



DRAFT Minutes of Plurabelle Paddlers 2025 AGM.

10.30am on the 29th of March 2025 in the Plurabelle Paddlers Clubhouse.

Attendance: 51 members, therefore a quorum was achieved.

Apologies: Helen Spillane. Tara Byrne and Rosemary Phelan appointed Margaret Mulcahy as proxy.

Meeting Chair: Marion Egan.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

1. Minutes of 2024 AGM

Minutes agreed:

- Proposed by: Mary O'Leary
- Seconded by: Susan Rowe
- Members voted, no objections.

2. Directors' Report

Director's Report was presented by Marion Egan.

Directors' Report approved:

- Proposed by: Sharon O'Connor
- Seconded by: Mary Rogerson
- Members voted, no objections.

3. Accounts

Financial Accounts were presented Barbara O'Driscoll, Treasurer.

Accounts approved:

- Proposed by: Jackie Guyett
- Seconded by: Amelia Nolan
- Members voted, no objections.

The Treasurer highlighted that subscription fee increase in 2024 from €100 to €120 per annum has contributed towards an increase of €2500 in subscription income, which has improved the club's financial position in meeting running costs.

It was noted that the financial year ended on the 31st of October 2024 and that since that date approximately €6000 has been spent on essential clubhouse maintenance.

4. Election of directors:

The following directors resigned and went forward for re-election:

Fiona Slevin

- Proposed by: Anne O'Connell
- Seconded by: Rosemary Welsh

- Members voted, no objections.

Barbara O'Driscoll

- Proposed by: Glynis Rea
- Seconded by: Maria Kirwan
- Members voted, no objections.

The following director resigned and did not go forward for re-election:

Margy Fitzsimons.

The following member were elected to the board:

Janet O'Doherty

- Proposed by: Mary O'Leary
- Seconded by: Yvonne Keating
- Members voted, no objections.

Margy reflected on the honour of serving as a director over the past ten years, a period where there were significant developments within the club including moving into a new clubhouse. She expressed her gratitude to all the members who continue to volunteer in so many ways.

Speaking on behalf of the board and the club, Marion thanked Margy for her dedicated service over the past decade, including two years as Chair. She also shared her personal appreciation for the support Margy provided when she took on the role of Chair last year.

Marion encouraged all members to consider joining the board, while also acknowledging that members can and do contribute meaningfully to the club's success without holding a board position. She extended thanks to Melissa for her valuable support to the board through the management of Sage accounts.

5. To agree 2025 Membership Fee

The board proposed that the membership fee will remain at €120 this year and that the fee for non-paddling members will remain at €30.

2025 Membership Fee approved:

- Proposed: Celine Trainor
- Seconded: Ciara O'Donnell.
- Members voted, no objections.

It was explained that the subscription fee supports the day-to-day costs of the club, and reserves are held for exceptional circumstances.

There is a Benevolent Fund available to any member. If anyone has any difficulty in paying the membership fee, they can contact Anne O'Connell in the membership committee, or Marion Egan or any board member in absolute confidence, and their membership can be paid by instalments or from the Benevolent Fund.

Members were advised if they have health insurance to check if their policy will reimburse sports club membership costs. A receipt can be provided if necessary.

It was clarified that the non-paddling subscription will cover social paddles only.

6. Reappoint and fix the remuneration of the auditors

The Treasurer proposed that we reappoint the auditors Byrne O'Byrne and fix the remuneration at the same level for next year.

Auditors' Reappointment and Renumeration approved:

- Proposed by: Angela Dorgan
- Seconded by: Margaret Mulcahy
- Members voted, no objections.

7. Any Other Business

The **Spirit of Plurabelle Award** will be held on Saturday the 3rd of May. The award will be presented by Oscar Doyle, founding member Fiona Tiernan's son.

The **RTE Documentary Dragon Hearts** featuring the Plurabelle Paddlers and other Irish dragon boat clubs will be shown on RTE at 6.30pm on Easter Monday, subsequently postponed to 2nd July 2025.

A **Sunday Independent** journalist and photographer will join the next 10am Saturday session.

A **Ceremony to Awaken the Dragon** and name our 3rd boat will be arranged shortly. Date TBC. It was suggested to put name decals on all three boats.

A query was raised regarding the clearance of the area around the dry dock, near the boat storage yard. The club holds a month-to-month licence agreement with Waterways Ireland, and although there are no immediate plans for the dry dock area, this is one of the reasons the club maintains financial reserves, to address unforeseen issues as they arise.

The Chair closed the AGM at 11am.