

GQUA AGM 2023 Chair/Secretaries Report

Membership numbers. Slightly less than in previous years at 133 let berths against 137 last year and down from 145 in 2021, with 11 member only members, with 2 organisations making donations, the Fowey River Canoe Club and Sawmills who generously donated £100, albeit they didn't donate anything in 2022.

Ltd Company Report. I report that the Annual return and Company Accounts were submitted on time and that there were no trading activities in the year and therefore the Company remains dormant. It is essential that this is reported each year for you to be sure that nothing is changing regarding ownership of the land. Fayre Hardy and James Fuge are the Directors.

Maintenance & General Spends. The slip has been cleaned of algae on a regular basis, at a cost this year of £140.

The donation box by the slip only contributed £35 this year, mostly due to folk no longer carrying cash, although the sign is showing its age.

We spent £556 on the Pill clean-up and £78 on marker buoys that identify the stern chain along the Green and Beach areas. We also spent £120 on tree surgery making the trees above the quay safe.

Our total expenditure was £2741 leaving a year end bank balance of £16076.

We have just spent £3200 resurfacing the top of the quay and have planned repointing on the quay walls later in May. Having moved the granite blocks off the quay tarmac to resurface it, they will remain where they are and a new seat to match the existing will replace the old metal seat that had rusted. We will also need some maintenance to the track, all of this will be in next year's accounts.

Derelict Boats. We spent £540 on disposing of derelict boats last summer and have just spent another £300, a total of £840 in the year and without the assistance of local helpers would have spent considerably more.

So far, a total of £1630 across the 3 years we have been disposing of boats. We have two remaining, an old wooden sailboat that no longer floats the owner has until July when their paid-up berth fee expires, and we have a deal in place for £180 to dispose of it. The other is a fibreglass sailboat that needs a lot of attention. We did have dialogue ongoing with the owner, but he was very elusive, and the last story was 8 weeks for cancer treatment, but we will keep trying. This could be an expensive disposal.

Audit. Many thanks to Tony Strachan for auditing our accounts and to Fayre for preparing them in the first place.

Fees. At the recent committee meeting it was agreed to put the late payment of fees up to £25 and to increase the Annual Membership fee to £15 and reinforce the preferred method of payment is via BACS.

Boat Insurance. A new Rule requiring all boats in the Pill to have a minimum of third party insurance is required as per last years AGM notification and Minutes.

The 'Sink'. The area known as the 'Sink', the muddy ditch to the left of the track opposite the playground, has over the years been the subject of various requests to improve it or to fill it in and this was raised again this year. Further investigation as to what might be

possible has revealed that the Marine Conservation Zone designated in 2013 extends to the whole of the Pill and the 'Sink'. IFCA (Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority) states that the 'MCZ's protect an area that 'create an environment capable of supporting a diverse range of species'. The requirement for intertidal coarse sediment and intertidal mud is to 'maintain it in a favourable condition'. Any alteration to the existing condition does require a Marine Management Organisations licence which is unlikely to be granted given the existence of the Marine Conservation Zone. These restrictions will prevent any removal of mud or filling in, they will also prevent any further concreting to the Road area opposite the pub. This unfortunately does stop any further attempt to remove the mud we have or provide car parking on Quay Users land.

Pill Clean-up. We have another Pill clean-up date of Saturday 20th May at 10.30am.

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