

SEAFORD BONFIRE SOCIETY

Minutes of Open Committee Meeting and Annual General Meeting, 1st December 2022

Attendees	Andy Bishop, Adam Briggs, Jay Childs (elected), Bradley Digby-Clarke		
	(elected), Emmeline Ravilious, Kev Smith		
Apologies	Dave Hayes (standing down)		
Absentees			

General meeting started at 19.20

Minutes from previous meeting signed off. Kevin Smith chairing.

CHAIR/VICE-CHAIR/COORDINATOR

Thanked the Society on behalf of the committee to all its members, for the work throughout the year, stating we wouldn't be here without all their efforts.

A mention was made about how inclusive our Society has become, and how successful the theme had been this year.

A thankyou to our Chairman Dave Hayes, who couldn't attend who is stepping down from role and the committee.

Marina Rogers who was announced as best dressed on our night was awarded her trophy.

Jay Childs was awarded a personal joke award from the Coordinator for the most amusing moment of the year.

SECRETARY

Christmas party (no tickets needed) on Friday 16th December at the White Lion. Music will be provided by Neil Young. SBS is putting £200 behind the bar *.

Marshals needed Christmas Magic (3rd December) – please indicate if you can help on FB or via email (seafordbonfire@gmail.com)

The Wassail is going ahead (this is a Pentacle Drummers event, not a 'Bonfire' event with ourselves and two other societies invited). The 'blessing of the apple trees' is happening on Saturday 7th

January 2023 in Pevensey. If there is enough demand we will book a coach, if interested please message Amanda Whiteford on FB or email seafordbonfire@gmail.com

TREASURER

As it stands, we have roughly the same amount of money in the bank at this point this year as we had at the same point last year. This is due to immense effort of all the fundraising activities across the board – to name one aspect, or individuals would be missing someone out – so thank you to all for 'keeping SBS solvent'.

Outgoings (all approx' figures) – of which there a lot: Frontier (ariel pyro) £7, 800; security £6,500; insurance £3.995 (the cost of having Cat 4 in our ground display bumps this up by some £2k); Sussex Events Limited £6,200; medics £1,200 (going up next year) etc

Income (again, all approx') – car boots/stall £3,972; grant £3k; concessions £1k; JustGiving (after costs) £840; subs/new members £2,356; donations (some programme money inc.,) £2,002; buckets £3,226 etc

A special thank you from Charlotte, whose sponsored run (in which she gained a personal best) was £240.

The three charities chosen for this year are: Cycling Without Age, Seaford Lifeguards and Seaford Environmental Alliance – the amount going to each will be decided upon by the new committee in the new year.

SUBS - We have decided to make a change in subs: for adults it will increase from £15 to £20, this equates to about £1.66/month, this should raise approximately £1,000 in revenue. Juniors remain the same at £5, as do joining fees.

HEAD OF OPS

Thank you all for the past year, one of the best and all those that worked so hard made my job that much easier. This includes those who step up to marshal at various events throughout the year and that in itself gains favour with the council.

Membership Administrator

We had more than 30 people leave the Society but more than 30 join/rejoin. Membership is around the 224 mark.

No A.O.B. due to A.G.M.

Smuggler Sam, with thanks to David Gibbon):

Team Monteagle 475 Team Saxon 476 Team Smuggler 647 Team Pirate 647 As such Mark and Cameron Patton stepped up to a duel for Team Smuggler, whilst Amanda and Alfie Whiteford stepped up for Team Pirate – it was a close-run thing but Team Pirate came out victorious.

SPECIAL Business:

Honorary Life Member awarded to Adam Briggs – in recognition of all the work he has done – and continues to do – for the Society.

Committee dismissed.

Board of Directors – Adam Briggs, Dave Hayes (apologies), Sue Hayes, Mark Patton, Kevin Start – sit up at the table.

Please see below – with thanks to Kevin Start (Mr Start's actual notes, so nothing is lost in translation):

'Introduction to the Board of Directors.

Limited Company back in June 2019, constitution and appointed a Board of Directors.

The Board is ultimately responsible for the company but is managed on a day-to-day basis by an appointed Committee that has been voted in by yourselves under our constitution.

Directors and Committee work with each other to ensure that we survive and head in the right direction.

We are here for the committee as well as yourselves, so if you have ideas, suggestions or issues you should approach the committee in the first instance to take on board, if you feel this is not possible or you are uncomfortable then you can approach anyone of the Directors who will in turn take this to the Board for discussion then back to the committee to look into, take on or resolve.

Directors cannot at any time overrule a post holder by pulling the card that he is a Director, but note any concerns or issues of post holders and take back to the committee to manage and deal with, if the matter is of a urgent safety nature then the Director will assist the senior post holder at the time in question to help resolve as best possible.

