

Wyvern Region (Angling Trust)

Minutes of the Watts App call committee meeting held in July 2022

Present :- A Parker, J Parker, M Spiller, J Stanford, R Albones, W Thomas and N Phillips.

Apologies :- P Cottell and Tiny.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Watts App call meeting.

Chairman's Report

I trust that you and your families are keeping safe and well. Mike and I along with the remainder of our small committee have been in constant contact throughout this period to try to keep things ticking along.

Many thanks to Richard Daw (Tiny) for keeping the website running, doing an excellent job. This has proved to be a vital tool in keeping continuity.

Later on in December 2022 will see a change in a few of the Angling Trust specimen weights, it was always going to be a difficult one to come up with an amicable solution to the final weights.

Myself and Mike sit on the Regional Voluntary Group meetings (RVG) which are held 2 monthly on Teams I feel that progress is being made.

At the end of April we held our presentation evening at the British Legion, many thanks to all who turned up and helped on the day, although generally the response was very poor as far as to say pathetic, it was a total embarrassment, particularly PLYMOUTH my own city. In total one family of four turned up, along with one member from my own club, time normally heals, but I am still feeling bitter about the whole thing. A lot of time and effort and costs goes into putting these events on, perhaps consideration should be given that we do not hold the event.

We have coming up our Open Junior in August and our open small boat in September and as usual help on the day would be appreciated.

As I report every quarter we are as a committee getting smaller, none of us are getting any younger, all the older stalwarts have sadly passed on, many of us doing several jobs. WE NEED HELP, IT IS NOW GETTING TO A DESPERATE STAGE, we have lost several members over recent years, if you can come along and join us please do so. Not sure how long we can continue under the present situation.

Secretary's Report

The presentation evening went well but attendance was fairly poor, which is a shame. Covid could possibly be the reason, who knows? We did ask what member clubs wanted and most replied keep up the good work and keep it going.

Currently meetings etc still on going over Berry Head and Hopes Nose and anti-social behaviour and over fishing. I guess it will roll on for a long time to come.

Coming up soon will be two of our opens which will be the junior open and the small boat at Salcombe, so lets hope to a good turn out at both.

Our next meeting is planned for the RBL unless we change it plus the AGM is planned for the 2nd Wed in November at the RBL. Any propositions should be with us by the October meeting.

Matters Arising

1/ The outstanding fish of the month AT vouchers with the Glasgow Angling Centre are still outstanding apparently. Also there does not seem to be much happening with the new David Rowe Memorial award.

2/ The new specimen award scheme weights had know been sent out by Eric. These will come into effect from 1st Dec 2022.

3/ No further news to date from the A T on the swimmers and anglers at Budleigh.

4/ The David Rowe memorial cup from Wyvern has still to be awarded to Brian Dennis at the Rodbenders club. It is hoped to arrange shortly.

4/ It was raised again and to confirm that the propositions that the Wyvern put through the AGM would not take effect until the new seasons starts later in 2022. It was noted that the two FOM would be merged into one. The C and R records would be Frozen. Please also note that the Small Eyed Ray for area A we would make it the same as Area C boat and shore until the AT agree to amend it. This would be only for internal Wyvern awards etc.

Treasurer

John reported the balance to be £****

Fish Recorder

Mike had spoken to Paul recently and all seemed to be going okay. Paul would like to remind everyone to fill in the FOM forms as accurately as possible and to please submit any record claims only on the correct yellow forms.

The results go out every month onto the Wyvern website for all to see. Any club needing the FOM form receipt back should enclose a SAE for Paul to use.

Website updates

Mike had spoken with Tiny and all was well. Tiny reported everything was up to date. Would soon be working on a new poster for the small boat event.

Any other business

1/ Alex reported that all the prizes and paperwork etc had been done for the junior open in August. Let's hope for a good turnout. Work soon would start on getting bits ready for the small boats in September. MS reported that the prize table was starting to fill up.

2/ With the AT looking at different ways of sizing sharks it was decided we should remove them for the time being in any of our major Wyvern awards.

3/ It was reported that a government group called Policy Lab had been set up. They would be gathering data from anglers etc Wayne did say he was taken part in some form of interview.

4/ A short discussion was had on the likelihood of sea angling licencing etc. It was thought that in most cases it would be a good thing as any money generated could be used solely to keep and help out sea angling.

5/ A quick chat was also had on Tuna fishing locally in the South West. This season we have seen an increase in the licensed boats taking part. This can only be seen as good news for our area.

6/ Wayne made a suggestion that we possible hold more Watts App or Teams meetings instead of everyone travelling to Exeter five or six times a year. Wayne did comment that if he did need to travel for Wyvern, he would rather use his time in helping some of our open events instead of visiting Exeter for a meeting. Mike did comment that at present Paul and Tiny where not able to use this method. Richard did say he could set this up for us possibly on Teams, he said he could possibly help Paul out also by visiting him on the night of a meeting? Everyone thought it might be the best way forward.

Meeting call finished at 21.25