



Bury Lake Young Mariners

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 10th December 2023 at 2.00pm

Present: Trustees
Personal members
Representatives from affiliated groups
David Green, Independent Examiner

1. Chairperons's introduction

David Ridout (Chairperson) welcomed members to the second AGM of 2023, and reminded everyone that this was to re-align the cycle following the disruption of the pandemic years.

The Chairperson reminded members that Bury Lake Young Mariners Limited is committed to the development of young people through the medium of sailing and other water-based sports. This is achieved through the:

- Provision of sailing equipment and facilities for use by young people of all ages.
- Organisation of sailing activities.
- Provision of facilities for disabled and disadvantaged people.
- Development of skills and qualifications for youth and adult leaders to support these aims and objectives.

The Chairperson also reminded members of the procedures for voting that would be used during the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from

- Steve Flow - 4th Boxmoor Scout Group, Hemel Hempstead
- Jane Barraclough - British Canoe Instructor
- Matt Bennett - Senior Instructor
- Ben Constable - RYA Principal
- Martin Langtree - Rickmansworth and Chorleywood District Scouts Chairperson
- Chris Hallett - instructor
- Paul Childerhouse - Canoe Sports Trust
- Peter West - 4th Boxmoor Scouts Group
- Katie MacManus - trustee
- Graham Ivory - trustee

3. Minutes of AGM held on 5th February 2023 and matters arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were made available to members by email prior to meeting.

Alan Russell queried the accuracy of the minutes, in relation to the approval of the accounts subject to a review of liabilities regarding the third building. The minutes stated:

Adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts

Following questions from the floor, there was an acceptance to approve the accounts subject to the Independent Examiner reviewing whether there are any liabilities regarding the third building project which would need to be stated (i.e. edited) in these accounts.

Graham Thomas (Treasurer) responded that the Independent Examiner had reviewed the potential liabilities in respect of the third building project and concluded that no amendments to the accounts were necessary.

Subject to this amendment the minutes were APPROVED as an accurate record. Proposed by Paul Knight, seconded by Gavin Allard, and carried by the majority with 3 abstentions.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairperson's report

David Ridout presented the Chairman's report, highlighting several key achievements and developments:

- RYA Training Centre delivered a fully booked programme with new funding secured for instructor training
- Ben Constable stepping down as RYA Principal; the board thanked Ben for his excellent work in updating procedures, improving operations and securing re-accreditation for the Training Centre. New appointment pending
- Third building project reactivated with Paul Childerhouse and Mark Colston helping to re-engage Derek Lofty for cost evaluation and surveys, supported by TRDC and Sport England
- Stand Up Paddleboarding (SUP) successfully established and growing, with new instructors trained under Duncan Wakeling's leadership
- Canoe Sport Trust (CST) revived under Paul Childerhouse, Andre Roy and Julia Pitch
- CVSS and Nomads continue to expand their offerings
- Special thanks to the 'Busy Bees' team for their year-round maintenance work
- Thanks to the Youth Team for organizing events and fun days throughout the year
- Volunteer roles needed for IT systems, marketing/membership, and site maintenance
- Graham Thomas stepping down as Treasurer, with Bhavesh Chauhan appointed as replacement
- Chairperson announced stepping down after 8 years, highlighting achievements including two new buildings, pandemic management, and fleet investments
- Chairperson will continue to lead BLYM Leadership Team (BLT) and serve as Chief Powerboat Instructor

6. Treasurer's report

Graham Thomas presented the Treasurer's report for the year ending 31st March 2023, summarised as follows:

- Total income of £231,996, slightly higher than previous year's £229,944
- Total expenditure increased to £150,085 due to higher overheads
- Recorded a surplus of £81,911, contributing to reserves of £1.42 million
- £61,115 invested in new equipment and boats
- £20,000 paid towards TRDC loan, with £915,000 balance remaining
- The Treasurer expressed his thanks to all BLYM's volunteers, instructors and supporters for enabling another successful year, as well as the independent examiners, Gowers Limited, for their work on the accounts.

7. Adoption of report and accounts for year ended 31st March 2023

Alan Russell raised several questions in connection with the accounts. Following clarifying questions and comments from the independent examiner, the treasurer and some members, the accounts were signed and dated 10/12/23 by David Ridout on behalf of the trustees, and adopted subject to the following amendments:

- Page 1 under the heading Trustees delete "Ms K A MacManus"

- Page 4 under the heading Directors and Trustees delete "Ms K A MacManus (Appointed 24th May 2023)"
- Page 24 amend the text to reflect the current purpose of the contingency fund.

The report and accounts for year ended 31st March 2023 were **APPROVED** Proposed by Mike Marcus, seconded by Adam Quirk, carried with one abstention.

8. Election of trustees

The motion for the re-election of the current board of trustees (Mark Colston, John Constable, Graham Ivory, Katie MacManus, Philippa Parks, David Ridout, André Roy, Malcolm Talbot) was proposed by Paul Knight and seconded by Gavin Allard. The motion was approved by the majority, with one vote against and one abstention.

The current board of trustees were **RE-APPOINTED** until the date of the next Annual General Meeting.

9. Re-appointment of Gowers Ltd as Independent Examiners

Gowers Ltd was proposed for reappointment as Independent Examiners. The motion was proposed by Gavin Allard, seconded by Paul Knight and approved by the majority with one abstention.

Gowers Ltd were **REAPPOINTED** as independent examiner until the date of the next Annual General Meeting.

10. Open discussion

Following the conclusion of formal agenda, the Chairperson opened the floor to questions and comments. A range of topics were discussed including:

- Fleet maintenance and replacement planning
- Volunteer recruitment challenges
- Proposed changes to membership structure
- Building maintenance issues.

11. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 3.30pm