



## West Wilts Fly Fishers Guild

### 42nd Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 7.30pm Leigh Park Hotel, B-on-A

#### Present:

Jon Jonik, Roger Henderson, Andy Greatwood, Gerry Barnes, Tim Pullen, Paul Marchant, Mick Marchant, Dan Perrett, Peter Marshall-Bailey, Colin Burbidge, Robert Eadie, David Edwards, Ray Buckley-Humphries, Gordon Morse (guest)

#### Part 1

##### 1. Apologies:

Simon Steel, David Little, Paul Runyard-Hunt, Malcolm Bond, Brian Hussey, Ron Jones, Neil Soni.

Jon welcomed guest and prospective member Gordon Morse

##### 2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2022 AGM

Approved unanimously. No amendments.

##### 3. President & Treasurer's Report

See copy of Report, Accounts Balance sheet and Payments & Receipts for 2022 attached.

The meeting voted unanimously to accept the Report and the 2022 Accounts.

##### 4. Elections:

No formal nominations had been received to fill the vacant Committee positions.

##### Officers

##### Nominee

Chairman -	Jon Jonik during the interregnum
Treasurer -	Jon Jonik
Secretary -	Roger Henderson
Membership Secretary -	vacancy
Ad hoc Member -	vacancy
President -	Jon Jonik
Vice Presidents -	John DeCesare Malcolm Bond
Auditor -	Annette Bond

The meeting unanimously voted to re-elect the committee and Officers 'en bloc'.

Jon thanked those members who had taken on the organisation of some Guilds activities during the year as this had greatly helped the committee.

**Close of AGM:** There being no other business the AGM closed at 8.00pm.

**Followed by Presentation of the 2022 Trophies.**

**AOB**

- i) **The Retained EU Law Bill** – further to the information circulated to members since our January meeting, Jon confirmed that he had written as Chairman to Devizes MP Danny Kruger to ask what action The Morgan’s Hill group is taking to ensure environmental protection legislation such as The Sewage Bill are not watered down under the REU Law Bill.

Jon had also written to his MP, as had Roger, and encouraged members to consider writing to their MPs. A draft letter agreed with the committee and our vice-presidents had been circulated for members to use as basis for their letters, if they wish.

- ii) **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February** is our first bank management day at Tellisford. 9.30am till 2pm.

Roger had emailed all members with details. Roger asked members to make sure they have read The Guild’s Risk Assessment for bank work which he has emailed to members, and which is also on our website.

Long and short loppers and bowsaws will be the most useful tools.

Chainsaws only to be used by Guild members who have passed recognized and certificated training and have all the requisite PPE.

Jon & Roger have already removed an over-grown Willow at the Flume Pool.

Beaver activity has been spotted upstream of The Flume with a single tree felled. Photo in the next News-Roundup.

- iii) We now have speakers confirmed for our next two meetings:

- i. March – Jody Armitage our Environment Agency Rivers Officer talking about the re-introduction of grayling on our stretch of the River Frome and other topics.
- ii. April - Andy Mears - Wessex Water talking about the River Frome.

## **Part 2**

### **Fly-Tying 2nd Session**

Andy Greatwood and Ray Buckley Humphries demonstrated a range of techniques for dry flies, nymphs and attractors. Descriptions and close-up photos will be in the next News-Roundup.

These sessions have again reignited interest in fly-tying so it has been decided to bring back the ‘Beginners Fly-Tying’ trophy – more details at our March meeting.

We are very grateful to Andy and Ray for preparing their demonstrations and sharing so many hints & tips as well as generously providing the materials for members to use.

**Date of next meeting – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm**

# WEST WILTS FLY FISHERS GUILD

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023

### CHAIRMAN & TREASURER'S REPORT

It has been a successful year for the Guild. We have settled into our new surroundings and been made very welcome by the staff at the Leigh Park Hotel. A busy calendar consisting of two fly tying sessions, four guest speakers, organised boat and bank (Hamper) outings, improved access to some beats on the river Frome, increased the number of River Fly Monitors and held a very enjoyable Guild Dinner.

At the last AGM we budgeted to continue to reduce our surplus by not increasing subscriptions and continuing to subsidise a bank and boat outing as well as the dinner. We budgeted to lose £549 but came in under that with a deficit of £418.05 which was primarily due to a reduced stocking on the river Frome and increased monies raised from the raffles. The accumulated fund now stands at £5,154.02.

Membership remained the same at 41 made up of 16 Guild only, 25 Guild & River Frome with 5 Coarse fishermen. Our finances are still in good shape and therefore it is your committee's recommendation that we maintain the existing membership and fishing fees and continue to subsidise a bank and boat outing as well as the dinner. Although the number of Fishing members has slightly reduced we have been able to hold the river Frome rental at no increase for 2023 and we will continue with the reduced stocking and associated cost. We expect to have similar speaker costs and Guild expenses plus inflation and therefore we are budgeting for loss of £609.13 for this year.

The accumulated fund at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 was £6997.07 and if we meet our 2023 budget the accumulated fund at the end of this year will be approximately £4,544.89. By way of a heads up for next years AGM we need to decide with reasons the ideal size of the accumulated fund and based on that review the membership fee and subsidies.

I would like to thank the membership for their continued support and I would especially like to thank Roger Henderson for his commitment and thoroughness without which I couldn't do what I do and as Guild Secretary his regular email communications about our meetings and activities is so important in ensuring we are kept fully informed and up to date. We continue to make more use of our new website which contains everything you need to know about what the Guild is doing and we are looking at ways it can be used by members to communicate between members. We are also so fortunate and appreciate the work that Robert Eadie and Colin Burbedge do in producing The News Roundup which is always entertaining and informative.

I would also like to thank our Vice Presidents Malcolm Bond and John DeCesare whose advice and support are much appreciated and finally Annette Bond for her advice whilst auditing our accounts.

Are there any questions regarding my report or about the accounts?

Jon Jonik Chairman & Treasurer

8<sup>th</sup> February 2022