

BSAC Teesside 43 Branch CASC  
Minutes of the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
20<sup>th</sup> March 2011 @ 10.30 hrs.

1. The Chairperson, Paul Nesbitt opened the meeting by welcoming all members to the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting.
2. *Apologies for Absence* – these were received from M Emmerson, C Church, D Foster, A Harker.
3. *Approval of Minutes for 2009 AGM* – These were proposed by Brian Malthouse and seconded by Mick Harrison as a true record.
4. *Matters Arising* - None
5. *Chairperson's Introduction* – Paul Nesbitt

The main event for me & for some of the other members of the club for 2010 was the mothball of TCP & the subsequent redundancies & uncertainty that was attributable to this. I am happy to say that with the re-start now planned it should give a welcome boost to the local economy & also our club.

Specifically from a club point of view we continued to function as normal with a good start to the year weather wise & poor afterwards similar to previous year for diving purposes.

Finances for the club remain "steady" that is we are holding our own a lot of this is thanks to efforts by members organising Car boot sales, BBQs & Bonfire night events which draw much needed funds into the club. We need to carry on in same vein for 2011 as membership alone will not fund the club unless we get a significant influx of new members so why not encourage friends & family to join whether diving or associate it doesn't matter!

The year end saw our 1<sup>st</sup> application for a grant for the club for new boats & trailers. We do not expect much from this application but now it is written it will back up & make other applications easier for 2011 an area we must pursue to keep the clubs equipment up to date & finances in the black.

Socially the club keep moving in the right direction with lots of evenings out for meals organised by different members & a great night out at Redworth Hall for the Xmas do. A great night was had by a good number of members, with some still even able to remember it & some still with the bruises!!

Again socially we need to carry on in the same way & I would encourage those of club members who haven't been yet to attend, we don't bite. (Well only Tony when he doesn't get to the buffet first).

For the 1<sup>st</sup> time in a number of years the committee has remained unchanged for its tenure so the job for myself was made easier so a big thank you to them they are

Kevin Wilde- AKA- DO, Training officer & Bar Manager

Thanks to Kev for all his efforts in all the roles above, without his help the club could not attract new members to train & membership would therefore dwindle, he is therefore a prized asset.

I am sure he is under utilised & may need more work for 2011 such as organising trips or maybe nights out!

Dave Rees -Treasurer/Membership Secretary

Another multi talented individual performing the dual role is Dave, thanks to him for keeping our finances up to date & everyone looking forward to his little prezzie in an envelope in May!

Stuart Wintringham- Equipment officer

Stuart's first full year in charge has kept boats & equipment up to scratch with the help of Rolly & others, thanks for all your efforts for 2010.

Hedley Brammer- Secretary

Keeps me in line & up to date on club affairs & records minutes of all meetings, he also puts a lot of effort into boat radios & a new role in applying for grants started in 2010 & will carry on in 2011 which I know needs lots of input.

Thanks Hedley for your efforts.

Nigel Watson – ADO -Web master

Thanks to Nigel for our new & improved website glad to say that it is one of the best club sites in UK & now well utilised by club members. Also Nigel ably steps in as DO for Kev whilst he is absent which can be quite a lot!

## Committee members

New to committee this year were Paul Kiss, & Les Dixon ably assisted by old timers Don Foster & Mick Harrison & Phil Bennett thanks to all young & old for there efforts in & around the club with organizing BBQs thanks to Les & general duties by all.

Special thanks go to club members who assist the club such as Cynthia behind the bar & Brian Malthouse collecting & organizing car booty's to raise funds plus all the others who assist in different areas around the club.

Lastly thanks to all friends & family of members who support the club in various ways.

## **6. Officer's Reports**

### 6.1 Treasurer's Report - Dave Rees

### 6.2 Membership Secretary – Dave Rees

At this moment in time we have 42 members, comprising 7 non-diving and 35 full members. Of these 4 are honorary members.

During the year we have gained 4 new members, and I would once again urge all our members to do their utmost to recruit new blood into the club. We still need to increase our membership numbers to remain viable at the present costs.

Talking to other clubs in the area I have found that they are all in a similar or worse situation.

The 3-9's club, who we share the pool with, are no longer a “branch” of a recognised Diving organisation. With only 6 diving members they are a club in name only, and are no longer offering diver training.

We must all strive to increase our membership numbers to avoid falling into this trap.

### 6.3 Diving Officer's Report – Kevin Wilde

I sat down to write this and thought, what did we the club get up to last year, there was little or no diving apart from Tenerife, Chuuk Lagoon, Malta. Then there was the Farne Islands and local dive sites not forgetting the inland waters of Stoney Cove, Capernwray and dare I say Ellerton Park. Our training weekend at Wastwater was another great success with a lot of effort put in from both students and instructors.

