

IBM Hursley Fly Fishing Club

MINUTES OF THE 2011 AGM

These are the minutes of the IBM Hursley Fly Fishing Club Annual General Meeting, held in the Osman Room of the IBM Hursley Club house on November 23rd 2011, at 7pm.

AGENDA

- a** Apologies for absence
- c Minutes of the last AGM
- c Matters arising from the last AGM
- c Treasurer's report and approval of accounts
- c Secretary's report
- c Chairman's report
- c Election of the committee
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Committee members
- c Subscriptions
- c Organisation of Club outings
- c Presentation of trophies
- c AOB

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Tony Hogg (Treasurer)
Pete Dean (Chairman)
Melita Saville (Secretary)
Rod Patterson
John Wiseman
Ken Jones (Committee)
Clive Kennedy
Dave Day

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Sue Patterson
Andy Parker
Bob Hanley
Paul Blythin
Mark Wilson

MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM

The minutes of the last AGM have been available online to all members after last year's AGM, and a copy was available for inspection at the AGM. They were accepted unanimously. (Prop: Pete Dean, Sec: Melita Saville)

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST AGM

None

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was circulated to all members at the meeting and accepted. (Prop: Rob Patterson, Sec: Dave Day) The Treasurer's report is not circulated with these minutes because it contains financial data. Those people who were not at the AGM who wish to review the report should contact the Treasurer or Secretary.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's report was circulated to all members at the meeting. A copy of this report is in Appendix A of these minutes.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Pete Dean thanked those who had organised trips this season and all those who contributed to making the Club a successful, long-running one. He mentioned a concern around low attendance this year and the intention to discuss this matter at the AGM. The falling numbers might have been due to a range of coincidental circumstance but the committee is keen to understand if there are underlying issues that should be addressed. He finished with a request for people to come forward to help spread the load of organising the trips.

ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no new nominations and the current committee will continue unchanged:

Chairman: Pete Dean

Secretary: Melita Saville

Treasurer: Tony Hogg

Committee: Ken Jones, Andy Parker

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2012

The current subscription will again remain unchanged at £5 per member for the upcoming year. Youth anglers are eligible for subsidy if they have their own membership to the Club.

ORGANISATION OF CLUB OUTINGS IN 2012

The Chairman introduced this year's discussion with a question about the reasons for being in the Club: fishing in a social environment, Club subsidy, diversity of fishing opportunities etc. The membership was polled for feedback about the outings before the AGM and a summary of findings is in Appendix B of these minutes.

The meeting discussed venues, dates, and considered the possibility of including some alternative trips: coarse fishing, grayling out of season, reservoirs, and river trips. The decision reached was:

- March – Wherwell
- April – John O’Gaunt
- May – IBM Nationals in Rutland. No local trip.
- June – Holbury
- July - Wherwell. Tony to investigate whether we can offer a split day: lake & river
- August – Manningford – self funded. No Club subsidy will be provided for this trip.
- September – Rockbourne
- October – Dever Springs

The Wherwell trips will be offered only on Saturday due to the preference for booking the venue for exclusive Club use. The other trips will be offered on both a Saturday and Wednesday. In principle – and based on venue availability – all trips will be on the first Saturday of the month.

The committee may change any venue in the event of changing circumstances or unavailability.

Feedback to venues

The meeting discussed an intention of gathering feedback from members after a trip and providing this to the venue as well as using for our own review at next year’s AGM.

Half-day fishing

Several members were unaware that they have the option to fish on a subsidised two-fish ticket at the Club outings. This will be publicised more widely in 2012.

Additional outings

The Club would like to encourage members to collaborate in events outside the organised trips. The Secretary will ask permission to share members contact details to encourage this. In the meantime, any suggestions or invitations can be distributed through the Committee.

PRESENTATION OF THE TROPHIES FOR THE 2010 SEASON

Club Champion 2011 (Dever Springs, 8th October). Won by Pete Dean with a 30lbs 12oz bag. Runner-up was Tony Hogg with 18lbs 14oz.

