

THE GUZZLERS ANNUAL MEETING Tuesday 13th October 2015
at The Den, Old Town, Leigh-on-Sea.

Present : M. Blackett (Chairman), J. Blackburn, B. Sullivan, R. Salter, P. Jacob, M. Riley, A. Clapham, G. Heath, A. Solomon, Z. Clapham, D. Clark, P. Fairplay, N. James, J. Riley & S. Clay.

Also in attendance was I. Johnson – Group Scout Leader 3rd CB.

Apologies: Received with thanks from 10 other members.

1. The Chairman opened the 33rd Annual Meeting at 20.17 and welcomed all those attending with a special mention of congratulations to Ian Johnson who had been rewarded with an MBE for his outstanding voluntary work over a number of years. Moments of silence were had with memories of Dave Packer and our President Ron Cox who had passed away in recent months.

2. The minutes of the previous Annual Meeting on 7th October 2014 were accepted unanimously by those attending..

3. There was one matter arising from the previous AGM; that being; the Group had not acknowledged our £750 gift for the purchase of a tent for Cubs. This had now been acknowledged by Akela with their thanks.

4. The Chairman spoke of our activities in the preceding 12 months.

Social Events:- As well as that after the AGM we had two pub nights during 2014/15. The first in March at the Smack and the second in July held at the Billet when the turnout again was excellent. A small contingent of members and wives celebrated Trafalgar night 2014 at the Swan in Lavenham. An interesting trip to the War Museum took place in February.

Boating activities:- Recruiting and Den Day. A group of members met at the Den on the Saturday and went afloat, followed by beer and BarBQ, successfully recruiting 5 new members. There was a weekend motor to Whitstable on 'Calypso' for the Oyster Festival in July. In September some Guzzlers had a chartered week on the Rona Trust schooner 'Merrilyn'. A party of 18 members, wives and friends sailed up the Thames on PS Waverley, on a lovely sunny day which was one of the highlights of the year.

5. The Secretary reported that paid up membership stood at 62 for 2014/15 and 57 in 2015/16 so far. There were 18 with outstanding subs and these will be chased up. Cards of condolence with our sympathies had been sent to Liz Packer & Betty Cox. Various emails received from the Group had been passed on to members during the year.

6. The Treasurer reported that the finances were in good shape and had been verified by Ed Strickland, a friend from Ashford Indoor Bowls Club. Donations of £110 that were expressly made for the new facility will be held until called for at the suggestion of the GSL.

Adoption of Income & Expenditure account and Balance Sheet 2014/15 Proposed S. Clay, Seconded G. Heath - Unanimous

7. Subscriptions 2015/16 would remain at £5

Proposed M. Blackett, Seconded D. Clark - Unanimous

8. Election of Committee

Chairman M Blackett.

Secretary / Treasurer S Clay.

Committee Members A Clapham, P. Cottrell & J. Blackburn.

Proposed D. Clark, Seconded M. Riley - Unanimous.

P. Jacob was standing down as he was changing jobs. He was thanked very much for his time on the committee.

9. The years Sailing / Social Programme.

Winter Pub Night Tuesday 22nd March 2016 at The Smack.

Committee to discuss:-

Arrangements to have another Recruiting and / or Den Day.

Visit to Chatham Maritime by road during the winter months.

July Pub Night 2016

Charter of a Narrow Boat. Date - outside school holidays - Summer 2016

Visit to Whitstable for the Oyster Festival 2016

GUZZLERS sailing on Merrilyn 2016 – date to be advised

10. AOB. The Honours Board was in need of an update, which we should fully support. A seat in memory of Dave Packer will be installed on the walkway. The Group celebrates 85 years in 2016.

11. AGM 2016 – 11th October 2016 at The Den at 20.00.

The meeting closed at 21.02 when all repaired to The Smack for some refreshments having worked up a thirst.

Stuart Clay

Martin Blackett

Secretary
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Chairman