



2016 AGM Minutes & 2016/17 Membership Application Form



3lb 4oz Wool



Nice Chub



21lb 9oz Luckfield



7lb Bream Wool

**Subscriptions for 2016/17
Increased slightly**

***ALL Existing waters retained for 2016/17
(except Rosewall Lakes)***



@DDASNews



Dorchester & District Angling Society



Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

held on

Thursday 21st April 2016 at the WAS HQ, Weymouth

1. **Attendance** - A total of 54 members attended the meeting.
2. **Apologies** - Apologies were received from Mr: B Lucy, D Fyffe, G Biles, A Watson, P Nolson, T Sparrowhawk, D Beadnell-Smith, P Wyatt, D Moxom, H Llewellyn, B Crosby, D Robinson, A Newman, Sally Mitchell, R Sears, B Smith, M Park, R Fullbrook, T Stirgess, A Miller, D Clarke, T Jane.
3. **Minutes of the 2015 AGM** - The minutes of the 2015 AGM, previously circulated, were confirmed with no matters arising, they were accepted by the members present and signed by the Chairman.
4. **President's Address** – Mr John Smith opened the events by welcoming everyone to what was our 69th AGM.

Good evening everyone....

Can I say thank you to Weymouth Sea Angling Society for making their Clubhouse available to us again this year. We genuinely appreciate the gesture.

Thursday is a bit of a change to our usual Saturday night do. So well done to everyone for managing to turn out mid-week. In my case, it's particularly tricky because Thursday is my normal night for going to the Casterbridge Clairvoyants Club.

I'm a bit anxious because last Thursday my personal soothsayer Madam Lilly Littlemoor told me that for the next fortnight I should have absolutely nothing to do with fish. But I've defied her warning and here I am. Actually I don't think she's all that clever because my match results for 2015/16 show I've been avoiding fish for at least a year. Anyway, welcome to the AGM which I know is out 69th.

We're going to hear from the Chairman in a minute about what's been going on during the year.

But as President, I've got the best of both worlds - not many tasks to perform but close enough to the organisation to see and hear what's happening.

And I can tell you, the elected officers and committee members are working their butts off to make this society even more attractive and fishing friendly than it's ever been. So I'd like to say a personal thank you for grafting away in all our interests over the past 12 months. So well done chaps!

The last few years have seen this society grow tremendously in member numbers. And its admin has got so much more efficient and professional. I think that may well be connected. Embracing electronic communication for example has been fantastic for me. In fact this is the first year in my memory that I've not had a call from Steve Sudworth asking me, John Parkes and my friend Rita to send out the AGM agenda. We've been spared this year - so thank god for email.

I joined the society with Mr Park is about 1964 or 65.

Until about 1999 I did OK. But since the Millennium I've gone so far backwards that now I just turn up, hand over my entrance fee, sit it out for six hours, then applaud the winners. I can't see me getting any better, but I still intend to fish the matches when I can.

And I hope the new season will bring every one of us, however we fish, personally what we want to get out of this terrific club because the choice is there.

So until this time next year, thanks for listening, tight lines everywhere and back to the AGM. Thank you.

5. **Chairman's Report** - The Chairman, Mr Mark Sims, thanked John for his kind words & comments, welcomed the members present to the 69th DDAS AGM and thanked them for making the effort to attend, he reported:

'Incredibly another year has passed,

.....Once again a very warm welcome to this my review of the 15/16 season it's wonderful to see so many familiar faces and old friends so here we are again another year passed and so much to report.

Let me start by talking about our facebook page for those that are tech savvy will know what a great source of news and information it is, for those of us that are still a little less sure I recommend you get on it and have a look there is always plenty to see. The web site has recently been updated new pics and a better layout special thanks to your club Sec Steve and our webmaster that keep it up to date. Please keep sending in your pics, catch reports and even tips and ideas it's great to be able to share your news with all our other friends and members. You will also find info on matches water closers and working parties to name but a few.

Moving onto the review.....

Luckfield

Those that do keep in touch with the website and FB couldn't help but notice all the traffic on Luckfield last year. We started the season on a flyer! The water fished its wotsits off! It was packed every day from April through June. Numerous reports of upper double figure carp tench, perch and even a few "proper bream" FANTASTIC! (we thought) all the hard work we had invested over the last five years had paid off. We decided that with a sponsorship deal with our friends at CCMoore we would put together the "Luckers 18" an overnight Carp fishing competition, the idea that was put to your committee the previous year by a club member.

