. D. C. suggested the increase apply not by boat as you would need to justify why, but by Individual Membership. J. L. agreed and suggested that the subs should be increased at a sensible rate. S. K. suggested increasing the Individual Membership to something like £7.50. D. P. mentioned that he would find it difficult to collect from the members at MNCC, because the Club is not part of the ANRC. J. B. asked how many ANRC members they have, which D. P. replied 44. J. B. added that MNCC have 44 ANRC members, even though the Club is not affiliated with the ANRC. P. S. suggested raising the subscriptions to an extra £5.00 over the next 5 years, so each year the increase would be £1.00. Everyone liked this idea, and it was mentioned that this is what the EA have done with their increases. J. B. added that this year the increase in the licence is half of what the increase should have been, which was down to the negotiations with the EA by the ANRC, GOBA and other organisations. This is what the Clubs are paying for. J. B. asked everyone what they thought, whether to increase it by £2.50 or an increase by £1.00 per year over the next years. R. G. agreed that the increase should be £1.00 increase per year over the next 5 years.

D. S. then mentioned that he has trouble of getting members as he is always asked when they will get their membership cards. Is there any way if having the cards with him so that he can give them out when he gets a member? J. B. replied yes, it was just unfortunate that he has held off ordering the cards, on the hope that the 2 Clubs may want to return, and had only now received the new membership cards. J. B. asked for a proposition to increase the Individual Membership by £1.00 per year for the next 5 years.

Prop: P. S.

Sec: R. G.

D. J. then asked if the ANRC Membership could be rethought, to try to increase membership numbers, to somehow include all the Club Members as Individual members, without having to pay £5.00 and be handed a card. J. B. replied that every Club member is in fact technically a member of the ANRC, which D. J. added through the Club, which J. B. agreed. J. B. went on to explain that when adding meetings such as DEFRA, members attending have to stand and declare how many members they have. To say 8 clubs in these meetings means to them 8 members, so now membership numbers stated in these meetings includes the Individual and Club Members. J. L. and D. C. answered that PYC adds theirs to the bottom of the Club Membership Renewal Form, and that it works quite well.

J. B. raised the issue that the ANRC's subs are due in January, where Club Membership renewals and AGM's are due throughout the year, which is why the ANRC had not stuck to January, as in the Rules it states that subs are due in January or thereafter. J. B. agreed that this should be done whenever the Clubs' AGM and sub renewals are done. R. S. asked if the ANRC could start the financial year when the Clubs start their financial year, which is basically the end of March. R. S. went on to state that he has problems trying to collect subs at this time, until EBC's AGM. R. G. answered that he has been doing the accounts from the 1st January 2016. J. L. suggested changing the financial year date by closing the account in January, and opening it again in April, which will bring the ANRC in line with all the Clubs. J. B. added that after the AGM, the Officers would need to deal with the bank afterwards. K. S. confirmed, reading Rule 10 (e) in part:

'The Financial Year of the Association shall end on the 31st day of December'.

This means that R. G. was correct in beginning the accounts in January.

J. B. asked K. S. to read out the proposal to go forward to the AGM. K. S. read out the proposal for an increase in Individual Membership of £1.00 per year for the next 5 years. J. B. asked if everyone was happy with the increase proposal, and happy with the amount, which the reply was yes. R. G. asked when the increase would begin, which J. B. replied that it would be passed this year to apply as from next year, 2017. R. G. mentioned responses he was receiving, regarding joining as an Individual Member, as why would they need to join as an Individual Member, as they are already Members through the Club. J. B. answered that the 2 Memberships are distinctly different. Under Club Membership, this would allow the Club and its' Members to have a voice through the ANRC with the EA, and other governing bodies. The Individual Membership is for discounts.

K. S. then mentioned that she had received Middle Level Navigation Notes, and did not know if J. B. was also receiving them, which J. B. replied yes. J. B. then asked if the Clubs get these, which the reply was no, other than R. S. who copies and posts on the Club notice board. J. B. suggested that he will write to them to ask if they are willing to send more copies to distribute out to the Clubs. K. S. also added that this is the same as the EAWA information that comes out each quarter. R. S. suggested putting them on the website. J. B. is to send the request by email. R. S. suggested putting the information on the website, as the Clubs would be able to print them straight off the web.

