



THE RYE & DISTRICT BONFIRE SOCIETY

**Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 14 March 2018 at the Queen's Head,
Landgate by kind permission.**

Members Present:

Bob Booth, Paul Woolley, Liz Oliver, Sandra & Francis Warren, Pete & Nancy Claridge, Willie & Alisha Wicking, Brian Gasson, Jackie Rowe, David Lawton, Julian Cheese, Marion Buss, Carol Arnold, Joan Ridgers, Patsy Hughes, Wayne Wadey, Ruth Palmer, Charlotte, & Emma Moon, Simon Bowler, Debbie Vliers, Caren & Robert Draper, Rita Kirk, Paul Carey, Neale East & Jackie Brooks, Ian Foster, Charlie Carey, Malcolm Mayhew, Irene Cuthbert, Sandra & John Lanigan, Christine Chivers, Kevin Mayhew. (37)

In Attendance:

R & A Milles-Owen from Commercial Square Bonfire Society

1. Apologies for Absence

Eileen le Net, Richard & Felicity Todd, Seana Lanigan, James Foster, Francis Rowe, Pete the Fence & Pete the Pane, Vanessa Smith & Peter Mackay, Brian Cutting, Lawrence Chivers, Hannah Moon, Ray Palmer, Andy Tollett, Margaret O'Neill.

2. To read and agree the Minutes of the last AGM 09 March 2017

Copies of the Minutes were circulated and agreed by all those present.

Proposed : Paul Carey

Seconded : Simon Bowler

3. Report from the Chairman

Francis thanked all members of the Society for all their hard work and support over the year, a fabulous collection, and good weather! A few minor issues during the night that have now been resolved, work continues apace with planning for this year's event.

A vote of thanks was passed to Rita for all her hard work in organizing such a successful 'Not the Bonfire Dinner Night' night at the Mermaid.

4. Report from the Treasurer to read and accept the accounts for the year.

Ian Foster presented the accounts (copies available to members on request) which were passed for approval by all present.

It was noted that costs across the board incurred in complying with numerous new rules and regulations are increasing, need to monitor.

It was noted that provision will need to be made for the 25th Anniversary of the formation of the 'new' Rye Bonfire Society celebration.

The accounts were approved by all present, and vote of thanks carried to Ian for all his hard work.

Proposed : Paul Carey
Seconded : Julian Cheese

5. To propose a vote of thanks to the Hon. Auditors: Mssrs. GMP

A vote of thanks was recorded for Mssrs Gibbons, Mannington and Phipps for all their work in keeping the accounts in order.

Proposed : Bob Booth
Seconded : Neale East

6. To elect Company Directors and Company Secretary of The Rye & District Bonfire Society Ltd.

Directors Paul Carey
Francis Warren
Andy Tollett

Company Secretary Ian Foster

Proposed : Malcolm Mayhew
Seconded : Sandra Warren

7. To elect Society Officers :

President Christine Chivers
Vice Presidents Marion Buss, Ken Bishop, Prince Rostislav Romanov
Chairman Francis Warren
Vice Chairman Bob Booth
Secretary Neale East
Treasurer Ian Foster
Membership Secretary Neale East
Out-Meeting Secretary James Foster

Proposed : Charley Carey
Seconded : Simon Bowler

8. To elect an Honorary Auditor for the ensuing year:

Messrs Gibbons Mannington & Phipps

Proposed : Simon Bowler
Seconded : Pat Hughes

9. To appoint departmental 'Captains' for the ensuing year:

Captain of the Marshals &
Safety Coordinator - Paul Carey & Wayne Wadey
Parade Captain - Charlie Carey
Site Captain - Simon Bowler
Torch Captain - Kevin Mayhew & Pete Welsh
Bonfire Captain - Adrian Pettitt
Pyrotechnic Captain - Gary Bridgland
Fundraising Captain - Ruth Palmer
Programme Captain - Margaret O'Neill & Sandra Warren
Effigy Captain - Willie Wicking
Firecart Captain - Malcolm Mayhew
Collectors Captain - Patsy Hughes
Captain of the Burning Boat - Dave Lawton
Communications Captain - Neale East

Proposed : Willie Wicking
Seconded : Malcolm Mayhew

10. To nominate and approve Honorary Membership for the year 2018/19

Eileen Le Net & Claire Dyer for their hard work on site keeping everybody fed and watered on the Salts.

Mark Bridgeland – for his outstanding work with his fork lift vehicle in building the pallet bonfire.

Max Izod & Family.

Jimmy Hollands – for his support and auctioneering for the Auction of Promises.

Helen Gray – for her untiring work in presenting our fund raising quizzes.

Tony Heritage – for providing and driving his tractor and trailer to get all the pallets to the bonfire.

Proposed : Simon Bowler
Seconded : Malcolm Mayhew

11. Change Annex 2 of the Rules; Incorporations:

- remove The Longbowmen of Rye
- insert Ryebellion drummers.

Proposed : Ian Foster
 Seconded : Paul Carey

12. Any Other Business (for discussion only)

It was noted that Rose Hayward, founder member of Robin Hood Bonfire, and Christine Armitage of Waterloo had both recently passed away.

Our thoughts with friends and family.

Secretary's Report

Invite received from:

- Littlehampton Bonfire Society - 27 October - No
- Northiam - 20 October - accept (includes Ryebellion).

Neale has current list of events for 2018 and will circulate at next meeting.

Membership

Members were reminded that subscriptions will be due for 2018/19 wef 01 April.

Neale confirmed that Rye Bonfire will be compliant with the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) regulations due live in May; Neale will draft Privacy Policy and circulate for approval.

It was noted that renewals and applications for new member will only be accepted when accompanied by signed forms.

Fundraising

Ruth reported that the Horse Racing Night hosted by Northiam Bonfire will be held on 24 March, Ruth will attend, suggestion has been made that we help with marshals for their 10k run, in return they help run an event for us. Further details to follow.

Ruth reported that RTC have said yes to a Murder Mystery evening, subject to catering arrangements, Ruth will liaise with Helen and report back.

BONCO

Francis & Ian attended the BONCO AGM; Francis gave an update on the following:

- It was noted that subscription rates vary greatly across members of BONCO, agreed to leave our as is, but review prior to 2018 AGM

- Fletching will continue as a society, but will not be hosting a parade until further notice
- Worthing appear to be a bit of an anomaly.

Any Other Business

- Arrangements for taking in Mayor Making on May Bank Holiday to be confirmed nearer the time; Neale will liaise with Jessica and report back at the April meeting.
- It was agreed to arrange a working party to plant grass seeds on the fire site, Francis will coordinate.
- Paul reported that the boat set for burning has been claimed, however there is potential for another boat from Brighton, further details to follow.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned for refreshments and further discussions at 21:20.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 04 April