



**Minutes of the 2023 ASW Association A.G.M
Royal Maritime Club Portsmouth**

Saturday 23rd September 2023

Attended
CPO(UW) Paul Underdown (Chairperson)
CPO(UW) David Baxter (Vice Chairperson)
Mr Bill Bailey
Mr Ian Laurie
Mr Tim Lamage
Mr Glenn Cameron
Mr Adrian Bambridge
Mr Mike Loynes (virtual)
Mr Bob Burton (virtual)

1. Chairperson's Welcome and Toast

Welcome by the Chairperson and introduction of all attendees.

2. Minutes and Actions from the 2023 AGM

These were read, discussed, and approved.

3. Election and Re-election of Committee

Listed Below

Position	Member	Approved
Chairperson	CPO (UW) Paul Underdown	Yes
Vice Chairperson	CPO (UW) David Baxter	Yes
West Country Social Representative	CPO (UW) Lee Dudman	Yes
Portsmouth Social Afloat Representative	PO (UW) Shawn Blythe	Yes
Portsmouth Social Ashore Representative	PO (UW) Christopher Sweeney	Yes
Diversity and inclusion Representative	AB (UW) Nathan Mounsey	Yes
Junior Rates Liaison Officer	Mr Glenn Cameron	Yes
Webmaster and Communications	Mr Bob Burton / Tim Lamage	Yes
Treasurer	Mr Bob Burton	Yes

4. AGM talking point, Yearly Dinner Planning. Discuss the 2024 Yearly Dinner. Confirm the Vice Chairperson's attendance and responsibilities for running the event (Chairperson will be unavailable in the USA). Review the proposed date and venue (ideas, venue at either Plymouth Bowling Green on Plymouth Hoe, Crown Plaza Plymouth Hoe, The Dome Plymouth Hoe, Last year's venue The New continental, or HMS Drake WOs & SRs mess) and other ideas are very welcome.

The meeting's agreement was that the vice chairperson would explore the possibility of hosting the 2024 annual dinner at the Crown Plaza in Plymouth. This event could potentially align with Remembrance Weekend, taking place from November 8th to 11th, 2024. It might include a distillery tour at Plymouth Gin on Saturday, the ASW dinner in the evening of November 10th, and a Remembrance Day parade muster on Plymouth Hoe on November 11th.

5. AGM talking point, Engaging Junior Sailors. Explore strategies to increase interest among junior sailors to join and attend dinners and social events. Brainstorm ideas for making these events more appealing to junior members.

In order to promote participation in ASW Association events among junior sailors, we have appointed Mr. Glenn Cameron as the ASW Association's liaison officer for junior ratings. He will serve as a contact person for inquiries related to formal matters, personal issues, and the discussion of upcoming events that junior sailors can organize.

6. AGM talking point, Volunteer Committee Positions. Discuss the need for volunteers to fill committee positions. Review current positions and responsibilities. Encourage members to express interest or nominate others.

The ASW association has successfully placed volunteers in various committee positions, ensuring a strong and diverse team. This will enhance our ability to organize social events, share ideas from current Royal Navy members and veterans, and reach a broader audience. We extend a warm welcome to all our new volunteers, as you are the future of our esteemed association, and we look forward to the positive impact you will make.

7. AGM talking point, Junior Sailor of the Year Award. Discuss the continuation of the Junior Sailor of the Year Award. - Clarify eligibility and criteria for UW Junior Sailors across the UW Community.

This year, as a committee, we made a collective decision to encourage greater participation of Junior members currently serving in the Royal Navy within the ASW association. To accomplish this goal, we introduced the concept of recognizing an ASW association sailor of the year. In my unique role as a liaison between active RN sailors, I reached out to all current FFTA's and requested nominations from their commanding officers for individuals who have made exceptional contributions and demonstrated a strong work ethic in ASW operations. Our intention is to extend this recognition to all Junior members within the Underwater Warfare Community for next year's award, with the hope of inspiring future generations and my relief in the future.

8. AGM talking point, Stock Take and Merchandise. Conduct a full stock take of current association merchandise. Discuss the intention to order new hats, polo shirts, and cumber-bands. Plan to create a poll on the ASW Association Facebook page to gauge interest in these items or other members ideas.

Following the conversation about the ASW association's stock levels and current merchandise inventory, Mr. Bob Burton mentioned that Forever, Jack's website is the repository for all our crests and offers customized clothing and gifts. As an association, we aim to avoid investing in merchandise that might remain unsold for extended periods, potentially resulting in a loss of revenue for the Association. www.shopforever-jack.co.uk.

9. AGM talking point, Possible Visits. Explore the possibility of a visit to Gibraltar in the first quarter of 2024. Discuss the potential for a ship visit on a T23 Frigate in Plymouth followed by Drinks in the WO&SRs mess HMS Drake, Consider organization, member interest for both trips.

To facilitate potential gatherings, our committee will investigate additional social occasions, such as onboard Warships, Naval establishments, or gatherings, to promote better-coordinated get-togethers. This should become more convenient since Covid restrictions will no longer be in place. We will convene as a committee to plan events for the upcoming year.

10. AGM talking point, Any Other Business (AOB). Allow members to mention any additional topics or concerns not covered in the agenda.

One of our esteemed members, Mr. Adrian Banbridge, inquired about the possibility of organizing a visit to a tank regiment, either at Bovington or Salisbury. This presents an excellent opportunity to gain insight into the services, equipment, and history, broadening everyone's perspective of the British army.

11. AGM talking point, Next Meeting. Decide on the date, time, and location of the next ASW Association meeting.

12. Treasurers report: The association funds are in a good position and there are 123 paid up members If you would like the Treasurers report sent to you please email treasurer@aswassociation.org.uk

The upcoming AGM meeting for the ASW Association is scheduled for Saturday 10th November 2024, prior to the annual ASW dinner. Specific details regarding the time, date, and location will be announced as the event approaches.

In my role as the chairperson of the ASW association, I urge any member who has concerns, ideas, or wants to lead a visit to reach out to any committee member. They will be ready to discuss and support you. I want to express my gratitude to all association members for their dedication to every facet of organizing, participating in, and executing our events, both past and future.