J. L. mentioned that Members are not aware of the difference between the two Memberships, the Club Membership and the Individual Membership, to which J. B. had suggested before to explain about the ANRC at the Rallies. J. L. suggested going around the Clubs to explain. J. B. added that he was very surprised, when explaining at last years' Rally at PCC about the ANRC and the break down service, how many Members were not aware. J. B. explained that if an Individual Member is in trouble, they are to contact J. B., and if J. B. is unable to attend he would contact one of the 4 engineers on the ANRC's list of approved contractors. R. G. was not aware of this.

D. S. asked if a poster could be done, which the reply was a poster has been done. J. B. will resend out more copies of the poster, and asked everyone to look at the website.

Treasurer's Report

R. G. advised that he has sent off all the accounts that R. G. had to Terry Pacey, and will be ready for the AGM. R. G. went on to advise that as from 1st January, everything is done on line and are sent to the Officers and that all the information is now stored on a USB stick, there is nothing in hard copy unless a print off is requested, which will only be accessible by the Committee. J. B. reiterated that the accounts will not be signed off until after the AGM, and they will then be posted onto the website.

R. G. then suggested Membership payments are taken as a direct payment through the bank account. J. B. would prefer to give the Members the option of a way to pay, agreed by J. L. P. S. suggested using Members names as references. This is something that the Committee will look into after the AGM.

Navigation Updates

J. B. stated that the navigation updates are always on the website and facebook page. J. B. asked if the Clubs could share ANRC information on their own websites.

Dinner and Dance 2016

The Dinner and Dance this year will be taking place on Saturday 24th September 2016, at The Bridge Hotel. The deposit has already been paid. If a table plan is set, with name places, we are able to have a choice of 2. The menu option is as follows:

- Starters – Homemade Carrot and Coriander Soup, Chicken Liver Pate served with Homemade Chutney, Smoked Salmon with Caper Sauce or Goats Cheese parcels served with Cranberry Sauce
- Mains – Pan fried Fillet of Salmon served with a lemon and Parsley Sauce and new potatoes, Slow cooked pork belly served with mashed potato and cider sage, and Breast of chicken served with dauphe potatoes and red wine reduction
- Vegetarian Option – Wild mushroom risotto served with rocket salad
- Desserts – Sticky Toffee Pudding with Butterscotch Sauce, warm Chocolate Brownies served with Caramel Sauce, Baileys Cheesecake, Homemade Bread and Butter Pudding or at an extra cost and prior notification a selection of cheeses and biscuits (£1.95)

The ticket price for the evening will be set £22.00 per head. Having the bar in the same room will cost the Association more, but this is beneficial to everyone that the bar is situated in the same room as the function. A table plan will be completed, but with no names, and would need to pick the menu from the list stated earlier. J. B. stated it is not necessarily a great choice but we need to give the Members a choice of 2. The chosen options are as follows:

- Starters - Homemade Carrot and Coriander Soup, and Chicken Liver Pate served with Homemade Chutney
- Mains - Pan fried Fillet of Salmon served with a lemon and Parsley Sauce and new potatoes, Breast of chicken served with dauphe potatoes and red wine reduction, plus vegetarian option of Wild mushroom risotto served with rocket salad
- Desserts - Homemade Bread and Butter Pudding, Baileys Cheesecake, an extra cost and prior notification a selection of cheeses and biscuits (£1.95)

A. N. R. C. Moorings

J. B. has had a positive update from the EA, hopefully will have some results at the next meeting. D. C. D. asked if we had noticed that there are horses in the field by Cotterstock mooring, and that it is all fenced off and cannot get to the top of the bank. J. B. replied that there should only be fences behind our boundary. J. B. stated that a visit to check would be in order.

There is no update from Jeff Walters, regarding Fotheringhay mooring. J. B. is to contact him.

Boat Watch

R. G. mentioned that there had been an attempted break-in at OCC 6 weeks ago. The intruders had managed to break the locking mechanism and open the door, but had not entered the Club. The possibility was that they could have been disturbed. S. K. mentioned that there had been a lot of break-ins at March.

Things have been a little quiet from Carol Ashton from Cambridgeshire Boat Watch, and are still waiting for Dave to meet with Northamptonshire Police to bring them back into the Major Boat Watch. J. B. added that if anyone knows of anything happening at the Clubs, to pass the details onto him so that he is able to post on Boat Watch, which is also on Facebook. J. B. asked if K. S. had received any information regarding how many hits the website has had so far, which K. S. replied no. J. B. went on to add that the last time it was mentioned there had been something like 3,500 hits.