Spring Cup 2011 (John O’Gaunt, April). Won by Pete Dean with 16lbs 4oz.

Biggest Rainbow (John Turner Cup). Won by Pete Dean at Dever Springs with a 18lbs 8oz fish.

Biggest Brown – Not Presented.

AOB

Returns

Pete Dean: returns should be encouraged from all members who fish in a Club event. These allow the Club to generate statistics, feed back to venues, and to celebrate achievements. The committee will look at options to make this simple in 2012 but members should expect to submit the information.

Thanks

Melita Saville: Tony Hogg and Andy Parker took a good deal of the Secretary's work this year as Melita had other, unexpected commitments. Melita wanted to formally recognise and thank them for their assistance.

Social/competition

Pete Dean: Pete has a number of small trophies which could be awarded for "fun" prizes and to stimulate a sense of competition through the Club outings. The committee will consider what can be done. Suggestions from members are welcome.

Appendix A

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2011

Cup Winners

The **Spring cup** was held at John o'Gaunt in April, and Pete Dean made up for the disappointment of narrowly missing out last year, by winning comfortably with a bag of 16lbs 4ozs."

The **Club Championship** was held at Dever Springs on the 8th October 2011. Pete Dean again emerged victorious with a mighty bag totalling 30lbs 12ozs. 2nd place went to Tony Hogg with 18lbs 14ozs.

The **Largest Rainbow Trout** was won by Pete Dean with huge fish of 18lbs 8ozs from Dever Springs. Unfortunately we don't have a complete history of 'best fish' but we believe this is the largest trout ever caught on a club outing.

The **Largest Brown Trout** Trophy is not being presented as no brownies were recorded from club trips

Rutland 2011

The IBM national fly fishing competition took place over the 13th-14th May at Rutland water. Hursley again entered two teams, Hursley Cormorants (Bob Hanley, Neil Postlethwaite, Andy Parker and Tony Hogg) and Hursley Misfits (Paul Eslinger, Jason Bridgen, Ken Jones and Dave Day, though sadly Dave had to pull out at short notice and was replaced by a non-Hursley substitute).

A pre-event planning session was held at the clubhouse to let the Rutland newcomers know what they were letting themselves in for. The event started with a social meal on Thursday and a presentation about the fishing from the fishery ranger. Brisk winds on the Friday made the fishing challenging, but Cormorants were looking good at the end of the first day with the team in first place, and Tony Hogg leading the individual rankings, and the Misfits also caught fish to put themselves in with a chance Unfortunately the wind increased on Saturday, and both teams failed to adapt to the conditions and slipped out of the trophies (the Cormorants missing out on third place by less than a pound to our arch-rivals in North Harbour). But as ever, the event was enjoyed by all and we left Rutland tired but determined to return again and do better next year. The 2012 dates are 11th - 12th May.

Venues

The 2011 year started as Wherwell, on a chilly day, but it was a good social event with John Wiseman and Andy Parker providing warming soup and a BBQ. C&R was again allowed after a limit, but is now restricted to four further fish. The first official trip of the year was to JoG in April which was as consistent as ever. May was Manningford, a low attendance for this event which is a bit of a trek, but still good value for money. June was Holbury which is not cheap given the size of fish: it was an interesting day, not always easy in the bright sunshine. July was John o'Gaunt and then back to Wherwell in August as we were unable to secure dates in Mayfly time this year. September should have been Avon Springs but with only one confirmed attendee this trip was cancelled, and the final trip was to Dever Springs, which continues to justify its big fish reputation. After the

cancellation of the Avon Springs trip, two alternative dates were offered for Dever Springs, with an alternate date of October 8th proving more popular than the original 1st.

Web Site

Pete Dean has offered to take over the administration of the website, so please continue to send Pete any news, photos or other items you wish to share.

Fly Tying

Reminder: The IBM Hursley Fly Fishing club have an open invitation to attend the Wessex Branch of the Fly Dresser Guild that meets in Southampton. Further information can be obtained from Paul Eslinger.

