

Wyvern Region (Angling Trust)

Minutes of the Watts App call committee meeting held on 11th January 2023

Present :- A Parker, J Parker, M Spiller, J Stanford, P Cottell, R Albones, W Thomas and J Roe.

Apologies :- Tiny.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Watts App call meeting.

Chairman's Report

Firstly, can I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a Happy New Year.

All of our quarterly meetings will now be on line, apart from the AGM which will be held as usual in November at Exeter.

Our AGM was poorly attended, apart from the committee there were only two others in attendance from the same club.

I would like to thank all of the committee members for their hard work throughout the year, please bear in mind that they all do the job voluntarily.

Once again, many thanks to Richard Daw (Tiny) for keeping the website running, doing an excellent job, which 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. Not sure if you are aware, but Eric Gerrey will be standing down in November from running the specimen awards scheme, hopefully a suitable successor will be found, dealing with Eric over the years has been a great pleasure and he will be sadly missed.

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 two monthly on Teams, has certainly in my opinion and I think the same for Mike, "Cause for Concern" which will be covered later in the meeting.

This coming Sunday we hopefully will be holding our Open Shore at Slapton, any help on the day would be appreciated, also hoping for a good turnout.

At the end of the month, it is Wyvern's annual presentation of awards, please try to attend, last year's response was abysmal. A lot of chasing has gone into this event, it would be nice to see all trophy winners in attendance. Please let's not have the same response as last year, with many clubs not even sending a single representative!

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.

Secretary's Report

Welcome along to tonight's What's app call meeting. Bit of a busy period at the moment getting ready for the Open Shore and also our Presentation Evening. Engraving of medals and cups is underway and the certificates will be started soon. A talk on the evening will be done by the Coast Watch Team at Prawle Point. At some point we need to discuss the buffet for the evening, it was felt that instead of doing this ourselves we should perhaps book the RBL to undertake this. It was thought that would cost us around £300 for the food. The Treasurer did say that last year doing it ourselves cost us in the region of £240! We will also need a cheque for the winner of the Castle Trophy, John said he would liaise with Mike and arrange.

Another meeting had taken place at Totnes concerning fishing at Hope Nose / Berry Head. The general feeling at the meeting headed by Antony Mangle was they should look for a total ban or perhaps a partial ban in the first instance. At some point then they would look at some form of return of fishing somehow.

Finally as Alex has mentioned, the Angling Trust RVG meetings seemed to have stalled and currently going nowhere. Since Nevin had resigned things had gone from ok to non-existent (at the moment)

Treasurers Report

John reported that a couple Castle Trophy entries had been received from clubs online. Currently there is £180 sitting in the account for last years winner of the trophy. (Antony Barton) Mike will chat with Antony and find out who the money should be paid to.

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. **(THIS HAS BEEN LEFT THE SAME AS THE OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES AS NOTHING HAD ACTUALLY CHANGED OR BEEN DONE!!!!!!!!!!)**

2/ The new A T specimen award scheme weights are now in effect from 1st Dec 2022. **IT WAS NOTED THAT THE A T WEBSITE IS STILL SHOWING THE WRONG WEIGHTS EVEN THOUGH THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN CHANGED ON THE 1ST DECEMBER 2022**

3/ The open shore on the 15th January looks to be going ok. Wayne and Gatty Gatland had offered to be end markers.

4/ Hopes Nose and Berry Head still rumbles on in the background. See Secretary's report above.

5/ Still need to look at a date for the junior open with Tiny at West Bay SAC.

6/ No further news to date from Eric on the weighing of large sharks like Blue, Porbeagle etc. As they don't bring them aboard anymore they are not accepting large sharks until a better way of getting a weight is produced.

7/ South Hams Council had replied to Mike over parking charges for our Slapton event. They could not offer any reduced parking charges.

8/ RVG updates, nothing to report or moving other than we have found out that Grant Jones has taken over from Nevin on the marine side.

Fish Recorder

Paul reported that not there is not much to report. All results make there was to Tiny and go up on the website for all to see. A full list of main winners and fom winners was now published. One new club has paid by Cheque for the Castle Trophy (PSAA) and three clubs had sent an online payment. If your club would like to join our competition please sent your payment of £10 to Paul or Mike.

Website updates

Mike had spoken with Tiny and all was well. Tiny reported everything was up to date. Many thanks to Tiny for doing a great job.

Any other business

1/ A question was raised from a member of T and B ASA over Bass being allowed to be recorded for awards during the C and R period? Mike reported that he had been in contact with Southern IFCAS, AT via Eric Geary and the Bass Society. All these bodies said there would be no problem with simply weighing and a quick picture and return them straight away. To date Devon and Severn IFCAS had not replied. Everyone agreed that Bass should continue to be allowed however fishing in a Bass Nursery area should not count.

Meeting call finished at 21.15