I can only apologise to those members of the club that constantly complain our club “doesn't do much diving”. But once again our members have proven that we are quite an active club and the opportunities are there.

So what's the plan for 2011? We've already had a group over to the Red Sea and there are a couple of us going down to Cornwall for the Dive fest and then Turkey in June, all four boats to South Shields and the Farne Islands are fully subscribed, there could be something in the pipeline for Sept/Oct to warmer waters and we haven't mentioned our own local sites yet. So I think we could have a busy year once again.

From a training point of view we managed to get the Splash pool whilst the Forum at Billingham was being refurbished, I understand that is now nearing completion and we have been offered our Monday night session back at an acceptable cost, Let's hope we get the desired depth. We haven't had many new starters this year and the latest of these Tony who we took a chance and partnered up with Paul for his pool sessions, surprisingly it has gone well. On the lecture front we completed both Ocean and Sport diver lectures early in 2010.

Stuart and Nigel both completed the next phase of their instructor training so well done to them.

We really need some new blood in the club, we keep saying it but do nothing about it. What we need is ideas, but then more importantly someone who will implement the ideas not just sit back and leave it to everyone else.

I am happy to carry on for another year as D.O. if the club require and will be asking Nigel to stand as my assistant.

Finally I would like to personally thank each member of my instructor team Nigel, Stuart, and Paul.

### 6.4 Training Officer's Report – Kevin Wilde

(See Diving Officers report)

### 6.5 Equipment Officer's Report – Stuart Wintringham

During the year I have changed the bearings on one of the trailers and it is working fine.

The compressor air was tested and seemed to be fine although the test tubes are out of date.

I have also had to strip down the steering on one of the boats, (Growler) as it had seized and was leaking hydraulic oil inside the console. This has now been mended and the system has been bled. The seizure was down to the stainless pole parallel to the hydraulic ram getting stuck in the pipe on which the engine pivots. I stripped it down cleaned it and re-greased it.

I have since found that the other boat engine has done the same and will be looking at this after the AGM.

I will also look at re-locating one of the batteries at the same time

## 6.6 Bar Manager's Report – Kevin Wilde

The New Year brought a hike in VAT which we could have done without but the good news is that we have been getting some great deals through shopping around and as a result I do not see any need to raise prices at present. We try to keep a good selection if any members have something they would like sold behind the bar let me know,

I shall go through the balance sheet in a moment and answer any questions but first I'd like to bring up the point that there was no audit of the accounts last year, I was told it would be done but not by who and nobody came forward. I would like the accounts auditing this year.

On a lighter note thanks go to all the members who have served behind the bar over the last year. And of course to Mrs Bossy (Cynthia) the licence holder that keeps us all in order. When she lets us actually stay behind the bar as she normally throws us out.

If nobody wants to fight me for the job I am happy to carry on as bar manager/stockist.

Finally in keeping with tradition there will be a free glass of water for all attendees once proceedings have come to a close.

## 6.7 Other Reports – Hedley Brammer

### Gift Aid

Gift aid has now been claimed for 2009 and 2010. Unfortunately we were supplied with the wrong documentation and they have also changed the procedure for claiming. It is now in hand and we will have the claim sorted shortly. We could claim more and with careful consideration and care in how we record information this can be achieved. If anyone is interested in this please contact me(HB) so that it can be discussed and we could therefore increase our income with virtually no effort.

### Other Funding

We have been looking at various funds to help us raise money for some one off purchases, including new RIBs and trailers.

2 separate funds have applications from us and we are awaiting the outcome from these. We are looking at at least 3 other sources and will be putting in applications to at least 1 of these and possibly all 3, if we can get a different type of income.

Again anyone who may wish to discuss this matter at any time please see me(HB) or contact me by e-mail with ideas.

## 7. *Election of Officers & Committee Members -*

Chair	P Nesbitt
Treasurer/Membership secretary	D Rees
DO	K Wilde
Secretary	H Brammer
Equipment officer	S Wintringham
Bar manager	K Wilde
Committee members	N Watson, P Kiss, M Harrison, P Bennett, D Foster, C Swinnerton, B Malthouse.

## 8. *Any Other Business*

As part of the process of finding funding Kev Wilde, Paul Nesbitt & Hedley Brammer are attending a "Club Development Evening" run by Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council Sports Development Team on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at their site at Kirkleatham. There are various aspects being covered at this event which we hope we can improve our chances of getting additional funding and improving our marketing.

Brian is running an Easter Egg raffle so we need some Easter Eggs donating. The raffle will be drawn in about 2 weeks. He is also looking for more goods to sell at the stall.

Another idea for advertising the club was having T-shirts made.

9. *Chairperson's closing remarks*

Paul thanked everyone for attending the meeting, hope we have a good diving year and we are looking forward to doing various events. Please bring your ideas to the committee to promote the club and help us to organise events, raising funds for the club.

The meeting closed at 11.30am.