

RAPS AGM

Saturday April 15th 2023, 11.30am at Port House, Port Solent

MINUTES

Attendance: 30 (approx.)

Chair's Welcome

The Chair, Chris Clark, welcomed the members. He introduced Committee members Angela Britton (Treasurer), Peter Lang and Olivia Firth (Membership). The Chair expressed regrets that local councillors were not able to join the AGM. Given that the AGM was being held in a Pre-Election Period it was unlikely that they would have felt free to give opinions or information.

Apologies for absence

MP Penny Mordaunt, Alison and Ross Rundle, Heather Briggs, Bev Talbot.

Approval of the Minutes of the 2022 AGM

The Chair asked that the Minutes of the 2022 AGM (available on the RAPS website) be approved

Proposed: Marian Davies

Seconded: David Ewers

Chair's Report

The Chair read the report and summarised the main points.

[The full text of the Chair's Report for 2022/2023 is available on the RAPS Website]

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that accounts have been straightforward this year. RAPS carries a balance of about £11K.

[Treasurer's Report for 2022 is available on the RAPS Website]

The Chair asked that the Treasurer's Report 2022/3 be approved.

Proposed: Marian Davies

Seconded: Olivia Firth

Members enquired how the surplus was invested and suggested to move the funds to higher rate savings account with potential of as high as 3.5% APR. Chair and Treasurer cautioned about potential tax liabilities if an association like RAPS generated a sizeable return on investment. Treasurer will look into potential higher rate investment accounts.

Election of Auditors

Pat Harvey was re-elected.

Election of Officers and Committee Members

The Chair announced that he and Angela were willing to stand again as Chair and Treasurer respectively, Peter as a Committee Member and Olivia as a Membership Secretary.

Proposed: Marian Davies

Seconded: Helen Ewers

Social Events

The Chair stated that until the committee acquires a Social Secretary no elaborate events, like the Cowes Week Fireworks Cruise, would be offered. He continued, that a new model has evolved, where RAPS seeks an association with other bodies around Port Solent, such as The Boardwalk, Oyster Quay, PSYC, etc. In this model RAPS is not coming up with ideas for social events per se, but instead, encourages people come to RAPS with proposals that RAPS can support. Examples of this in 2022/23 were the Carols on The Boardwalk and PSYC's Burns Night celebration in January.

Quiz nights happen now on a monthly basis throughout the year at The Botanical, with or without oversight by RAPS. The participation fee of £2 per person will be collected regardless and made over to RAPS.

Members enquired about wine and cheese tastings that were done in the past. The Chair replied that other people had also approached him about this. He suggested trying to bring wine tastings back in a different location as The Port House had been reluctant to host further events of that kind.

Members suggested forming more social groups, such as a book group in Port Solent. It was announced by one member that a new socialising group had recently been established at St Mary's church in Portchester on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.30 in the Tea Room.

The chair encouraged suggestions and offered to advertise new social groups on RAPS website.

Any Other Business

Increased amount of litter on the corner of Portway and Southampton Road needs a litter bin to accommodate it. The Chair acknowledged the issue and stated that litter is high on the RAPS register of risks and issues.

The road surface on the way to Tesco North Harbour is in bad shape. The Chair said that some members, e.g. Peter Selley, had been making enquiries about who is responsible for the upkeep of that road, so far without success.

A member asked if the "members only" section on RAPS website could be used for members to interact and make up groups. The Chair agreed to look into this and suggested forming a WhatsApp group for residents. The open forum section of the RAPS website had been tried before and had attracted minimal interaction but he agreed to revisit the facilities offered by the Wix platform.

The Chair closed the AGM 2022 at 12.18pm.

Members thanked the Committee.