

30th anniversary 1990-2020



www.coraclesociety.org.uk

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Green Wood Centre, Coalbrookdale,
Ironbridge, TF8 7DR on 19th October 2019**

PRESENT

Peter Faulkner, Jude Walker, Mark Dellar, Euan Raffel, Dylan Jones, Bruce Watson, Dave Purvis, David Ghent, Peter Stanyon, Graham, Gerwyn & June Lewis & 2 others

APOLOGIES

Brian & Jane Pearce, Terry Kenny, Dave Nichol

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Agreed as a correct record. Proposed by Dave Purvis. Seconded by Jude Pilgrim

MATTERS ARISING

The Insh Coracle Group thanked the Society for their assistance. A successful season was had on the water between May and August. They succeeded in carrying their 1000th person

REPORTS

Chairperson

The Cilgerran Festival Week, as one can imagine, takes a lot of the Chairman's time.

The money donated from the Coracle Society to Cilgerran was much appreciated which was used, as discussed, to buy 4 fibre coracles which can be used at various shows, events and exhibitions. They work really well and saves a lot of time for everyone. A great benefit to Cilgerran and will see more pupils using them in the Schools. Arrowcraft moulded the coracles and copied every detail – not a traditional seat but looks good. A bit heavier than a normal coracle but everyone is happy.

Fishing – more restrictions have been imposed on them by Natural Resources Wales which have curtailed their season from 5 to 3 months. Hard to keep the tradition going. Tywi license is £500.00 and Teifi license £250.00 a season

In past years every fisherman would have had their own outlet to sell their fish. Salmon population across the world heavily depleted due to climate change, pollution and too much fishing. Lot of sea trout suffering due to this.

Treasurer

The 2018 accounts were presented for approval. Slightly more expenditure this year due to the money given to the Teifi Association for the fibreglass coracles.

The coracle insurance is of good value for what the Society receives and should be retained. The Society nearly had a claim against us from an incident at England's Medieval Festival. The cause of the incident was the participant not listening to advice given to her and falling into the water.

Proposer: Jude Pilgrim, Seconder: June Lewis

Accounts were accepted

Membership secretary

112 members which is down from last year. We have 88 individual members. 6 did courses with the Society last year of which 1 took up membership

National Coracle Centre

No report from the Coracle Centre. Jude raised the question what happens to the objects if the Centre closes?

The Centre does not receive any school visits anymore.

Jude mentions that Pitchford Hall is on a mission to acquire every coracle that has been used on British water.

Secretary & archivist

As always an interesting year.

Due to work commitments been very fortunate that Euan has stepped in on occasions – many thanks and much appreciated. Trying to engage the public in various shows and events throughout the year but sad to see that many of them do not join the Society afterwards.

Plenty of emails regarding how to make coracles / where to see one.

A German came over to meet me and Karl Chattington in the Rhondda few months back. Wanted to build a coracle in Germany and said he would keep in touch. Watch this space.

Gave a talk about the history of coracles at Cenarth for the Barry Welsh Society

National Coracle Centre

No report

Netsmen's reports

Tywi - Doing a lot of good work promoting the coracles in schools through their Carmarthen Town History and Trail. Plenty of interest

Teifi - See Chairman's report

Ironbridge Coracle Trust

The last coracle shed in England has had a huge local impact with many local people gaining interest in coracles. The Trust is continually finding more information. The shed is now empty but back in 2004 when Eustice was there it was full of artefacts and loads of photographs.

The Pepper's Ghost effect – make an exhibition in an empty shed. Similar in effect to the Mary Rose experience – seeing images appear and pictures lightening up.

90% of the contents were found and brought back. The collection now is in boxes (frozen first to get rid of any wood worm) and stored in the Iron Gauge Museum. The objects were all photographed – lovely collection of netting needles.

Grant funding here at the Centre which is safer. They can do illustrating stories and social history of Ironbridge – bringing history back to life. There are plenty of photographs of coracles and river life. All this will be part of the Museum Coracle Trail.

They have funding for a sculpture of a coracle – bronze? The history of the coracle in the area is still prominent. To be finished in 2 weeks time. There will be a free exhibition with plenty of images and replicas of the old shed.

The Arts Council Money to be used in telling the local stories for example Eustace telling stories and meeting Tommy. Will be fun for the kids and also there will be information on how to use the nets etc.

New information is constantly been discovered. Courses will be done here – the use of wood here in Greenwood. There will be an Artist's and children's workshop.

Plenty of souvenirs and also a memory map of Ironbridge.

Soft opening on December 7th 2019. The old shed and complete project open 2020

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President: Peter Faulkner

Proposed Jude Pilgrim, Seconded Dave Purvis

Carried

Vice Presidents: Rod Bowen, John Davies, Martin Fowler, Terry Kenny

Proposed Jude Pilgrim; Seconded Mark Dellar

Carried and elected en-bloc, with the proviso that should Peter's health deteriorate, Terry Kenny will take over as President

Chairperson: Mark Dellar

Proposed Jude Pilgrim; Seconded Dave Purvis

Carried

Vice chairperson: Malcolm Rees

Proposed June Lewis; Seconded Bruce Watson

Carried

Secretary: Dylan Jones

Proposed June Lewis; Seconded Bruce Watson

Carried

Treasurer: Euan Raffel

Proposed Mark Dellar; Seconded Jude Pilgrim

Carried

Committee: June Lewis, Jude Pilgrim, Dave Purvis, Peter Stanyon, Julie Rees, Bruce Watson

Proposed Euan Raffel; Seconded Dylan Jones

Carried and elected en-bloc

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Thanks to everyone for turning up – much appreciated. Many have travelled far to come here today. It has been a diverse and busy year. Glad to see so many old faces and very happy that the Society is still going strong – skills are still with us and our website is readily available. Glad to see us alive and still kicking!

An excellent journal – Peter's aim has come to fruition and is a reality

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

An amendment was proposed to insert the following into section 3f (Officers and Executive Committee):

"The President, after three years in such office, shall not be eligible for re- election to such office for the following year unless the Annual General Meeting decides otherwise, but shall be eligible for election to any other office."

Proposed Gerwyn Lewis, Seconded Jude Pilgrim

Carried

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None