



C A M B O R N E M O D E L B O A T C L U B

*known as the*

**“Camborne Pond Hoppers”**

Established: 2000



**Chairman:** Peter Binns

**Deputy Chairman:** Tony Harvey

**Secretary:** Sara Harvey

**Treasurer:** Anthony Clark

Please reply to: Comfort View, Well Lane, Constantine, Falmouth TR11 5AD. Tel: 01326 340908

**Annual General Meeting  
2.00 pm Sunday 2 March 2025  
Large Meeting Room, Old Cattle Market, Helston**

**Meeting called by:** Peter Binns, Chairman

**Note taker:** Sara Harvey, Secretary

**Attendees (Committee - 10):**

Peter Binns, Chairman  
Tony Harvey, Deputy Chairman  
Anthony Clark, Treasurer  
Sara Harvey, Secretary  
Sam Ramsden, Publicity Officer  
Brian Sanders, Committee Member  
Clive Liddell, Committee Member  
Ivor Johns, Committee Member  
David Dingley, Committee Member  
Michael Emberson, Committee Member

**Attendees (Club Members - 18):**

Michael Curnow  
Norman Emberson  
Mark George  
David Grafton (Senior)  
David Grafton (Junior)  
Chris Henwood  
Michael Iles  
John Jasper  
Michael Lewis  
Keith Lynes  
Adrian Nash  
Glen Prisk  
Mervyn Rosewarne  
Kelvin Rusling  
Clive Soan  
Peter Trevett  
Larry Turner  
Jerry Watson

**Apologies (Club Members - 1):**

Ben Emberson

## MINUTES

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### **Agenda Item 1:** Welcome and apologies

**Presenter:** Peter Binns

Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted Ben Emberson's apologies.

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### **Agenda Item 2:** Minutes of last meeting.

**Presenter:** Sara Harvey

2.1 The most recent Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on Sunday, 3rd March 2024. The meeting was attended by 10 Committee Members and 17 club members, with apologies received from 4 club members.

In addition to addressing matters arising from the previous AGM, reports were presented by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Publicity Officer.

2.2 The event programme for 2024 was shared, providing details on dates and locations. Members interested in supporting any of the events were encouraged to contact Peter or Tony H.

2.3 It was suggested that additional regular indoor events be organized for boat discussions and information/knowledge sharing.

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### **Agenda Item 3:** Matters arising

**Presenter:** Peter Binns

3.1 The only matter arising from the minutes of the last AGM concerned the planned repairs to the Club Hut. Peter reported that Dougie Orchard completed the work, replacing the rotted roof support posts and painting the woodwork.

3.2 Peter inquired if there were any questions regarding these minutes and requested a show of hands to indicate acceptance of the minutes as read. Acceptance was confirmed.

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### **Agenda Item 4:** Chairman's report

**Presenter:** Peter Binns

During the past year, our club held regular sailing meetings on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons, regardless of the weather. Attendance was good overall, but we typically saw no more than twelve members at a time. It's encouraging to see new members increasing our lakeside numbers.

We aim to boost attendance with initiatives like promoting boat sales on the first Sunday of each month, which partners might enjoy while members sail, and themed sailing events such as tugs, warships, and fishing vessels.

2024 was active for the Club, focusing on quality over quantity in event participation. We hosted two open days and supported Helston Town Council and South Kerrier Alliance events at the lake.

Despite preventive measures by SKA, green algae was a severe issue last year due to climate change, pollution, and wildfowl. The lake required manual clearing twice, thanks to David Paige from the café, his staff, and RNAS Culdrose volunteers.

Efforts are ongoing to better maintain the lake's clarity, involving consultations and an action plan. More details will be shared later in this meeting.

In 2024, we began with the Great Cornwall Model Show at Pool Academy in April, followed by our Spring Open Day.

May had no events except for a 'Boat Chat' workshop.

June featured our support for Falmouth Lifeboat Station's open day and Golowan Festival in Penzance, though attendance was lower than expected.

July saw us organizing a model boat race at Helston Water Carnival and participating in Millbrook Model Mariners' Open Day.

