

# AGM 2021

## Exmouth Gig Club

### 3rd March



#### 2020 - 2021 COMMITTEE

Jay Lambe  
Sue Golay  
Anna Wilson  
Katie Hansford  
Leanne Peake  
Tanya Netherway  
David Lomas



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## EXMOUTH GIG CLUB AGM 2021 REPORT

Approval of last year's minutes: No minutes taken as no AGM. However, the previous committee did an AGM report, which was emailed to members in March 2020.

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: JAY LAMBE

Dear friends and members, well-what can I say, what a horrible year 2020 has been for rowing. Normally, a Chairman's report would note the Clubs activity and achievements in the last year, but I am not sure how to sum up a year when we haven't been able to row, meet together as a club, train, compete, enjoy a social row up the river or celebrate with our Regatta.

It is disappointing for me personally and for the Committee not to be able to list out new initiatives, policy developments and successes that we have enabled or generated. It is not for the want of trying but COVID and the resultant restrictions, lockdowns etc stalled many chances to evolve and develop the Club as hoped.

So what have we done. We have maintained the boats, paid the bills, dealt with minor banking fraud, and explored various sites for a Clubhouse-the last being a fish shed at the Marina! The search for a Clubhouse goes on. In the same vein we have spoken with the Sea Cadets and agreed in principle that going forward we will be able to use more of the facilities such as a toilet and kitchen, though how this will work, with safeguarding and security is yet to be bottomed out.

It is also being explored whether we can look to set up a junior squad initially drawn from the Cadets, subject to meeting their training and safety requirements.

We have supported the local food bank, had both personal and team success in the Dorset Rowing Championships and the Concept 2 Challenges Well done to those who took part, you made us proud. We maintained contact with our members offering opportunities for engagement, entertainment and education with quizzes and masterclasses and regular updates.

There was consideration given to refreshing the Constitution, recognizing the potential for new members and the growth of the Club itself. But it was felt with all that was and is still happening, now was not the time. Possibly something for the new committee to perhaps explore further, with the setting up of a sub- committee to report back with proposals.

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We have and continue to pursue and seek out funding opportunities and have applied for grant funding to Wessex Water. We hope to hear something before the end of March.

And we now have a club zoom account which has proved very useful. Whilst not a great year all round and all of us missing rowing together as a Club, I am grateful for the continued support and interest of the membership in a year where no rowing was possible. We were not alone in this. Many Clubs set rowing aside in 2020 but we are cautiously optimistic about 2021.

Finally thanks to the members of the Committee who have given their support and done a great job in difficult circumstances. In particular on behalf of myself and the Committee, I'd like to thank Ollie Knights for the excellent and selfless work on supporting this Committee both with website, IT and indeed the COVID Risk Assessment and subsequent trial row video. As a Committee we propose he should be awarded the Committee Choice Award for his behind the scenes contribution to the Club.

## TREASURERS REPORT: JAY LAMBE

### SUMMARY

This year the Club have kept afloat with reduced levels of income, but no reduction in the incidence of outgoings. Regular payments for rent and insurance have been made, together with license fees for Avocet.

The Club has invested in Zoom and this has helped facilitate communication but as the Club account does not have a bank card, the monthly fee has been paid by the Chair who will submit an invoice for payment to the new committee.

In addition, we have sought to set up online banking with TSB. Nicky England had an early try, but following her stepping down, we discovered that in fact this had not been actioned and payments for Shelly's cover, refunds to members had to be done by direct transfer, necessitating several visits to the Bank.

The more serious issue was of minor fraudulent activity on the account where various direct debits were set up remotely and in total a sum of £540 was taken. Thanks to TSB's fraud guarantee this money is now back in the account.

A compensation payment of £25 was made by TSB the first time around. This last time we are still waiting for a further compensation payment for the loss of forms and time spent trying to resolve issues. A sum of £50 was offered in the interim to the Chair for time spent but declined. The sum of £50 will be paid as a donation to the RNLI instead.

Given the numerous issues experienced with the account, not all of which can be attributed to the effects of the pandemic the Committee decided a new account with Barclays should be set up and monies transferred from TSB. This will be an action for the new Committee.

### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

#### Account Balance 25th March 2020

Main Acc	£6,273.98
Reserve Acc	£4,066.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>£10,340.97</b>

#### Account balance 1st March 2021

Main Acc	£1,927.07
Reserve Acc	£4,070.17
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,997.24</b>

### INCOME SUMMARY

The club's biggest means of income is its annual membership fees. During the past year this totalled £1622.92. The decline is due to agreed reduced membership fees and non renewal by some members. We currently have 53 members.

This year we have been unable to generate additional income or sponsorship and so have not been able to balance spend against income as in previous years.

### SPEND SUMMARY

We occupy space within the Sea Cadets Yard and pay £125 per calendar month. This is £1500 annually.

Club insurance covers all of the boats, and all trollies, trailers and equipment and events.

The cost was £1,052.77 and was not increased with Avocet being stored on the beach.

This year we have also spent a large sum on the boat cover and cover/oar frames totalling £1297.

**Total expenditure this year is £5868.42**

### INCOME/SPEND 2021

We are in a good position with no major spend planned for 2021 and hopes still to secure some grant funding.



## FUNDRAISING

This year routes for funding and sponsorship have obviously been in short supply. When I took over as Chairman we all assumed and hoped the pandemic would be over quickly, and we would have new income from new members, hold our Regatta, seek sponsorship and maybe attract Sports England Funding. But you all know that didn't happen.

We retained the annual membership fee at £100 seeking £10 as a fee to recognize membership and a proposal that the annual fee would be pro-rata'd when rowing resumed. Of course it didn't and in the emerging fallout from COVID not all members renewed. Our usual sources such as the Beach, Town Council and advertisers, especially those supporting our Regatta brochures, were not available.

In March 2020 when this Committee came in there was £10,340.97 in the account. As at February 20th 2020 the figure is £6,122.24. This has meant, as covered elsewhere, that the comprehensive repair of Shelly is on hold, although consideration could be given to a reduced scope of repair. Pending further advice as the vaccine rollout continues it may be possible in time to approach sponsors but given businesses need to get back on their feet and focus on getting back to 'normal' any sponsorship ask will be on hold for the time being.

## NEW MEMBERS REPORT

In March 2020 we had approximately 30 people who contacted us wanting to get out and try gig rowing, a few of which have rowed for other clubs before.

Over the year, although we were unable to offer rowing, we still received a number of positive enquiries.

Our Chair also had some early discussion with the Sea Cadets to see if we might offer some training to them and through that potentially look to start a junior section. The Committee will continue those discussions once it is clear how and when we might be able to get back on the water. Once rowing can be resumed, we will look to all experienced rowers being on hand to help with some try out days to get these new rowers out in our gigs!



## ENVIRONMENT REPORT: KATIE HANSFORD

As a Club we have been very aware of the impact our sport can and has had on our environment. You may recall that 2018-19 committee supported setting up the benchmark of our first and all subsequent regattas to be plastic-free.

We feel we can genuinely lay claim to being the first club in the Jurassic League to do it properly introducing water stations, reusable cups etc. Of course this year has sadly been very different but we now do have a dedicated Environment officer on the Committee.

It's not all about Regattas, there is stuff we can do nearer home. During the year we have sought to retain the principles for care for our environment in setting up monthly Club beach cleans, although again these have largely been halted by COVID restrictions.

Hopefully the legacy is there to build on in the coming year when restrictions ease. We have approached the Local Authority to see if we can sponsor a waste/recycling bin on Shelly Beach and are waiting further correspondence on this. We have re-purposed the old cover from Avocet rather than dispose of this.

Also, we have continued to engage with the Exe Estuary Partnership and Tidelines providing input into studies of the Estuary water usage.

Despite the difficult circumstances this year going forward the Committee still wants to do more to promote its commitment to the environment. Last year's document (at Appendix A) shows the potential scope of the role. If anyone has particular knowledge or interest in this area and would like to help develop a Club strategy please contact the committee. If you don't want to be on the committee you could put yourself forward to work along side the Environment officer to explore opportunities for and on behalf of the Club reporting back to the Committee for approval and action.