The idea was that 9 anglers would fish a comp' over 3 heats and a final for around £250 worth of CCMoore goodies including jackets and bait. As it turned out it was around this time the water took a turn for the worse, the fish seemed to become harder to catch (so much so that even some of the club's top anglers myself included) BLANKED! It was almost like they just switched off, we put this down to the normal Luckfield summer problems of warm water and pressure from lots of lines in the water.....How wrong we were! It turned out that our favourite little water was in REAL trouble, the natural balance of good and bad bacteria in the lake had changed, the dissolved oxygen level plummeted, the water went gin clear, something that I haven't seen in 30 yearswe estimate we were 24 hrs away from catastrophe and the possible loss of our valuable stock. Just to give you an idea how close we came, the scale of healthy dissolved oxygen levels in a water would normally be around 80-90% saturation... Luckfield was below 30% percent and it stayed for many days. At these levels fish losses were inevitable, out of sheer luck we think we only lost one or two. As usual the team moved heaven and earth to get portable pumps running, we kept them going around the clock as best we could, trying to get the oxygen back into the water.

Clearly these emergency measures were unsustainable so an alternative plan was put into place we purchased and installed an electric aerator and powered it by the very kind generosity of one of the Lakes neighbours, Steve Mason. Also with the very kind help of Richie Holmes, our adopted "club sparky" and general good guy who did all the necessary "techie leccie bits" while us less qualified folk did the lift'n & shift'n, cut'n and bangin bits. All things considered it was a typically fabulous response from a great bunch of guys who make me so proud to be part of this club.....all of which I am convinced saved me reporting what could have been a very different story. Once again special thanks to those guys, I'm not going to name and same you but you know who you are. Latest reports and a further micro chalk treatment plus meticulous monitoring by the team with a specialist meter we purchased seem to indicate we are in the clear at least for the time being, current DO levels are in the top of the scale (88% average). The great news is with both the electric and the monitoring in place we can get the aerator up and running within hours and hopefully prevent another potential catastrophe. Just a reminder to all club members to report anything out of the ordinary whether that be water quality, fish in distress or any environmental issue, just call the number on your membership card, the sooner we know about it the sooner we can act. Various other works and improvements have been made including the installation of a cowling to prevent the out fall pipe getting blocked (special thanks to Andy Foyle), further tree work and the installation of bird scarers to try and discourage the ever present cormorant population.

Heath lake

Still ever popular with the guys that want a get a good ol bend in the rod! A great match or pleasure venue that always throws up good weights even for the less talented members of the club.

I am delighted to confirm we have been given a further two year licence at Heath Lake not that I think we will still on there in two years, it will be around that time that we hope to be moving on to the new complex. The Club secretary then presented a brief basic report on the current situation at 'Silverlake' including the proposed design for the New Lake(s) on the estate, where they will be & that there will only be 60mtr (flat) walk to them, instead of 600mts!! More details will be published to members as soon as they known.

Kingcombe

Our very own Lodge Lake at Kingcombe Farm, still our all access water as popular as ever and as weedy as ever! We have another working party booked for the **20th May** (Friday, from 12pm) to remove another load of weed, this will be followed by a **FREE BBQ** and a couple of drinks, for all those who would like to help out, let us know if you think you can give us a hand, thank you. We removed nearly ten ton last year all this just a few days before our regular annual event in conjunction the Masons for disabled kids, always a fantastic, rewarding day. (BE AWARE: THE LAKE WILL BE CLOSED FOR ALL OF THAT WEEKEND, INCLUDING THE MONDAY). The whole of the Kingcombe complex is great for a quick summer evening session off the top or a full day's fishing, loads of Carp, Tench, Perch, Roach and remember we have the lower 'two island lake' too, all included in our membership...why wouldn't you!

Harbour Bridge

Jim's complex grows every year! The new match lake is almost ready, a little bit more landscaping and he should be good to go. Work on the track leading to the lakes will also be complete by late June (100 ton of hardcore being put

down), this will greatly improve the access I'm sure. Jim has very kindly agreed that the club licence/rent this year will be at no extra cost in way of a thank you for putting up with the access problems you have encountered. We carried out some work of our own on Witch Hazel lake last year tidying up the cut outs, installing steps and generally improving access (especially for flying matelots.. you had to be there, or see the video).

