

Wyvern Region (Angling Trust)

Minutes of the Watts App call committee meeting held on 12th Oct 2022

Present:- A Parker, J Parker, M Spiller, J Stanford, W Thomas and J Roe.

Apologies :- P Cottell, N Phillips and Tiny.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Watts App call meeting. Alex reported the sad passing of Ted Tuckerman recently. It was decided we would have a minute's silence for Ted at our AGM in November.

Chairman's Report

I trust that you and your families are keeping safe and well.

At our last meeting we decided to move the quarterly meetings to online, rather than travelling from all ends of the county to one point. The AGM held in November will still be held at the British Legion in Exeter.

Once again, 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 people informed and continuity in the Wyvern Region.

December 2023 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. All clubs should have received the revised weights now from Eric.

Also, a reminder that the Wyvern Fish of the month awards catch and keep and catch and release are all now under the same umbrella.

The Regional Voluntary Group meetings (RVG) which are held 2 monthly on Teams, has had a bit of development lately. This will be covered later in the meeting.

Since our last meeting we have put on two open competitions, Junior and Small Boat. The junior open, fished at Mt Batten for the 10th year was very poorly supported with only 14 juniors participating, not sure of what went wrong only 4 juniors, 2 from the same family from Plymouth, it was well publicized. What even made it worse was that a local club held a junior competition at the same venue the following day. A tremendous amount of work goes into putting on this event and I felt let down once again by Plymouth. Next year I would propose that we move the event to the east of the county where most of the support came from.

I would like to thank all who helped on the day, twelve in total, also a big thank you to all our sponsors who provided an excellent prize table, with the major sponsor being Osborne and Cragg.

On a more positive note, the Salcombe Small Boat competition attracted 87 entrants with 32 boats, which were fished in again excellent conditions. As usual some outstanding fish were recorded. All ran smoothly over the weekend, once again a big thank you to all who helped over the weekend. Our major sponsor being Chris Mills "Aquat", Chris has supported this event for many years

As I report every quarter we are as a committee getting smaller, none of us are getting any younger, but it is encouraging that we have a few new committee members who have joined us, but we do need more to get back to our quota.

Secretary's Report

Welcome along to tonight's What's app call meeting. Some of you might already be aware that Nevin Hunter has resigned from his marine role within the A T. This has currently left a hole to fill. The RVG group are not over happy and have been talking directly to Jamie Cook at the A T over concern they have towards this situation.

The David Rowe award from the A T is still being finalised by the A T, so far this has taken over 2 years! We have also raised once again the problem of the Glasgow Angling vouchers for the A T fish of the month winners, to be honest both Alex and myself are totally fed up with this subject now. It is totally unacceptable how the A T have handled this!

Two open events have taken place with the small boat well attended and the junior open very poorly supported. Going forward we need to look at dates for both the junior open and the small boats for next year. Lastly, we need to look at the Open Shore at Slapton on the 15th January 2023.

Treasurers Report

A couple of donations had gone out since last time, one for Salcombe RNLi for £100 and one for Ted Tuckerman for £50 for his charity. The accounts are now being made ready for our AGM in November at Exeter. John asked about several historical sums of money in the account, it decided to combine all together into the main account. This included a little left over from the old 200 club. The only extra column to continue should be for the Castle Trophy money.

Matters Arising

1/ No further news on the AT vouchers with the Glasgow Angling Centre. Getting a bit of a joke now with the A T!!!. Also there does not seem to be much happening with the new David Rowe Memorial award from the A T which is so sad really. If only the A T new how important both these topics are to the Wyvern Region.

2/ The new specimen award scheme weights 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 so it was decided to close this one down.

4/ The Wyvern sponsored David Rowe memorial cup from Wyvern has been awarded to Brian Dennis at the Rodbenders club. A photo and report had been put onto the Face Book page.

4/ Hopes Nose and Berry Head still rumbles on in the background. More meetings are planned for end of November 2022. Lets hope with Nevin standing down the A T still carries on supporting and keeping an eye on things.

5/ The age of juniors (16 or 17) would be voted on at the next AGM.

6/ Swimmers at Plymouths Firestone Bay was still running on. A letter recently had been seen from Luke Pollard explaining a few things.

7/ Plastic pollution in Plymouth Sound and local estuaries was still being discussed. Regular clean ups are taking place at these sites. Everyone agreed that Jason should ask if this group would like to come along to our Presentation Evening and give a short talk.

8/ Mike had spoken to Tiny about a date for the junior open possibly at West Bay. Tiny had reported that the best two-week period would be early September for fishing. After a quick discussion it was felt it might be better for us towards the end of August simply because of the small boat early in September.

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, this includes putting the area caught along with a location of capture.

The results go out every month onto the Wyvern website for all to see. Going out very soon to all fish recorders who club take part in the FOM and Castle Trophy would be a letter asking them to claim their clubs best of other fish for our other major awards. Also, a reminder that the £10 is now due for this year's Castle Trophy / FOM. Any cheques should be payable to the "Wyvern Division"

Website updates

Mike had spoken with Tiny and all was well. Tiny reported everything was up to date.

Any other business

1/ With the AT looking at different ways of sizing sharks it was decided we should discuss further if needed at the AGM.

2/ Mike would look at contacting the South Hams Council about our Open event at Slapton. He would also contact the RBL about booking dates for next year's meetings.

3/ Mike made a suggestion that all our minutes etc should be put up on the website. All agreed that this was a great idea for all to see.

Meeting call finished at 21.30