Other News

- Andy Parker organised a visit to Rutland Water in August to take advantage of Travelodge cheap room rate offers, and was joined by Paul Blythin.
- Congratulations to Paul Eslinger on passing his Level 2 ADB Licensed Coach (Game) qualification

Appendix B

2011 ATTENDANCE & MEMBERSHIP FEEDBACK

	2008	2009	2010	2011 to date
Membership	23	19	22	20
Number of trips	9	8	8	6
Average attendance (members)	9.9	9.9	12.5	7.5
Average attendance (inc guests)	11.0	12.1	13.4	8.2
Average trips per member	3.9	4.2	4.5	2.3

Survey sent by email to “Hursley Fly Fishing Club” distribution list 15th November

Responses: 16

Do you intend to fish with the club next year?

10 members answered yes.

3 members answered yes... but would not plan to attend every trip, due to personal preference and/or home commitments

2 members were doubtful

1 didn't give a specific answer.

What stopped you coming on trips this year

Note: some people gave multiple reasons so the number of responses totals more than 15.

Summary

The main reason appears to be home commitments, with several members expressing enjoyment in the club trips and a desire to join in again next year if they can fit it in. Cost is a factor for quite a few members, reinforced by some comments about the expense entailed by the frequency of our trips. Increased fishing diversity would appear to be welcomed, either for itself or as a remedy to the surplus of trout accumulated by some members on the monthly trips. Some members mentioned a desire for increased flexibility from our traditional first Saturday/Wednesday arrangement.

Reason	Number of responses	Supporting comments given
Too expensive	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cost has increased so that one has to be rather more selective. • I am a Salisbury member so would rather fish for free • Not the section's fault but fishing in the south has become too expensive compared to other counties.
Day of the week (Sat or Wed) isn't convenient?	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sometimes fisheries get overcrowded on Saturdays. I have fished on some Wednesdays but it would be nice to have more flexibility. • More flexibility would help.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed isn't convenient. Instead of Sat & Wed, why not the first two Saturdays of a month.
Not available on the dates booked?	8	
Not interested in the venues?	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I do not like to kill trout which I have no use for, hence only fish catch-and-release (not allowed on most of the venues). • I don't like Avon Springs • I find Manningford poor value/ quality. • I am not very mobile anymore so do not risk unknown fisheries where the walking is unknown. • These are the ones I have most enjoyed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holbury Lakes - a number of interesting lakes, well stocked with very healthy, hard-fighting fish. Beautifully clear water. Probably the best managed fishery I have ever been to. • Wherwell - we get looked after very well here, and as we can get the whole fishery to ourselves it makes a good start/end to the season. • Manningford - a large water with a variety of areas to fish - you can usually find somewhere to see the fish. Well stocked with healthy fish. Good value for money.
Trips too frequent?	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only because of the expense & surplus of fish • I'd like to see fewer trips but just to premium venues eg Avington, Dever
Venues too far away?	0	
Another reason?	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The club does not offer me the variety of fishing I currently wish to do. I like to fish local rivers, reservoirs & for sea trout in Wales. This diversity does cost extra money, so I offset this expense by reducing my club activities. • I propose we extend membership and club activities to coarse fishing. • 4 people mentioned a surplus

of fish in the freezer.

Additional comments

- It is good to socialise at some events.
- Publish the dates early and frequently remind people. I know Andy will say they are on the website - but reminders are always good!
- Would like to see more for junior members. Discount so can fish separately to me.
- I would like to see people using the club the most contributing more time in running it. Else the club should be closed, which would be a shame for recent joiners.
- I would like to see Wednesday fishing trip dropped as a regular offering and moved to an exceptions on request activity. This as because I feel we should be fishing more social as a club and sharing skills, flies and experience.
- I very much like Wherwell and last year we had a great time thanks to those that organised the BBQ.
- Larger element of catch-and-release might be good.

Do you have a nomination for Treasurer, Secretary or Chairman for next year?

No nominations given. The current committee is happy to stand again but all would be prepared to hand over if someone expressed interest. Note that one member said he would be prepared to contribute to organising a trip.