The western front

Potwell at Broadwindsor is a great little venue, wonderful fishing and lovely people it always throws up good weights at the committee match, a little way out for the Weymouth members, and the guys on the east of the patch, but well worth the trip. As is the picturesque Washingpool Farm Lakes, maybe not the most prolific water on the books but a beautiful place to spend a day. We know only have access to 2 of the lakes there now, please read the details in your handbook before fishing, thank you.

Revels Fishery & Tackle Shop

Surely the centre of the club's match scene, loads of water and jam packed with fish!, supported by Jason and his team, we really are fortunate to have them on our side. Each and every year they support us with the Christmas match and this year was no exception, always keen to do a deal in the shop. On that subject I would urge you all to support all our local tackle shops, they are always there for us when we need them, so please give them the chance to price the bigger ticket items.

The Frome

An interesting season on the 'chalk' this year, not the most prolific year and certainly not the best conditions but still good tales of big girls coming out both from Wool and Worgret, we have put together the "Grayling guidelines" (included in the new handbook this year) which I hope you find useful? I'm sure these will save a few of my favourite quarry from going belly up! Likewise we put the pike fishing rules in place, we took advice from some of our serious predator fisherman as well as the pike society to give members a real idea of what's expected.

Rosewall lakes (Wallys & Meadow)

It is with regret I have to inform the membership that our partnership with the Rosewall complex at Osmington will not be renewed for the 2016/17 season. The family believe they are out of pocket with the number of members fishing the water, also you may be aware that, in the early days of our relationship we had a few problems with people not signing in and not behaving in a way that we would expect from our members. I hasten to add that we couldn't be sure the people in question were members? We rely on trust and "Gentleman's behaviour" we are not sure that we had not been taken advantage of. Please believe me when I say we tried everything we could to continue the relationship but the family were unwilling to enter into further negotiations, however, they have agreed that we could "rent" Meadow Lake for a charity carp comp in the summer (24/36hr TBD), provisional dates for this is either the 16th or 30th July, fair details to follow when known.

Sharnhill complex

Every year I say much the same things ..it's a lovely place to be, the fishing is fantastic the access to upper is brilliant and lower is more of a challenge! Whisky (members sec) religiously gets down there with the strimmer and mower when the track is passable of course, so if you haven't taken the time to get down there you really should (during the dryer days if you intend to drive)! A report by a couple of members during the evening stated that it is a bit 'quite' down there of late, not much being caught & quite overgrown, the chairman stated that we think we might have an otter problem down there & that plans are afoot to tackle the weed problem 'again' this year & keep a close eye on the stocks and take appropriate action if required (re-stocking, otter fence, cormorant deterrents).

The Stour

The Stour or SOUR (as it's sometimes unfairly known) gave me my first ever Chub this season (with a little help from my friend) all I can say is..."Summer Chubin"...Haywards bridge, 1st class! even in the height of summer, pack light stay mobile take some bread and you will catch! Whilst on the subject of the Stour, I would like to put on record our thanks to Jason White for the bailiff duties he carries out and all the work he does (with his brother) in preparing swims and clearing trees. It was also expressed from a member at the meeting 'HOW NICE' it was be asked to see his membership by Jason and he wished that his thanks & gratitude be minuted. Further work is planned for later in the summer. Also worth mentioning that the major road works on Haywards bridge has started which may make access a little harder until about October, keep an eye on the website or facebook for updates on progress, the short & long side will still be fishable, just plan your journey in advance.

Membership

The Membership secretary, Mr Paul 'Whisky' Haigh briefed members present on the total membership numbers for the 2015/16 club year, where they were purchased (the majority being direct through him). He also briefly explained the Exchange book set-up with other local clubs, Guest ticket set-up (details of both in your handbook) & that the system seemed to be working well, therefore it will continue in the same way for the foreseeable future. He again, **politely** asks members that when renewing (hopefully) memberships this year, that the application form is completed as clear as possible, especially E-mail address, this will ensure ALL members will receive what could be very important information when required, and will also keep postage costs to a minimum.

