



Minutes of the 2016 A.S.W.I.s' A.G.M CophorneHotel Plymouth

Attended	Apologies
Dave Coleman (Chairman)	Paul Hitchcock
Bill Bailey (Treasurer)	Tony Walton
Ted Hunt	Alan Yates
Dickie Antcliff	Pete White
Rob Ayling	Tom Williams
Muz Cowley	Norrie Millen
Buster Tom Brown	Carl Robertson
Warwick Franklin	
Terry Whitty	
Bob Burton (Communications)	

Item 1: Chairman's Opener and Self-Introduction

Followed by attendees' self-introductions: 'Buster' Brown, Robin Ayling, Dick Antcliffe, Ted Hunt, Terry Whitty, Warwick Franklin, Bill Bailey, Bob Burton.

Item 2: Minutes and Actions from Last Year's Meeting

These were read, discussed, and approved.

Item 3: Portsmouth Area Report

Apologies from Pete White followed by his report. Also: Thoughts to Tony and Sylvia Walton as Tony is on course for chemotherapy for stomach cancer (expressions of concern and sympathy).

Item 4: Treasurer's Report

Bill Bailey précised his report and passed copies around for inspection. A discussion followed, mainly dealing with the financing of the evening's events. Chairman's summary: "The finances are healthy".

Item 5: Website Report

Bob Burton told attendees that, although he still has the reins, he is on the cusp of handing over to a 'younger person' who will doubtless have access to (and a better grasp of!) newer technology. He then related how successful FaceBook is proving as a medium for A.S.W.I.s.

The website remains popular but time consuming to update.

Item 6: Election and Re-election of Committee

Chairman: Dave Coleman. Proposed by Bob Burton, seconded Buster

Vice Chairman: the chairman hoped that Sid Street or Derby Allen would take the role on.

Portsmouth Rep: Pete White is happy to remain in post until a replacement is found, preferably a serving member.

West Country Rep: Lee Dudman (HMS Somerset) is happy to remain in post.

Serving Member: Derby Allen (HMS Portland).

Communications/Webmaster: Bob Burton.

Item 7 Attendance at Funerals / letter of condolence / card / wreath

The discussion centred upon the degree of involvement / contribution incumbent upon the committee, and touched on whether or not the deceased had been a fully paid-up member. Members were concerned that the association should not, and should not be seen to be, miserly or cheap. Bob Burton suggested that a sensible solution might be for a letter or a card to be sent and, if a member lived locally, he should attend on behalf of the association. Anything beyond that should be a matter for the chairman and his committee's discretion.

Item 8 Opening Up of Membership Availability

The chairman raised the subject of who the association ought to be opened to and stated that he had been considering this issue for some time. He further said that his opinion was that all sonar rates, past and present, ought to be eligible. Bob Burton then reminded attendees of his recent Survey Monkey poll of paid-up members

Was as follows:

Overall in favour 95.5 %

In favour 60%

Against 4.5 %

Go with the flow 12.5%

Did not vote 23.5%

Of note the result of the vote for all that responded including non paid up members was as follows.

Overall in favour 94.5 %

In favour 80.5%

Go with Majority 14%

Against 5.5%

Having secured a vote in favour the chairman related how he intended to take the Logistics Branch's approach. This is to write an RNTM inviting all personnel described above to a dinner but at a slightly less formal level, as the perceived formalities involved in the 'old' format were quite a disincentive to many, especially the younger ones.

Bob Burton then said that, although he had set up the ASW Association to cater for this group, in the light of this discussion he now considered it to be no longer extant. He will e-mail those people informing them that they are now welcome to join the ASWIs' association and will amalgamate the 2 websites.

The chairman then proposed that in order to promote the idea the association's funds should be used to subsidise the cost of attending next year's dinner-dance.

There then followed a discussion on changing or keeping the association's name (Tom Brown: "Sea Dads!") but it was decided to leave things as they are, for the next year at least, to let matters settle down. The chairman agreed, cementing this view with the fact that he had written to Her Majesty the Queen and that she had written back, thus acknowledging us as the Anti-Submarine Warfare Instructors' Association.

Bob Burton then raised the subject of subscriptions and the consensus was that the price should be kept at £10 p.a. – good value for money and, if, for no other reason that people should not be confused with the prospect of having to change something.

A survey monkey vote on subs was as follows

Overall result 96% in favour of keeping subs at £10

Remain at £10 = 66%

Reduce to £5 = 5%

Go with the majority 30%

Bob Burton then informed attendees that he and the chairman would have to re-write the association's rules. They would then be posted via Survey Monkey for a vote to ratify rather than having to call an AGM for ratification.

Item 9 ASWIs' Barbecue

(Chairman declares an interest as a member of the HMS Drake W.O. and S/Rs' mess Committee)

The chairman suggested HMS Drake W.O and S/Rs' mess as a venue and asked attendees to discuss a best date. The subsequent consensus was the first Thursday evening in September (the 1st not the 9th).

Item 10 2017 A.G.M. and Dinner-Dance Venue and Date

After some discussion the Portland Heights Hotel, Portland was decided as an option or the Weymouth Portland area. Bob Burton volunteered to lead on the event's organisation. **POST Meeting Looking at Weymouth venue**

Item 11 A.S.W.I.s' RNTM

The Chairman said that as this had already been covered the meeting should 'move on'.

Item 12 Any Other Business

The Chairman (repeating the "a bit of self-promotion" theme) strongly suggested that members join the HMS Drake W.O. and S/Rs' Association as it is a strong, successful, and popular enterprise.

Meeting Close