

The IMechE Dorchester Area Committee Meeting

The Trumpet Major 7th February 2013
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Present

Gerry Pritchard Chairman (C), Steve Stubbing School Liaison Officer (SLO), Nick Fryer Treasurer and Minute Taker (T & MT), Andrew Samways Publicity Officer (PO), Andrew Kenny, Steve Lawton, Nick Schulkins Wessex Region Chairman and Mrs Schulkins

Apologies Non

Minutes and matters Arising

The Minutes of the previous AGM were accepted without alteration. Any matters arising are dealt with in the following minutes and those of the 40th Ordinary Meeting, which followed on immediately after the AGM.

The Chairman's opening remarks and report

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. A special welcome was extended to Nick Schulkins, the Wessex Region Chairman, and his wife. Nick stated that he wants to get out and about and meet people in the Region, not to interfere but to provide support and help.

Committee – It was refreshing to note that after many years of trying that two new potential committee members were present. We meet nominally three times a year but contact by telephone is frequent. The venue for meetings remains the Trumpet Major as this is convenient to members locally and living nearby.

Lectures – In reality we prefer to speak of 'talks' which lacks the description of lectures and allows freedom to the speaker and his subject. This is perhaps our major activity. We seek speakers on varied and hopefully interesting subjects. Once again, we arranged three talks during the year. Finding speakers with valid subjects requires considerable effort and to ease the workload, during the year we developed close ties with the IoP. Hence, the Weymouth lecture programme is now IMechE, IET and IoP sponsored. Refreshments are provided at all talks and our regular venue for talks is Weymouth College. Attendees are of mixed background, active and retired, young and old. The average number attending is about three dozen. The three lecture titles for last year were; 'The Timescales of Weather and Climate', (IoP sponsored), 'Lifeboat Development' and 'Not the Battle of Britain: Stopgap or Turning Point'.

Schools – An area of activity to which much effort is given by our SLO. After school clubs are currently run at Budmouth School where there is continued involvement in Greenpower. During the last year, the Design Club designed and built a remote controlled model boat which participated in a competition with other schools at the QinetiQ Haslar hydrodynamics facility. Day trips to Explore@Bristol and Durlson Country Park have been enjoyed by four First Schools in the area. Effort and time given to this is commendable and the committee has seen fit to help with SLO travel expenses. Our SLO does a splendid job. See attached summary report.

Visits – There is little scope for visits in the area and it is largely a matter of opportunity. There have been no recent visits.

Finance – Good working relations exist between Region and Dorchester Treasurers and all works well and smoothly.

Secretary's Report

Since the Dorchester Area has no Secretary there was nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report

The Dorchester Area had a Grant of £1,700 from Region last FY which was used, in the main, to support three very well attended lectures at Weymouth College, our SLO activities, together with the committee expenses. Expenditure was in line with previous years. Nick explained that cuts had been made to the Region Budget of £6k. These cuts should not have too much of an impact on our Area but additional funding for our Schools activities can be sought from the Education Support Group which meets in March.

School Liaison Officer's Report

See attached Activity report from the SLO.

PO Report

The Dorchester Area Website is now the main communication method employed. Post lecture summaries are written and added to the website. The dates for the 2013 lectures have now been added. PO is making continued good use of the 'List' server facility with global emails sent out to the DT1 – DT7 postcodes to members informing them of lecture details. In parallel with the Website tasks, the PO has updated the 'paper' mailing list. See attached Publicity Officer's AGM Annual Report

Election of Officers

The following Officers were elected

Chairman	Andrew Samways	proposed SLO	Seconded T
Secretary	Andrew Kenny	proposed SLO	Seconded C
Treasurer	Nick Fryer	proposed SLO	Seconded C
Publicity O	Andrew Samways	proposed SLO	Seconded T
SLO	Steve Stubbing	Proposed C	Seconded T
Committee	Gerry Pritchard		
Committee	Steve Lawton		

AOB

There was none.

Closing Comments

The whole Committee extended a very warm thank you to Gerry Pritchard our past Chairman. Gerry has been involved with the Dorchester Panel/Area since its creation in the 1980's and took on the role of Chairman in 1999. Since then, he has worked tirelessly to ensure that the Dorchester Area has run so smoothly. Gerry was always very keen to bring a varied lecture programme to Weymouth and was always prepared to do all the initial groundwork to make it happen. He liked arranging visits as well! The Committee look forward to his continued support in the future.

Nick Fryer
Dorchester Area Minute Taker
10th February 2013