

The IMechE Dorchester Area Committee Meeting  
The Trumpet Major - 05 February 2014  
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

**Present**

Steve Stubbing (School Liaison Officer (SLO)), Andrew Samways (Chairman (C )), Nick Fryer (Treasurer ), Andrew Kenny (Secretary (S)), Steve Lawton (Committee Member), David Lowe (Publicity and Vice Chairman)

**Apologies** None

**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. Sad news reported that Jerry Pritchard, former chairman and outstanding leader of Dorchester Section, departed.

**The Chairman's report**

Committee – We were pleased that a new volunteer committee member, David Lowe, was present. We meet nominally three times a year but contact by telephone and e-mail 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. 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 each meeting is about three dozen. Titles of our 'talks' this year were 'Protecting Our Troops from RPG 7s - Tarian, the latest innovation in the fight against the Taliban' by AmSafe Bridport; 'The Optical Oilfield' by Atlas Elektronik UK Ltd; and 'Mechanical Aspects of the Poole Twinsails Bridge' by Atkins

**Schools** – An area of activity to which much effort is given by our SLO. After school clubs are currently run at Budmouth School which participated in the Quinetic design competition of boat parameters. As highlight this year SLO helped to take 63 Autistic children and Carers to “Explore @ Bristol” on 9th April. The response was so great that some parents went by car and train. This was a truly amazing experience for the young people and their carers; some of whom haven't been out of Weymouth before. Day trips to Explore@Bristol and Durlson Country Park have also 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** – This year visits may be arranged with the Swanage Steam Railway and other venues as the opportunity may arise.

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

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Dorchester Area had separate grants for operations such as the meetings and for educational support activities.

### **School Liaison Officer's Report**

See attached Activity report from the SLO.

### **Vice Chairman Report**

New post of vice chairman proposed. Vice chairman to be chairman-in-waiting.

### **Publicity Officer**

Currently simultaneously held office by chairman. Chairman agrees a new PO would help chairman focus on chairman duties.

## **Election of Officers for 2014**

The following Officers were elected

Chairman	Andrew Samways	continues second year of two year term	
Vice Chairman	David Lowe	proposed SLO	Seconded T
Publicity Officer	David Lowe	proposed T	Seconded SLO
Treasurer	Nick Fryer	proposed S	Seconded VC
SLO	Steve Stubbing	Proposed C	Seconded CV
Secretary	Andrew Kenny	proposed SLO	Seconded VC
Committee	Steve Lawton		

## **AOB**

### **Consideration of Amalgamation of Dorchester Region with any other IMechE Region**

Dorchester C notes that Wessex area has mooted amalgamation of Dorchester region with another region.

Dorchester committee considers pertinent matters such as: effect on members meeting in Weymouth, effect of support for young students in the Dorchester region, access to IMechE support by members in farthest parts of Dorchester region from the other regions of Wessex, networking opportunities for Dorchester Region IMechE members with IET members of this area who share responsibility for three of the six member meetings annually arranged in Weymouth, and so forth.

Motion by C for vote on whether Dorchester Region should be amalgamated with any other region.

Motion for vote seconded by all members present.

Kevin Donnerly, and Steve Lawton, Members of Dorchester Section vote by proxy

Vote unanimous for no amalgamation.

Proposals to rename section the Dorchester and Weymouth section and strengthen outreach especially to early career engineers in the section.

**2014 AGM Meeting Adjourned and followed immediately by 43<sup>rd</sup> OGM**