

1. We have a new venue this year, upstairs at The Old Ship in Heybridge Basin. Apologies for absence were received from Ryan Boot and Bob Gower.

2. The minutes of last year's AGM were accepted as published on the Society's website. Proposed by Iain Fraser, seconded by Simon Greengrass, agreed by unanimous vote. Technology has beaten us this year so unfortunately the projector and screen cannot be used and the relevant officers will read through their reports.

3. Officers' Reports

3.1 Financial Report – Simon Greengrass

The Treasurer read through his slides (attachment 1) covering:

Income for 2019
Expenditure for 2019
Historic income since 2001-02
Historic expenditure since 2001-02
Our budget for 2020

As mentioned at last year's AGM we have looked into the possibility of buying our own portaloos and paying to have them serviced and have now purchased portaloos for Slough House Farm and Totham Pit. These will be locked down to a concrete base to try and prevent them being stolen. We have also moved over to combination locks on most of our fisheries (only Heron Hall and Rook Hall remain on key locks) as combi locks are much cheaper to replace than key locks. The only venue that will retain a key lock in the longer term is Rook Hall at the specific request of the owner. Guest ticket sales were up in 2019 which could be directly linked to the drop in membership and key purchases/sales are expected to reduce in 2020.

There were no questions regarding the Society's finances.

3.2 Membership Report – Paul Kyffin

The Membership Secretary read through his slides (attachment 2):

Current 2019-20 membership numbers by category:

Category	Number	Compared to last season
Adults	293	-54
Intermediates	9	-4
Juniors	34	+10
Under 12s	51	-1
Concessionaries	223	-21
Associates	4	-6
Non Fishing	38	+4
Life	8	Same
Honoraries/ Complimentaries	54	+6
Total	714	-66

Of those 178 were new members, 43 members joined on the cheque spread, we sold 31 half price winter tickets and 7 winter three rod upgrades.

Seasonal membership variation:

Our membership has dropped for the second consecutive season (895 to 780 to 714) and is now at its lowest since the 2009-10 season ten years ago when we had 673 members.

The number of memberships sold by our agents:

A big thank you to our two agents, JP Tackle sold 301 memberships and Kim at Angling Essentials sold 22 memberships.

Night permit sales:

We only sold 111 night permits this season made up of 43 Howells night permits and 68 standard night permits, our lowest night permit sales since we sold 110 in the 1998-99 season.

Membership fees for the 2020-21 season:

Adult	£80
Intermediate	£48
Junior	£28
Under 10	FREE
Concessionary	£55
Associate	£55
Non fishing member	£10
Night Permit	£80
Winter 3 rods Oct-Mar	£30
Gate key	£6
Life membership	£800
Guest ticket	£5 - £9
Canal day ticket	£2 - £8

There will be a slight increase in fees. Following feedback from our bailiffing team under tens can now fish for free using one rod only and must be accompanied by an adult member at all times. The junior category will now cover the age group 10-15. We will revert to one night permit which covers all of our night venues, namely Howells, Totham Pit, Slough House Farm, Little London and Bog Grove in the winter.

There were no questions regarding the Society's membership.

3.3 Fishery Management Report – Ryan Boot

The Secretary read out Ryan's report (attachment 3) in his absence and Deano gave an update on the five year fishery management project at Totham Pit which is ongoing.

3.4 Head Bailiffs Report - Shaun McGuinness

Shaun thanked the bailiffs. There were no major issues during 2019 and 99% of situations were dealt with in-house by the bailiffs. We have a strong bailiffing team at the moment but remain open to new bailiffs if anyone is interested.

3.5 Concessionary Report – Keith Leverett

Keith read his report (attachment 4) which included superb matches at Bog Grove, fishing on the river and canal, the sad passing of Richard Seabright, work carried out at Slough House West and monthly meals at the Duke of Wellington.