In August, we attended the Ruan Minor Vintage Rally but skipped Carnhell Green Charity rally and RNLI Penlee Open Day due to previous disappointments.

September's Open Day was successful with good weather and high attendance.

The year was great, but it heavily relied on a few dedicated members, some now facing health issues. Exhibiting at shows raises our profile and attracts new members, so extra help would be appreciated. Please speak to Tony or Peter if interested.

December's annual Club Christmas Dinner at The Shire Inn was enjoyed by all. Membership remained stable at 78, making us Cornwall's largest model boat club.

Peter shared special thanks to fellow committee members for their support, particularly as he became a full-time carer for his wife. Gratitude shared to Tony Harvey, Treasurer Tony Clark, Publicity Officer Sam Ramsden, and Secretary Sara Harvey.

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## **Agenda Item 5: Deputy Chairman's report**

**Presenter:** Tony Harvey

### **5.1 Alternative Sailing Arrangements**

#### Heartlands

We have obtained written permission to continue using Heartlands. Members are required to carry their membership card to confirm club third-party insurance coverage, with the policy number located at the bottom of the card. Please note that there are no café or toilet facilities available on-site. However, some businesses remain operational, and the gates may be open for vehicle access to unload/load equipment. When the council secures a partner to manage the site, we will need to seek permission from the new operator to use the ponds.

#### Trevassack Lake

We have been in communication with the charity managing Trevassack Lake and have received provisional permission to use the facilities. There is, however, an ongoing discussion regarding the associated costs. We are optimistic about negotiating a reasonable fee, as this venue appears to be highly suitable. The site includes a café and available toilet facilities. Boats can be launched either via a jetty for keel boats or a small beach area for other boats. Caution must be exercised in the beach area due to its steep drop-off, as it was previously a quarry. The committee will inform all members if and when any arrangements are finalized.

### **5.2 Lifejackets**

It has come to our attention that the CO2 trigger mechanisms in the life jackets are due for renewal this year, as they expire in May. Tony H has contacted Macsalvors, who have provided a quote of between £11 and £15 per lifejacket for parts only, with no additional charge for the labor involved. The replacement process will take approximately 30 minutes for both life jackets.

### **5.3 Deputy Chairman Announcement**

Tony H announced that he will be stepping down as Deputy Chairman at this Annual General Meeting (AGM). He expressed his gratitude to the chairman and the committee for their support over the past few years and extended his thanks to the membership for their trust and support during the

same period. Tony H indicated his willingness to continue serving on the committee, pending approval from the members.

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**Agenda Item 6: Secretary's report**

**Presenter:** Sara Harvey

6.1 At the last AGM, there were 71 club members. As of 28th February 2025, the club has 78 members, including 3 Honorary Members and 6 Junior Members.

6.2 Similar to previous years, the club is contacting other model boat clubs and event organizers to share details of our open days and gather the dates of their open days or other events scheduled for 2025.

Peter provided additional information regarding the open days and other events later in the meeting — see Agenda Item 10.

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**Agenda Item 7 : Treasurer's report**

**Presenter:** Anthony Clark

7.1 Online banking is smooth, no outstanding bills, and membership has increased.

7.2 Accounts are now aligned AGM to AGM to include all current year subscriptions in the statement.

7.3 Income and Expenditure for 2025:

- Total Income: £1,572.69
  - Total Expenditure: £1,060.50
  - Bank Balance @ 02/03/2025: £3,484.25
  - Bank Balance last year: £3,460.07
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**Agenda Item 8 : Publicity Officer's report**

**Presenter:** Sam Ramsden

8.1 There are currently 269 Facebook members, with numbers increasing monthly.

8.2 New website since January: <https://www.cambornepondhoppers.co.uk>

It currently has 5 pages, as listed below but can expand to 10. Suggestions for additional content should be sent to the Publicity Officer, Sam Ramsden:

- Homepage
- Events
- Useful Links, Suppliers, Club Clothing
- Pictures of club members' boats
- YouTube Links

Website cost: £84 for the first year, then £124 annually. It can be cancelled at any time.