R. G. then mentioned that he has had problems posting subjects as an individual on the ANRC Facebook page, as has others. J. B. answered that we need to look into this. It was then added that the Clubs to share Boat Watch and the ANRC from the ANRC Facebook page onto their own Club Facebook pages and Websites, such as the Navigation Updates and Boat Watch).

Memberships

J. B. mentioned, as he is Chairman of AWCC, that a new member application has been received from Mr Chris Durham, who is a Member of the Lion Hearts Cruising Club. Lion Hearts Cruising Club is a member of the AWCC, who are affiliated with the ANRC. The AWCC do not have Individual Members, they only have Club Members. Members of Clubs can apply for an AWCC Club card, these would be needed to be able to moor up at a Club on the canals. J. B. then asked the Committee if we could accept the application, as he is a member of an Affiliated Association. J. B. read out Rule 4(b), which reads as follows:

‘Candidates for Membership as in 3(b) shall be nominated by Member Clubs, and the Members nominated shall be Members making the nomination. A person who is not a Member of one of the Clubs forming the Association may apply in writing for Individual Membership. Every such application will be decided on its’ merit by the Committee of the Association.’

For clarity, Rule 3(b) states as follows:

‘Individual Membership for those wishing to avail themselves of facilities provided by the Association, particularly in tidal areas. Membership of this class shall entitle the Member to carry a gold star pennant’.

Club members have to be a member of an accountable organisation. No-one could see any issues with accepting this application, and the application was accepted.

D. C. D. also added that there has been another 4 new member applications. J. B. read out that the new applications, which were from Mark Durrant and Catherine Durrant, and from Mr Brian Smith and Mrs Carol Smith, members of Hills and Hollows, and 1 applicant wanted an ANRC pennant. It was asked if these applicants would be accepted, which the meeting fully agreed to accept.

Reps were then reminded to hand in their Membership Lists, so that J. B. could get on.

J. B. stated that the AWCC are to give each Club and AWCC flag, free of charge. A flag was shown to the Committee. The idea was then suggested that the ANRC do the same, and purchase flags like the AWCC to give to ANRC Clubs.

AOB

J. L. asked if ANRC Committee Meetings would be on a Saturday every couple of months, which the reply was no, that Committee Meetings normally take place on a Friday every 2 months. J. L. asked when the meeting will be held at PYC, which the reply was 9th September meeting. J. L. replied that this would possibly be the night before a PYC function, but will check.

M. B. asked when their date for the Committee Meeting to be held at NBC, which the reply was Friday 13th May 2016.

R. G. stated that he had had questions to ask, relating to the questions earlier about posting on the ANRC Facebook, which had come from OCC's Harbour Masters, Alan Buckle and Mark Hansen. The answer had already been discussed earlier in the meeting.

J. B. mentioned that he is surprised as there has been no news from the Clubs as to how they are coping with the flood water. R. S. replied that he is the only one to go and check, and so far there has been water over the banks on some occasions but no boats lost. It was then asked if the levels were up on the levels, which B. K. and S. K. replied no as the water is being pushed out. D. C. and J. L. advised that PYC did not have any boats lost either, but have had to cut and retie ropes. R. G. replied that OCC had not had any problems at all. D. S. stated that there had been 2 boats lost, a cruiser and a narrowboat. The narrowboat completely sunk as the risers had not risen with the rise in water, the cruiser had possibly been caught under something. The flood water was right across the island, and halfway up the lane. D. C. D. stated that the water had covered the moorings, but all okay. D. P. replied that MNCC had water up to the gate, but all boats were okay, but the concrete foundations for the new marquee had been flooded.

K. S. reminded the meeting re nominations for the up and coming AGM. J. B. asked if K. S. would stand again as Secretary, as he would stand again as Captain, which K. S. replied yes. J. L. then proposed, and P. S. Seconded, J. B. as ANRC Captain and K. S. as ANRC Secretary.

Meeting concluded at 12.10pm.

ANRC AGM Friday 22nd April 2016 at OCC, starting at 8pm.

Next Committee meeting will take place at NBC, on Friday 13th May 2016 at 8pm.

Captain
Mr John Brown
22 Marlow Rd
Towcester
Northamptonshire
NN12 6AS

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

Treasurer (Acting)
Mr Richard Ganderton
16 Mill Fields
OUNDLE
PE8 4L

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