

**Minutes of the 2021 AGM held at La Villette Hotel on
Monday 6th December at 2000hrs.**

The President Nick Guillemette opened the meeting at 2000hrs and welcomed David Barker the Harbour Master and Kieran Higgs Depute Harbour Master.

- 1. 20 members had sent their apologies for absence and 27 members were present.**
- 2. The minutes of the previous AGM were read by the Secretary Jeremy Witham (JW) and were accepted as a true copy. Proposed by P Van de Velde (PVDV) and seconded by Chris Workman (CW).**
- 3. Matters arising from the last AGM: Rob Barton a previous H/M was now recovered and well, ATONS progress was slow the installation of the first unit on the Lower Heads Buoy had been hit by a lightning strike soon after fitting and put out of action, the Havelet Slipway East repairs was out to tender and hoped to be ready for the Island Games in the future, the Boating Boot Sale at Beaucette Marina site had been well supported and successful it was intended to hold one again near Easter 2022.**
- 4. The Proposal to amend the GBA Rules of Association Item 5 c to read a “Maximum of 10 Years” for the Position of the President in place of 5 years. (PVDV) seconded by Andy Richmond (AR) unanimous in favour and none against, Nick G was welcomed by the members present.**
- 5. Committee Reports, The President gave his report as attached and thanked Members for their continued support, the Secretary (JW) gave his report as attached, highlighting the problems getting new mooring blocks made during the Covid problems and subsequent lack of East Coast Guernsey Lay By Moorings for 2021, the costs of new blocks and chains would be around £7000 to £10000 with diving costs included, also bringing to the members notice that the GBA needs a new Treasurer as Cliff White was now resident in Denmark and it was hoped that a suitable replacement would come forward from the members. The secretary read the treasurers report and went through the main points of the accounts sheets and answered questions about the poor level of bank interest. Gordon Wilson suggested that a new source of interest should be considered. The committee will look into getting a better rate from another Institution.**
- 6. Garry Thome (GT) gave the Trust Fund Report about the state of its funds as no calls on it had been made, but over the recent years it had not grown in capital due to low to non existent interest rates. The Reports were all accepted by the members, proposed by Alan Lajoie seconded by Chris Workman(CW)**
- 7. Election of Officers and Committee: As rule 5.C had been accepted it was proposed that Nick Guillemette continue in post proposed by JW seconded by A Lajoie, all in favour, J Witham(JW) was proposed by B Lowe and**

seconded by AL all in favour, the rest of the committee, except for Gary Naftel who was not seeking re-election, was elected en bloc proposed by GW and seconded by AL. There are however some vacancies on the committee.

8. The account examiners were willing to continue and GT and M Walbridge were re elected.
9. JW explained about the problems that occurred in the various areas rented by the GBA but also the improvement in response time by Harbour Staff. JW explained about the increase in charges for parking paid for by the GBA together with the cost of printing and preparing the permits for the members who make use of the facility.
10. Capt. David Barker the Harbour Master addressed the members and introduced Kieran Higgs who is now in post explaining the areas that KH will be responsible for. DB talked about the fall in visiting vessels due to lock down and the drop in income from that stream, but the use of “Staycation” by local boats at a reduced overnight cost led to 108 boats staying for a total of 200 nights in the Victoria Marina to make use of restaurants in St Peter Port town centre. Marina Staff have been very busy mainly with local boats returning from France or the UK. However when the lockdown eased, a number of visiting boats were handled by the health teams whilst isolating during Covid Testing. 15 boats needed pumping out due to weather problems and one boat caught fire in the QEII Marina.
A number of derelict and abandoned boats were identified in the marinas and taken out of the water and destroyed. KH will continue to monitor this area due to the increasing demand for local moorings. The new Humber Rib for Harbour Staff has proved very worthwhile being used to monitor visiting vessels mooring in bays around the Island and also answering calls for assistance by boats needing fast response but not necessarily Life Boat assistance. This year there had been only 4 calls for suspected suicide jumpers off the cliffs compared with 16 the previous year. Both DB and KH endorsed the need to be adequately prepared when going to sea which prevents unnecessary calls for assistance. The JESSC centre is doing a lot better with Tom Duarte continuing to train and mentor the Coast Guard section. DB thought that the Harbour Staff might be able to run training courses but would need to be qualified to teach to Yacht Master standard. The waiting list for moorings now has an initial charge of £60.00. This charge is designed to ensure that only definite interested boat owners are on the list. There are currently 146 people on it. Matching the size of vessels to the correct sized moorings might mean people being moved to different moorings in some cases. Also one can sell a boat and relinquish the mooring to the buyer if it fits the mooring. New pontoons will be fitted in the Albert Marina to V&W and a new one in the QEII on E pontoon in the coming year. Possibly in February the build up of sand and stone will

be moved from outside the QEII gates on the exit side if the tidal conditions are good. A number of Questions about the silting up of St Sampson's Marina were put to DB regarding lack of water under one vessel that the owner had measured whilst in a dinghy at low water to be only 9-10 inches between the keel band and the sediment layer. DB replied that when work to remove silt in St Peter Port Harbour is carried out, St.Sampsons dredging will be included.

11. Jenny Giles, the Project Engineer appointed by the States to investigate the Pool Marina proposal, gave a presentation about what needs to be done regarding water depth, silt, the amount of dredging, where rock seabed was, tidal flow, prevailing wind direction, environmental affect and the effect on Commercial and leisure users it might have. This was before any hard and fast proposals could be submitted to the States of Guernsey. The artist's layout of what it might look like drew a lot of discussion, but it was emphasised that this was an artist's impression only at this stage. The President explained that together with David Norman (President of Marine Traders) had submitted their suggestions on this project and intended to be involved in any future discussions.

12. AOB It was brought to members attention that there has been a number of reports in Boating Magazines about people with self inflating Life Jackets getting trapped inside cabins when boats began to sink rapidly and drowning.

John Thompson described the problems he and another local boatowner had on returning from Carteret recently when trying to use the Travel Tracker for their return trip and the length of time waiting for Covid Testing. The problems appear to be on the Covid Testing Team side not the Marina Staff. DB said the Island Covid response has been very good and explained the procedures.

The President thanked the Harbour Master and his staff present for addressing the members who attended during this difficult time and closed the meeting at 22.15 hrs approximately

Jeremy Witham
GBA Secretary