

MINUTES OF THE 2020 ISLE OF WIGHT BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD VIA ZOOM AT 4PM ON MONDAY 19 OCTOBER 2020

Present:

Branch President, James Attrill
Branch Chairman, Laurence Taylor
CLA Vice President, Victoria Vyvyan
Director South East, Michael Valenzia
8 Members

The Branch President welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked Victoria Vyvyan, CLA Vice President, for attending. He thanked BCM and Moore South for their kind partnership of the AGM and welcomed their representatives, Oli Cooper and Esme Shakeshaft respectively.

1. Apologies for Absence

No formal apologies had been received.

2. To confirm the Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held at Barton Manor on 24 September 2019 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Branch President.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

4. Election of Officers for 2020/21

a) Re-election of Branch President

The Chairman took over the meeting for the election of the Branch President. The re-election of the current Branch President, James Attrill, was proposed by Sam Biles, seconded by Alison Child and carried unanimously.

b) One Representative to the CLA Council

The Chairman took over the meeting for the election of the Branch President. The re-election of the current Branch President, James Attrill, was proposed by Sam Biles, seconded by Alison Child and carried unanimously.

c) Branch Committee

The President was delighted to announce that Chris Griffin and Ian Wellby had agreed to join the Committee. He also announced that Danny Fisher had retired from the Committee and thanked him for his support.

The Branch President read out the following names for election:

Christopher Andreae	Al Haig-Thomas
Colin Boswell	Esme Shakeshaft
Geoff Case	Laurence Taylor
Chris Griffin	Ian Wellby

The election of the Committee for 2020/21 was proposed by Alison Child, seconded by Sam Biles and carried unanimously.

5. To Adopt the Chairman's Annual Report for 2019/20

The adoption of the Annual Report was proposed by James Astor, seconded by Andrew Gardiner and carried unanimously.

6. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

The Branch President concluded the Isle of Wight AGM and introduced CLA Vice President Victoria Vyvyan.

ISLE OF WIGHT BRANCH COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

James Attrill

CHAIRMAN

Laurence Taylor

VICE CHAIRMAN

Colin Boswell

COMMITTEE

Christopher Andreae
Geoff Case
Christine Griffin
Al Haig-Thomas
Esme Shakeshaft
Ian Wellby

Co-opted
Richard Grogan
Sam Biles

CLA REGIONAL CONTACTS

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INVITATION TO THE CLA ISLE OF WIGHT BRANCH AGM

30 SEPTEMBER 2021
BEMBRIDGE SAILING CLUB



PROGRAMME

- 16.00 Arrival for registration and refreshments in the Vernon Stratton Room
- 16.30 Welcome
- 17.00 Tour of Bembridge Sailing club
- 18.30 Drinks Reception in Dining Room
- 19.15 Isle of Wight Branch AGM in Vernon Stratton Room
- 12.15 Address by CLA Vice President, Victoria Vyvyan
- 19.45 Two-course dinner in Dining Room overlooking the Harbour
- 21.00 Depart

This year's Annual General Meeting is to be held on Thursday 30 September 2021 at Bembridge Sailing Club, Embankment Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5NR.

The tour of the club will be given by Fiona Greenwood, who has recently published a booklet with the club detailing the history and artefacts of the club.

CLA South East would like to thank BCM and Moore South for their valued support.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. To confirm the Minutes of the last meeting held on 19 October 2020
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Election of Officers for 2021/2022
 - a) President
 - b) One representative to Council
 - c) Committee
5. To receive and adopt the Chairman's Annual Report for 2020/2021
6. Any other business.

Nominations for office or for membership of the Committee as given in item 4, or any resolution a member may wish to propose, must reach the Regional Director, in writing by 16 September 2021.

BEMBRIDGE SAILING CLUB

This year's AGM will be held at Bembridge Sailing Club, Bembridge Harbour. Founded in 1886, it is one of the oldest sailing clubs in the UK.

The Club was founded by Colonel Macdonald Moreton and Captain Ernest Du Boulay, it was to provide Corinthian sailing as an alternative to playing golf at the Royal Isle of Wight Golf Club, that was active on the St Helen's Duver at that time.

Twenty-six members and eight privately owned boats were elected, and Captain Blair Cochrane became the first Captain of the Club.

