

THE LIVERPOOL NAUTICAL RESEARCH SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
BY ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE
ON THURSDAY 20 MAY 2021 AT 10.30 AM

AGENDA

MEETING ADMINISTRATION: *Secretary*

ITEM 1 – WELCOME AND APOLOGIES: *Chairman*

ITEM 2 – ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2020 AGM: *Secretary*

ITEM 3 – ANNUAL REPORT: *Chairman*

ITEM 4 – FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL OF 2020-2021 ACCOUNTS: *Treasurer*

ITEM 5 – TALKS PROGRAMME FOR 2021-2022: *Programme Secretary*

ITEM 6 - CONFIRMATION OF THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL: *Secretary*

ITEM 7 – ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: *Secretary*

ITEM 8 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS: *Secretary*

ITEM 9 – DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: *Secretary*

Attachments:

- A. Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting (*without attachments*).
- B. Financial Accounts 2020-2021.
- C. Council of the Society.

THE LIVERPOOL NAUTICAL RESEARCH SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD BY ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE
ON 19 NOVEMBER 2020

26 Nov 20

Present: The President of the Society and 29 Members

[Secretary's Note: There were 29 members present at the start of the meeting, with one additional member from Item 3]

ITEM 1 – WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

1. The Chairman welcomed Members to the meeting. Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Roger Arden, Captain Hugh DGLISH, Mr John Duckett, and Professor Ian Stanistreet. A quorum of members being present, the meeting was duly constituted and called to order.

ITEM 2 – ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2019 AGM

2. The Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting had been published in the September 2019 edition of *The Bulletin* and in the members' area of the website, and additional copies had been circulated with the 2020 agenda. Decisions taken at the 2019 meeting had been fully implemented and there were no matters arising. The minutes were accepted as a true record. *Proposer*: Chairman. *Seconder*: Secretary. *Accepted*: 27 votes in favour with one abstention.

[Secretary's Note: There were 29 members present for Item 2. Voting was conducted using the Zoom 'polling' facility, with the limitations that as meeting 'co-hosts' the Chairman and Secretary could not vote electronically, and that the two joint members present would cast a single electronic vote. A potential 26 electronic votes could therefore be cast. The votes cast electronically were 25 in favour with one member failing to vote. The missing vote was recorded as an abstention]

ITEM 3 – ANNUAL REPORT

3. The Chairman's Annual Report had been submitted in May and published in the September edition of *The Bulletin* and on the website, with a further update on the impact of Covid-19 restrictions in June. Although the talks programme and archive-related activity remained severely disrupted, the Council had attempted to keep the Society operating as near normally as possible. *Bulletins* had continued to be published, while the introduction of video presentations had not only kept the talks programme running but had made the monthly talks available to the whole membership for the first time. The Society would continue to develop the video facility and was actively promoting collaborative activity with other Liverpool-based groups with similar interests to our own. The Chairman thanked members of Council for meeting the challenges since the onset of restrictions and stressed that the Council was always open to comments and suggestions for improvement from members.

ITEM 4 – FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL OF 2019-2020 ACCOUNTS

4. The Treasurer presented the independently examined 2019-2020 accounts which are attached. These had been published in the September 2019 edition of *The Bulletin* and in the members' area of the website. Although income for the year had fallen from £4710 in 2018/19 to £3500 in 2019/20, this was in part due to the large-scale updating of Standing Orders following the 2019 subscriptions increase which meant that a significant number of early payments for the 2020/21 membership year that would previously have boosted the end-of-year figure, were instead received within the first quarter of the current accounting year and would be correctly shown in this year's accounts. Additionally, book and merchandise sales had fallen by almost £400, and these had not been helped by the cancellation of monthly talks which had reduced the opportunities for sales. There had been a generous donation of £500 from the estate of our late Vice-President Graeme Cubbin. Expenditure for the year had been sharply reduced from £6700 in 2018/19 to £2800 in 2019/20. A significant portion of this saving had been achieved by switching in-year to a more competitive supplier which had reduced *Bulletin* printing costs by more than fifty percent for 2019/20 (and was projected to achieve a saving of seventy percent for 2020/21). Another substantial reduction was on IT costs which had reduced from £1100 development costs in 2018/19 to £140 annual running costs now that the website upgrade was complete. The net result was that the Society had shown a profit overall of almost £700 for the year (against a deficit of £2000 for the previous year) and the finances were judged to be secure and on-course to achieve a balance of income over expenditure in the current financial year. The 2019-2020 accounts were approved. *Proposer: Chairman. Seconder: Secretary. Approved: Nem Con.*