The Future

So to the futureI would like to begin by talking about the past, back in the mid/late 1990s many will remember the club's finances were only just covering our water rents, partly due to increasing prices and stagnant membership numbers, thankfully through some exceptional work by the committee at the time, they helped move the club forward 'towards' where we are now.

In the years following the desire was to have enough money in the bank to cover the following years water rents & have funds available for any emergencies. This has been the ethos ever since. David will shortly explain our very strong financial position. I believe it is our duty to decide how we use that money for the clubs benefit going forward. We as a committee have recently discussed our view for the future whilst nothing concrete has been decided. There is one thing we agree on, is that we need to understand where we want to go and have a plan to get us there. We would welcome any thoughts or ideas anyone may have. One idea that has been mentioned was owning our own water!

The coming years will be a challenge on our finances, we will need to take various factors into account such as the Silverlake (Heath lake move) project taking off and whilst HFG will be hopefully picking up the tab there will inevitably be costs we will incur. Other costs such as printing and membership cards will increase particularly as our special relationship with a local company will come to an end as a key club member takes early retirement. Water rents historically and inevitably rise with inflation. Also as the club membership grows additional insurance is required which comes with increased premiums.

All these costs will need to be covered and if there is a desire to own our own water, we will need to run a surplus, or at the very least, cover our costs. With this in mind, and after much deliberation, your committee will, during the AGM, be proposing that a modest increase to annual subscriptions is put to vote, to members present. It has been a desire of the committee over recent years to develop our junior membership with this in mind we have co-opted Paul Burrige onto the committee who accidently mentioned he would be interested in building our junior membership up with help from the Angling trust, us not being the sort that need telling twice, had him in the role before he had a chance to change his mind! I hand you over to Paul to give you an outline of our plans for the future of Junior Anglers:

A big thank you for the introduction. It goes to show you need to be careful what you say to the wrong people! I'm delighted to have been co-opted on to the committee and look forward to working with the club to increase the junior section and getting more young people fishing. This is a problem area for most clubs in most sports and pastimes. Clubs like ours who have been running for years are finding it harder to engage young people. This can be put down to changes in family dynamics and the red tape involved around clubs and school integration.

I am pleased to announce that this year coming Dorchester and District Angling Society will be breaking down these walls and problems.

I myself have signed on to the UK's angling coaching program to be trained to be a lead coach for the club. Tom Foyle will be also training to be certificated to lvl 1 for coaching assistant.

This will enable the club to reach for Fish Mark status, this in laymans terms, mean we have been checked as a club and have adopted the correct policies to provide a safe and secure environment to work with children. This is key to integration with schools and children's clubs.

I have already engaged with a local school on Portland, they are already looking forward to working with the club and have offered to let me hold a presentation to the children of the school regarding fishing and the club. After this step we will approach other schools to join in with our events.

The planned events will be open days for family fishing. Meaning that anyone young or old can come and try fishing, holding these open events will be supported by the angling trust. Publicity will be via local shops, schools and I will be pushing for local radio and more.

This is only an outline and I look forward to keeping the momentum going. It is vital to the continuation of the club and the sport as a whole that we push now to keep our children interested in fishing. Thank you.

All that remains is the usual round up of massive THANK YOU'S to: WAC for the kind use of these facilities, the tackle shops: Alans Angling, Dorchester Angling Centre (ALI) and Revels looking after our Dorchester based members, WAC and Chesil Bait 'n Tackle in Weymouth, Deano in Purbeck Angling and of course the Angling Center over in West Bay also our good friends at C Moore all of who's support our members and the club alike. Special thanks also to John Halford who stands down from the committee this year after many years sterling service. In recognition of the service, John will become a life member. Whilst speaking of the committee, as ever I am sure you will join me in thanking your committee for the their continued commitment and support, without whom none of this could happen. Here's hoping you join DDAS again this year...onwards & upwards!!!

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6. **Treasurers report & Statement of Accounts** - The Treasurer, Mr David Tattersall submitted the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016 which showed a reasonable profit despite the additional outlay for various reasons. David outlined the accounts including the new & increased cost of rents for all our waters. (a copy of the accounts is available to current members on request). A thank you was received from the floor for providing an outstanding set of accounts that included a breakdown of all expenditure.
 7. **Verification of Accounts** - The Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016 were verified and signed by Robbie Roberts on 7th April 2016 and were formally approved by the meeting without amendment.