At this time there were few other clubs in the Solent, but this was to change in 1889 when the Island Sailing Club was founded in Cowes, and the short lived Nautilus Club at Ryde was renamed the I.W. Corinthian Sailing Club; so to avoid confusion, it was at this time, that the Bembridge Sailing Club adopted its current title.

Bembridge Sailing Club has a strong association with Olympic sailing. Vernon Stratton competed in the 1952 Olympics in the Finn class and then was team manager of the British Olympic team in 1968 and 1972, when Rodney Pattison won gold in both years in the Flying Dutchman class.

In 2001-2002 the Club extended the clubhouse to include a new dining room with beautiful views of Bembridge Harbour and approaches, changing rooms, the Club office and Salamander Room.



BOOKING YOUR PLACE AT THE AGM

To book your place at the AGM please login to your 'My CLA' account on www.cla.org.uk and click on Events. Tickets cost £45 inc VAT. You can pay by card online, or by bank transfer or cheque following your booking. Please note, if paying by cheque, your booking will not be confirmed until the cheque is processed by Finance, and you may receive payment reminders in the interim between booking and confirmation. If you are having difficulties, please call the South East office on 01264 313434 or southeast@cla.org.uk.

This event will only run if Covid guidelines permit. If the event is cancelled, we will offer you a full refund.

Bookings close 23 September 2021.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – ISLE OF WIGHT BRANCH

After a very strange 18 months, and far too many Zoom meetings, I am delighted that our AGM is once again face-to-face. The Covid-19 pandemic's impact on work, family life and well-being has been far-reaching, but with the majority of adults now vaccinated it is a pleasure to finally welcome you to a physical CLA event.

The rural sector, not for the first time, has had to adapt and change to the challenges and opportunities posed. Farmers were designated key workers, while those employed in hospitality have spent much of the last year furloughed, though the 2021 summer season has brought high levels of bookings for many on the Island. Many CLA members will have used the periods of enforced lockdown to assess their businesses and to reflect on how best to take their businesses forward to not just to recover from the pandemic but also to cope with the other challenges facing farming and rural business.

It is perhaps easy to forget that so much has happened since our virtual AGM of 2020. At the turn of the year, and after months of winding negotiations, many farmers and rural businesses breathed a sigh of relief as the UK and European Union finally agreed a deal that will define our future relationship. The EU is a key market for many CLA members, and will remain so, and it is important trade is kept as simple and as low-friction as possible. As we transition away from CAP towards ELM, the CLA has been lobbying Government for as much clarity as possible to help members plan for the future. I believe the CLA can help you understand the changes in agriculture policy, how they will affect your business, and give you advice on how to move forward into the new world.

Other areas the CLA has been working on include connectivity, which varies so wildly across the Island depending on where you live or work, and managing public access rights, especially in light of the pandemic. Fresh policies are needed to simplify the tax and planning systems for businesses wishing to diversify, while investment in skills and training is required to support job creation in local areas. With the UK due to host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow in November, the focus for our industry will be on how to grow the economy, mitigate climate change and reverse biodiversity decline at the same time. The eyes of the world will be on us.

Turning to activities on the Isle of Wight, while most physical events were cancelled, the CLA has run a busy programme of online seminars and workshops, covering a range of issues from water to succession. It has been pleasing to see so many members embrace technology and get involved. While the Royal Isle of Wight County Show did not go ahead in 2020 or 2021, the CLA and the Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society still ran rural awards on the Island, and presented them in a socially distanced way last autumn. A hearty congratulations to the winners – the awards are running again this autumn, and hopefully normal service will resume with the show next summer. Meanwhile the first physical CLA event in 17 months was held in July, when members enjoyed a tour and drinks at the Isle of Wight Deer Farm.

Key advice topics raised by members have included planning and diversification, particularly around the 56-day option for pop-up campsites and events. Other areas have ranged from business rates to legal advice on property agreements and succession. The CLA has also been appearing in or on TV, radio, newspapers, magazines and websites over the past 12 months raising awareness of rural issues such as fly-tipping, connectivity and promoting the Countryside Code, including BBC South Today, the Isle of Wight County Press and ITV Meridian.

I would like to thank the South East team, as well as the team in London, for their continued hard work on behalf of us all. I encourage you to get in touch with the regional office when in need of support.

Laurence Taylor

