



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Green Wood Centre, Coalbrookdale, TF8
7DR on Monday 29th August 2022**

PRESENT

Euan Raffel, Peter Stanyon, June Lewis, Gary Fruland, Bruce Watson, Dave Purvis, Mark Dellar, Jude Pilgrim

APOLOGIES

None received

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Agreed as a correct record. Proposed by Peter Stanyon. Seconded by June Lewis.

MATTERS ARISING

ER reported that donations had been made to the Teifi and Towy netsmen's associations, to support the fishermen with the increasing cost of net licences.

REPORTS

Chairperson

To start off I would like to express my thanks to all the Coracle Society members and committee for supporting the Society once again this year.

Thanks to the Society for the donation to the Teifi Coracle, which has been put towards the 8 licences they took out for 2022.

Few events in 2022 – Cilgerran Festive Week, number of participants down but good turnout of spectators. Celebrity Derrick Brockway came to do some filming, due to be broadcast spring 2023. Attended Royal Welsh Show. Visit from local conservation group, did have a go sessions and coracle build (mini baskets for children). Were able to take the Year 6 leavers from the local school out in on the water at the end of summer term and some of them participated in the Cilgerran races.

Fishing – a week or two of decent fish numbers, otherwise dribs and drabs. Strong salmon numbers.

Treasurer

Balances today – current account: £941.23, deposit account £1250.90. Donation of £500.00 each were made to the two netsmen's associations, to help with the increased cost of licence fees.

The 2021 accounts were presented for approval. Nothing much of note, balances are healthy, postage costs remain high. Insurance premium for 2022 was paid at the end of 2021. We were grateful to receive donations of £580.00 in 2021.

Proposer: Jude Pilgrim, Seconder: Peter Stanyon.

Accounts were accepted

Membership

87 members – 69 individual, 18 joint/family/associate members. Decrease from 2021. No courses means the number of new members is lower than usual.

National Coracle Centre

No report

Netsmen's reports

Teifi Coracle Netsmen's Association

See Chairperson's report

Carmarthen Coracle & Netsmen's Association

The Association were grateful to The Coracle Society for their £500 donation towards the 2022 coracle net licences. With each Towy licence costing £555 per year, it was a welcomed financial gesture for each of our coracle men.

With a shortened fishing season that now starts on the 1st of May, we can confirm there was an increased number of salmon, which were all released back into their river. Sewin numbers were on the low side.

It's been another busy year for the Coracles of Carmarthen as we welcomed back school visits to the Quay Centre. Over 150 local pupils from primary and secondary schools were given an insight into our important history.

We continue to promote the coracle as we have been involved with a number of projects; we have welcomed well-known bloggers, visitors from America, celebrated photographers (who now hope to use their collection of photos into a small documentary) and we look forward to watching Gordon Ramsay's programme featuring the Carmarthen coracle, which is due to be aired this autumn.

It was wonderful to see the Carmarthen River Festival return for 2022 and to see so many children (approx. 200) enjoy the excitement of paddling their own coracle in the children's coracle pool. The coracle races proved to be another huge success as we saw record numbers attend this community event.

On Saturday 20th of August we attended the Cilgerran Coracle Races with a large bus of coracle supporters – it was another great day for the coracles of West Wales!

Ironbridge Coracle Trust

Lots of interest in the New Coracle Shed. Shed being converted into auto open/close to enable it to be open more. Ran 3 courses, including a hide coracle course led by Jane Wilkinson.

Funding comes to an end October 2022, some worries about the future of the project – expectations, expenses. However most project targets have been met.

Still issues with Small Woods regarding courses – lack of support

Lots of have a go sessions including a group of 20 from Brixton.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President: Peter Faulkner

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

Proposed Jude Pilgrim; Seconded June Lewis

Meeting agreed President can sit for a new term.

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

Chairperson: Mark Dellar

Vice chairperson: Malcolm Rees

Proposed Euan Raffel. Seconded Jude Pilgrim.

Carried and elected en-bloc

Secretary: Dylan Jones

It was noted that Dylan wishes to resign from the post, but has agreed to one more year if no one else is nominated for the post.

Proposed Jude Pilgrim; Seconded Terry Kenny

Treasurer: Euan Raffel

Proposed Jude Pilgrim; Seconded Peter Stanyon

Carried

Meeting agreed Treasurer can sit for a new term.

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

Proposed Euan Raffel, seconded Mark Dellar

Carried and elected en-bloc

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

No report received

Meeting closed