8. **Motions from the Retiring Committee** –

The chairman stated: Before the proposed increase in subscriptions is announced, let me put into perspective what i mentioned during my chairman’s report: If you want to join Wimbourne you will need to find £130 and whilst Wareham and Sturminster are a little over £40, they do not offer **half the water** we do. We pride ourselves on offering quality fishing in great locations at a price that offers you fantastic value for money. It is mine and your committees opinion that even after this small increase, we will still offer exactly that:

The following resolution was approved without amendment:

- i. That subscriptions for the year 2015/16 shall be increased. It was voted by unanimous decision from the floor that the membership costs shall be:

Adult membership	£53
Adults & Spouse/Partner joining together	£75 (both anglers)
Adults & Spouse/Partner joining together	POA (non angling partner) (request in writing by post or email)
Senior Citizen (65yrs+*) (in line with rod licence)	£32
Senior Citizen & Spouse/Partner*	£32
Disabled Person (proof required)	£32
Juniors (over 14yrs & under 18yrs)	£18
Primary (10yrs to 13yrs inclusive)	£11
Part Year Adult membership	£35 (from 1/11/16)

9. **Society Appointments** - Having been duly proposed and seconded, the following appointments were made:

President	Mr John Smith.
Vice-Presidents	Mr Bill Lucy, Mr Derek Pride, Mr Mike Park, Mr David Tattersall, Mr John Parkes, Mr Stuart Murgatroyd & Mr Eric Sherwood BEM, My John Halford (new).
	Officers
Chairman	Mr Mark Sims
Vice-Chairman	Mr Chris Watson (new)
Secretary	Mr Steve Sudworth
Treasurer	Mr David Tattersall
Membership Secretary	Mr Paul Haigh
Match Secretary	Mr Mick Brown
Junior Secretary	Mr Paul Burrige (new)
Ass' Junior Secretary	Mr Graham Howard (new)
Club Captain	Mr Terry Dell
Committee	Mr Dave Beadnell-Smith Mr Andrew Foyle Mr Roger Fullbrook Mr Tony Turner Mr Andy Tattersall Mr Tom Foyle
Trustees	Mr Dave Beadnell-Smith & Mr David Tattersall

10. **Appointment of Bank Signatures** - The bank signatures for the year 2016/17 shall be the Treasurer plus Mr Bill Lucy & Mr John Smith.

11. **Account Verifiers** - Mr Robbie Roberts will continue in this post for the foreseeable future.

There being no further business, the AGM closed at 9.08pm and was followed by the announcement and presentation of the donation of the £250 to our chosen local charity: 'PROJECT LINUS', thank you to all members who added a small amount to their membership application form last year, very much appreciated: The South Dorset

representative of the charity, Mrs Angela Hartle could not be in attendance to receive the cheque, Angela sent us an email stating where the money would be (and has been) spent & THANKED YOU for your kind donation! This was then followed by the presentation of match trophies and specimen fish awards, these trophies are on permanent display in the WAS HQ for members to view.

Post Meeting Note:

It is with much regret to inform members of the passing of Mr Terry Broughall & Mr Cyril Turner, may they rest in peace.

Non AGM Notes/reminders:

- a) Please remember to carry & show your membership card (when requested by ANY other club member) at all times, it is also a requirement at Revels Fishery that you sign the log in the tackle shop on arrival, this provides proof that you are the holder of the membership (comparison of signatures), no membership - no session. Exchange books & Guest tickets are not accepted at Revels.
- b) Sign In/Out Logs that are provided at most of our waters ARE TO BE COMPLETED ON ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE at all times, please do not leave it until you leave (as has been the case on many occasions this year) If you fall in, drown & sink to the bottom, at least we know where you are!
- c) The dates provided in the log at Luckfield are the only periods that members are allowed to fish 24 hour sessions on the lake, please abide by all the rules as stated on the notice boards or in your members handbook. Please Respect your fellow angler/member.
- d) Please take all your litter home. LEAVE only footprints & TAKE only Photos!!**
- e) Please check your membership handbook for details on the use of Keepnets. Please remember to lay it out behind you for at least 45 minutes before putting it in the water (this helps to kill any bacteria on the net) and if it is very warm weather, we ask they are not used at all. Thank you.

Tight Lines for the 2016/17 club year to you All.



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Dorchester & District Angling Society

**2016/17
Membership Application form overleaf**