Our responsibility this evening is to inform you who has been appointed as the new Committee, but before we announce the new members, we would like to say a big thankyou to the old committee members.

Personal thanks to Kev Smith who has gone above and beyond his post responsibilities who has covered more posts than I knew we had and supported so many others in their delivery throughout the year.

The Constitution/Rule Book will need some updates as we move into the new year.

Some of the updates will include areas Data Protection Act to align to an operational model that we are capable of working in.

Member names and contact details and information may be made accessible to authorised society members in roles or performing a function for operational and communication purposes.

Member names and contact details and information of people in roles or performing a function may be shared with organisations supporting our event on the night, where operationally/legally required

The actual process on how this works will be formulated between the Directors and Committee in the New Year

There will be a number of updates to constitution and rules after a review in the New Year, these updates will be sent out via an electronic update, e-mailed to member.

Welcome new Committee back

There were multiple Nominators and Seconders for some people, to many to read out so just one name has been picked as Nominator and Seconder each role, we thankyou you all.

We welcome the new committee to take the table.'

Position	Name	Nominated	Seconded
Chair	Jay Childs	Toby Franks	Bradley Digby-Clarke
Vice-Chair	Bradley Digby-Clarke	Jay Childs	Sarah Dove
Head of Ops	Adam Briggs	Kevin Start	Emmeline Ravilious
Secretary	Emmeline Ravilious	Stephen James	David Hayes
Coordinator	Kevin Smith	Ben Robinson	Cameron Patton
Treasurer	Andy Bishop	Tina Start	Sally Reeve

NEW CHAIR

Many of you already know me and thank you for having me as your new Chair, hope to inject some 'fun' into Society. Some ideas: more boot sales and a big event — and maybe some camping!

Announcement of People in roles

Firesite	
Captain of Firesite	Toby Franks
Vice Captains of Firesite	Aaron Bray
Vice Captain of Firesite (Pyro)	
Firesite Team	
Firesite Build Team	
Procession	
Captain of Procession	Cameron Patton
Vice Captains of Procession #1	Nicholas Randle
Vice Captains of Procession #2	Neil Young
Officer of Torches	Mark Patton
Officer of Barrels	Jonah Patton
Officer of Fiery Things	Bradley Digby-Clarke

Officer of Banners	Alfie Whiteford
Officer of Tabs	
Officer of Memorial	
Officer of Buckets	
Pioneer Officers (Pirates)	Roy Elliot
Pioneer Officers (Saxons)	David Gibbon
Pioneer Officers (Smugglers)	Lydia Patton
Procession Team	
Procession Marshalls	
Coordinators	
Vice Coordinator	Jon Davies
Programme Coordinator	Valerie Bamping
Welfare Coordinator	Lydia Patton
Membership Coordinator	Tina Start
Marshalling Event Coordinator	
Donation Pots Coordinator	Sue Hayes
Digital Media Coordinator	Emmeline Ravilious
Merchandise Coordinator	Dianne Peacock
Publicity Coordinator	
Costume Coordinator	Caroline Langridge
Key Sponsorship Coordinator	
Out Meetings	
Out meeting Coordinator	Amanda Whiteford
	Toby Franks
Out meeting Captains	Steve James

NEW VICE-CHAIR

Hope to inject some more 'fun' (and youth!) into Society. Please come to me with themes for the next year.

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Handed out the new roles and announced vacancies. Can all those in role please sign and return job descriptions.

AGM Raffle

The evening was topped off with a raffle – as donated by Tina (AKA The Christmas Elf) and Kev Start in Tina's words:

The reason behind us providing the raffle this year is that we believe all the members work very hard each year and often have to put their hands in their pockets for all sorts of reasons.

We want to thank you all for your continued support to the society and without your diligence we would not be here. It is a pleasure and a privilege to watch others take on roles and move the society forward.

A few rules;

I, as is my duty as the Christmas elf, will be watching very closely to check there is no cheating.

Rule 1: A ticket will be picked out from the tombola box and the number announced to the

room

Rule 2: if you have said number then hold up your ticket. You will then be invited to come

and choose a prize. As you can see they are all wrapped. Some are really very nice. A

couple might be less so.

Rule 3: There will be no touching, picking up, shaking or any other Tom Foolery. If you

touch it then that is the prize you take away.

Rule 4: Take your prize back to your seat/place and wait.

When all the prizes have been handed out you will be invited to open your prizes together

I have a black bin for any waste, so please ensure we leave the Rugby Club as we would wish to

find it.

So, let's get started with the first ticket.

Many thanks and have a Happy Christmas!

Meeting finished at 21.15. The next meeting at 19.30 on Thursday 2nd February at the White Lion.