ITEM 5 – TALKS PROGRAMME FOR 2020-2021

[Secretary's Note: This item was taken immediately after Item 2 to allow the Talks Secretary to leave to attend the funeral of recently deceased LNRS member Gordon Wright]

5. The last three talks of the 2019-2020 programme had been cancelled because of Covid-19 restrictions, and no live talks had been possible since the end of February. To maintain the talks activity, video presentations had been introduced in September, with three released so far and enough recorded to last until February. Restrictions permitting, one further recording session would be sufficient to take the programme through until May 2021, although the topics might not be those originally scheduled. It was hoped that the live talks programme could resume from September 2021 and an outline programme was in place up to the following December. It was intended to continue videoing future talks to make them available to the wider membership and members were reminded that there were always opportunities to present research (including self-recording) for anyone who wished to do so.

ITEM 6 – ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

6. Mr William Williamson was elected as Vice-Chair in succession to Mr John Stokoe on completion of his tenure. *Proposer: Chairman. Seconder: Secretary. Agreed: Nem Con.*

ITEM 7 – ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

7. Mr Ian Duckett, Mr Bill Ogle, Mr Tony Melling and Mr Ted Scaplehorn were re-elected to the Council. *Proposer:* Chairman. *Secunder:* Vice-Chairman. *Agreed:* *Nem Con.*

ITEM 8 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8. No other business had been notified in advance of the meeting. A number of items were discussed without any formal decisions being made or votes taken.

a. Council members were thanked on behalf of the membership for their efforts in maintaining the Society during the current restrictions.

b. In response to a question about membership numbers, it was reported that current membership stood at 199 which was ostensibly unchanged from October 2019, although the inclusion in the current figure of a number of members who had still not paid their subscription meant that the effective membership was 186.

c. There was a wide-ranging discussion about recruitment and the need to improve the Society's publicity profile and material. Several ideas were put forward about ways to reach new members in the UK and overseas, particularly North America, including personal contacts, promoting the Society's website, and the strategic placement of publicity flyers and *Bulletins*.

[Secretary's Note: In post meeting discussion, the Council resolved to follow up a number of the suggestions made during the meeting. Development of new publicity material has already begun.]

ITEM 9 – DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9. The next Annual General Meeting of the Liverpool Nautical Research Society will be held on Thursday 20 May 2021 at a time and venue to be notified.



E J SCAPLEHORN
Secretary

Attachments:

- A. Chairman's Annual Report – May 2019
- B. Accounts for the Full Year 2019-2020

Liverpool Nautical Research Society

Accounts for the Full Year 2020/2021 held at Santander Bank PLC

Full Year: 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

Opening Bank Balances: Current Account: 3596 Deposit Account: 3099 Total = 6695

<u>Income</u>	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2020/21</u>
Subscriptions	2659	3549
Donations	546	20
Refreshments	165	
Book Sales	54	
Merchandise Sales	48	24
Deposit Interest	<u>25</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Total</u>	3497	3613
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Bulletin Printing	918	608
Distribution/Stationery	93	80
Room Hire	765	85
Speaker Expenses	78	40
Refreshments	141	39
IT Costs	140	710
Hon. Treasurer Expenses	36	
Hon. Secretary Expenses		
Donations/Gifts	25	195
Bulletin Postage	591	446
Other Postage		62
Pastoral	13	9
Bank Charges		<u>30</u>
<u>Total</u>	2800	2304
Surplus / Deficit during Year	697	1309
Opening Cash Balance	<u>5994</u>	<u>6695</u>
Closing Cash Balance	6695	8004

Closing Bank Balances: Current Account: 1850 Deposit Account: 6154 Total = 8004

Independent Scrutineer: Mr C Loughran

THE LIVERPOOL NAUTICAL RESEARCH SOCIETY

COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY

CONFIRMATION OF THE CHAIR

The following member of the Liverpool Nautical Research Society, having been elected to the position of Vice-Chair at the 2020 Annual General Meeting, assumes the position of Chair of Council in accordance with para 6(6) of the Society's Constitution:

Mr W Williamson

VICE-CHAIR

The following member of the Liverpool Nautical Research Society, having completed his term of office as Chair of Council, resumes the position of Vice-Chair until May 2022 in accordance with para 6(6) of the Society's Constitution:

Mr E Hughes

ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

There are no nominations for Council in accordance with para 6(5) of the Society's Constitution.

The following members of the Liverpool Nautical Research Society have offered themselves for election/re-election to the Council in accordance with para 6(7) of the Society's Constitution:

Mr I A Duckett (Re-election)

Mr A Melling (Re-election)

Mr W A Ogle (Re-election)

Mr E J Scaplehorn (Re-election)