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**Agenda Item 9:**

**Presenter:** Norman Emberson / Peter Binns

Election of Officers and Committee Confirmation:

- Chairman: Peter Binns
- Deputy Chairman: Tony Clark (Tony Harvey stepped down)
- Secretary: Sara Harvey
- Treasurer: Tony Clark

- Publicity Officer: Sam Ramsden
- Committee Members: Mike Emberson, Ivor Johns, Brian Sanders, Clive Liddell, David Dingley

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## **Agenda Item 10: Event programme for 2025**

**Presenter:** Peter Binns

10.1 For information and dates of 2025 events we plan to attend, see the attached '*2025 Event Programme handout*':

- The Great Cornwall Model Show
- Trevithick Day Model Show
- Camborne Pond Hoppers Spring Open Day
- Shepton Mallet Drifters Model Boat Club Open Day
- Kenwith Castle Model Boat Club Open Day
- Helston Water Carnival
- Millbrook Model Marriners' Open Day
- Ruan Minor Vintage Rally
- Camborne Pond Hoppers 25th Anniversary Late Summer Open Day

If you wish to support us at any or all of these events, please notify the Club Secretary, Sara Harvey.

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## **Agenda Item 11: Update on measures to prevent/control green algae in lake**

**Presenter:** Peter Binns

Peter provided more details about the initiatives planned for this year to effectively combat the growth of green algae in the lake. In collaboration with South Kerrier Alliance, AWE (the suppliers of the ultrasonic algae prevention system), David Page of the Lakeside Café (an expert scientific adviser on water quality in lakes), and myself, we have conducted thorough analysis, investigation, and discussions to formulate a comprehensive plan of action aimed at reducing or ideally eliminating the algae growth issue noted during the 2024 season. Consequently, a funded action plan has been developed, which includes the following key components:

### **Ultrasonic Algae Control**

- The existing system will remain operational and is expected to control approximately 80% of green and blue-green algal growth.

### **Lake Dye**

- Food-grade lake dye will be applied in the Spring and Summer to reduce light penetration, thereby interrupting photosynthesis by algae and pondweeds.

### **Aeration**

- Designed to support the growth of nutrient-cycling and organic matter/cellulose-degrading bacteria. However, SKA is awaiting a new motor for the fountain, although an additional socket has been fitted in the junction box to allow simultaneous operation of the fountain and ultrasonic systems.

### **Application of a Liming Agent**

- Subject to cost feasibility, this will be trialed from December to April to increase alkalinity, thereby improving the pH buffering capacity of the water, supporting the growth of bacteria and aquatic zooplankton through the provision of calcium.

### **On-Site Basic Monitoring**

- Monitoring equipment has been procured to enable rapid evaluation of water quality before transferring potentially contaminated river water into the pond.

### **Control of Wildfowl and Discouraging Feeding**

- Through additional education provided by café staff, reduction in the volume of food sold via the café, and increased public information, phosphate levels (a key driver in algal bloom formation) entering the lake will be reduced, thus lowering pathogen levels from faecal matter deposits in the water.

#### **Blue/Green Algae Test**

- Staff will gain the capability to test for hepatotoxins, the main group of cyanotoxins/blue-green algae toxins.

#### **Straw (Barley) Bales**

- Weighted barley straw bales will be suspended in the water and allowed to decompose traditionally. While success varies, this method's visibility will raise public awareness.

#### **Weed Removal**

- This will continue as the primary method for managing algal bloom and will be coordinated by the Lakeside Café with assistance from site staff, aiming to maximize impact while minimizing workload and public disruption.

Addressing water chemistry in such a steeply banked, varied-use catchment area is complex, especially considering that rainwater can reach the sea within hours, causing rapid changes, including increased nutrient loading. We are optimistic that these measures will improve water quality and reduce algal blooms, although complete elimination may not be feasible.

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#### **Agenda Item 12: Other specific matters tabled by members in advance    **Presenter:** Peter Binns**

No statements, questions, or proposals were received in advance.

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#### **Agenda Item 13: Close**

Peter thanked the attendees and declared the annual general meeting closed.