## HEALTH AND WELL BEING REPORT : ANNA WILSON

### Mental Health

This is an important factor in all our lives, and especially so now and in the last year. It is known that many people have struggled this year with their mental health and general well being. Being unable to row, communicate, maintain contact have all served to undermine people's confidence giving rise to feelings of isolation, inadequacy and uncertainty.

Signing up to the Mental Health Charter was suggested by the outgoing Committee for the incoming Committee to discuss. The charter basically asks for three 'pledges' from a sports club or society about how they might approach mental health - there is lots of guidance on the website. As part of a response to this the role of Health and Wellbeing Officer was created, to deal not just with Health and Safety issues but to look at how the Club could better respond to its members who may need support. COVID has stalled some of the initiatives that could be considered. But its hoped that the incoming Committee will expand the role further, with a defined remit and sign up to the Charter.

Exmouth is a great Club, built on openness, inclusion and diversity. The sport itself is open to all irrespective of age, shape or ability. A recent survey carried out by the Committee found that the friendly nature of the Club was an important driver for people to join.

Exmouth Gig Club prides itself on its integrity and genuine care for its members and the Community of which it is part. To that end the Club supported the local food bank during 2020 and may well continue this in 2021.

Having a mental health and well being charter and remit is central to the Clubs future development and the new Committee is urged to progress this as part of its Agenda.

## BOSUNS REPORT: DAVID LOMAS

Hi Fellow Rowers, this will be my final report as your Bosun. The report this year will be brief.

COVID has prevented use of the boats and equipment and so less maintenance has been required. It will be needed though before we get back on the water and Rodney's road trailer still needs some TLC as does Shelly.

As part of the planned maintenance for this last year we obtained a quote from Patrick Bird to repair Shelly. This included repair to all plank splits, splits at the stern and along the gunwales, gluing to repair leaks and to check and fix any fastenings where necessary. The work included the scraping of all loose paint and varnish, with a sand and repaint/re-varnish of Shelly inside and out. Her name and stern quarter lettering to finish. The quote was £5400. To sand and re-varnish the floorboards was a further £600, if this work was necessary. No VAT applicable. Not a bad price but we also sought quotes from Andrew Nancarrow and Louis Hunkin. As they were unable to inspect Shelly due to lockdown and government restrictions, they were not able to provide comparable quotes. In any event, as it stands, we currently have insufficient funds in the account to carry out the extent of repairs planned.

However, Patrick Bird has provided a reduced scope of works, to just do the essentials, splits and leaks fixed, touch up and finish where repairs have been carried out for £2,250. It is recommended this is undertaken if Club funds permit.

We ordered and received a new cover from Gigass for Shelly at a cost of £1000. Her old cover will replace the one on Avocet, which will be disposed of.

Although not rowing Rodney and Shelly both had a brief sojourn in the Gut last summer to keep them from drying out and meantime the committee have made sure moisture in the boats is retained with buckets of sea water in the hulls and regular inspection.

The condition of all the equipment will need to be checked before use with any repairs undertaken as a priority.

Again, please read the members handbook and be aware of how you handle and treat equipment as the Club has spent a lot of money on ensuring it is fit for purpose and available for everyone.

The Committee is looking to invest its funds for equipment well so if you have any suggestions, let the Committee know.

Whilst I won't be joining you I wish you a speedy and safe return to the water, and much success and enjoyment with your rowing in the future.

Your Bosun (David)

## THANK YOU'S

I would like to finish up by thanking all of the Committee for their support, diligence and resolve in a year no one expected or was prepared for. I think they have done a great job in difficult circumstances.

I am sure we could have done some different things perhaps but as I have learnt this year sometimes it's not as obvious or easy as you think, especially when the goalposts keep moving, and it's so foggy you can't even see the ball.

Still hopes are that this year we will return to the water, rested, refreshed and ready to make up for lost time.

Like you I look forward to that. Until then keep well, be safe and check the Lycra still fits!

### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Next AGM is to be held 2022 within the period of 1st January to 31st March.