3.6 Publicity Report – Phoebe Stuart

Phoebe has built us a new website with an improved gallery. This will retain the existing domain name (maldonas.co.uk) and will be much easier to navigate. The Chairman thanked Phoebe for all her hard work and Phoebe stayed behind after the meeting to demonstrate the new website to members on her laptop.

4. Proposals

We received three proposals for rule changes from Jonathan Wilson who talked through each in turn prior to voting taking place:

Proposal 1: Rule 5.15 – Fish Care

In order to minimise the risk of spreading water-borne diseases such as KHV, add “Members must ensure that every item which comes into contact with the fish such as, but not limited to, landing nets, weigh slings and unhooking mats must arrive at the fishery totally dry. This includes the bags/carryalls that these items are transported in”.

Proposed by Jonathan Wilson, seconded by Dean Andrews and agreed by unanimous vote.

Proposal 2: Rule 6.2 – Main Line

In order to reduce the risk of escaped fish trailing tackle, add “No member to fish for pike with less than 15lb breaking strain line”. This increases the minimum line strength when fishing for pike from 8lb to 15lb.

Proposed by Jonathan Wilson, seconded by Keith Leverett and agreed by unanimous vote.

Proposal 3: Rule 5.9 – Dogs

Amend to “Other than where banned by the fishery owner (see individual water information) members are allowed to bring dogs onto the fishery with them as long as they are under control at all times, they do not interfere with the fishing of other members and that member cleans up any mess left by their dog”. This prompted a lot of discussion about keeping dogs on leads etc prior to voting.

Proposed by Jonathan Wilson, seconded by Grahame Stuart, voting 6 for and 15 against, proposal defeated.

5. Election of Officers

There was a request from the floor of the meeting to elect the President and Vice Presidents separately:

President: Ted Watson re-elected by unanimous vote.

Vice President: Alan Hare. Voting 15 for and 2 against, Alan re-elected by majority vote.

Vice President: Bob Gower. Voting 7 for and 11 against, Bob is no longer a vice president.

Chairman and Rulebook Secretary: Malcolm Gardiner was returned unopposed.

Treasurer: Simon Greengrass is standing down as Treasurer at the end of March. Andy Thomas is willing to take over the role of Treasurer from 1st April and was elected to this position by unanimous vote.

Senior Match Secretary: There were no nominations from the floor so this position remains vacant.

Minute Secretary: Paul Kyffin stood down from this position in August. There were no nominations from the floor so this position is now vacant.

Other members: Martin Dodsworth (existing bailiff) is willing to join the committee and was elected by unanimous vote.

Simon Greengrass, although standing down as Treasurer, is willing to stay on the committee as an other member and was elected by unanimous vote.

There being no other members wanting to join the committee it was proposed by Iain Fraser that the remainder of the committee be re-elected on block. This was seconded by Russell Samuels and agreed by unanimous vote.

This unanimous vote re-elected:

Secretary and Vice Chairman: David Spalding.

Fishery Management Officer: Ryan Boot.

Membership Secretary: Paul Kyffin.

Concessionary Match Secretary: Keith Leverett.

Head Bailiff: Shaun McGuinness.

Safety Officer: Grahame Stuart.

Website Editor and Publicity Secretary: Phoebe Stuart.

Other members: Dean Andrews, Dean Barraclough, Iain Fraser and Peter Harden.

There are now fifteen elected officers for the forthcoming season on the committee.

6. Any Other Business

Iain Fraser mentioned the substantial reduction in cost negotiated for the fishing rights on the Chelmer & Blackwater and thanked the committee for their joint effort in achieving this. Kelvedon DAA members can no longer fish the C&B unless they purchase a day ticket.

Paul Kyffin read out a statement (attachment 5) handed to him by member Colin Presland on behalf of the Angling Coaching Initiative (ACI) from their team of coaches and volunteers who would like to thank the committee and members for their continued support and use of Society waters. Iain Fraser suggested that we discuss a committee member attending these coaching sessions at the next committee meeting.