



Briare Boat Club

AGM minutes

From 20th March 2021

(Video conference: 25 members present)

Agenda

- Approval of reports, state of the club, activities and finances 2019 (The AGM for 2019 was to be held in March 2020, the lockdown did not allow it)
- Approval of reports, state of the club, business and finances 2020
- Committee re-election
- Terms of the 2021 members fees
- New pennants
- Activities and calendar for 2021
- Security problems in Briare port
- Contribution from our partners
- Any other business.

AG 2019

State of the club Report 2019:

An active year, despite the drought that directly impacted the navigation conditions, including the closure of the Briare Canal (among others) announced on August 8 and effective from August 19. Closure led to boats returning to port sooner and reduced the navigation period.

We noted the boat owners' discontent about the lack of information regarding the opening hours of the capitainerie, a lot of weed in the port, the increasing bad behaviour, incidents and vandalism near the port. The boat club reported to the police and acted with the town hall on these matters.

Briare Boat Club wanted to maintain the heritage celebrations despite not being able to provide boat trips, which was a direct consequence of the drought. Visitors were scarce and the intense rain led us to close our stand Sunday at noon.

Cathy met Mrs Poillot, President of Marinov and David Delaby, captain of the port, on October 24, 2019 in the Capitainerie. The boat club requested at this meeting that Marinov inform us regularly about the water levels in the port, better management of the rubbish bins, a relaunch and follow-up of the port's dredging by the VNF, the improvement of the WIFI system, the repair of some pontoons, and they talked about bad behaviour around the port.

Some informal discussions took place between the boat club and David, our captain, during the season.

Business Report 2019:

March:

Opening up of the boating season in Auxerre. The event, initiated and organized by the Entente of Central Canals and partner associations, takes place every year and brings together a number of organisations linked to the boating world, including VNF, who is the main funder. Presence of several Briare boat club members and manning of a boat club stand.

April:

Annual General Meeting for 2018 (22 members) held.

May:

Neighbours' Day, 30 participants including 10 neighbours, shame that there is a small attendance of neighbours. We need to think about another way of trying to attract attendance by the public.

Barbecue organized by the capitainerie which is always successful (45 people). It's a moment that allows us to meet the users of the port and some boaters passing through Briare.

Briare Boat Club participation in the "Ballad in Venice" event led by the town hall. Thanks to members, several musicians in Venetian costumes enjoyed a walk on the canal bridge. The town hall greatly appreciated our participation.

September:

A forum of clubs at the Socio-Cultural Centre, this annual meeting allows all the clubs that operate in Briare to meet and promote exchanges.

Heritage festivals, an unusual year because there were no boat trips, an activity normally very much appreciated by visitors.

Hiking on Sunday morning, hikers always take part in this get together, 33 people participated.

In this sad time a little extra was provided, the "couscous" evening organized on the Saturday by Dominique and Edwige, a warm welcome and a very pleasant friendly moment that members enjoyed very much.

November:

End of season meal, 20 boaters had a good time with a meal to finish the season.

Financial Report 2019:

Philippe presents the final account for 2019 which balances, thanks to members' fees and despite the absence of donations received during the boat trips on Heritage Days.

Jean Marc auditor validated the accounts.

See appendix accounts 2019.

Vote on club status, business and financial reports 2019: voted unanimously

AG 2020

Club status Report 2020:

2020 is a very unusual year owing to the health crisis.

The boat club "froze" the year 2020:

- no boat outings
- cancellation of the JP, following meeting and thoughts between Christine and Cathy, more requests for advice from the committee, more informal discussions on pontoons.
- cancellation of the clubs' forum, we had already planned not to participate
- we had friendly meetings in small groups on the quaysides during the season but none really got together.

The general context was rather gloomy, few club members made long cruises, perhaps blocked by this health crisis and by the fear of the lack of water, which however on our sector, did not pose a problem.

We held no committee meetings in-person, just by email contacts.

We did not ask for members' fees because the club held no activities, however the committee did not stop working and we communicated several times with our members.

Cathy reminded Marinov of the points raised at the October 2019 meeting, no response in 2020.

To summarise - Christine, Philippe and Cathy did the minimum necessary, payment of insurance, application of the grant to the town hall (new assistant to clubs Mrs Edwige Signoret), mail to Marinov and to members but we have not done anything together, as a result of health risks and several heatwaves in June and August.

For the future of the club there are questions to be asked.

How to attract new members?

We need to consult as to whether we continue to participate on the Heritage Days.

Activity report 2020:

"NUL" year for activities. The links between the members of the committee were maintained to carry out the administrative and financial tasks of the association.

Financial Report 2020:

Philippe points out: a year in deficit because of the absence of members' dues and payment to the designer of our new logo.

Jean Marc auditor validated the accounts.

See appendix accounts 2020.

Vote on club status, activity and financial reports 2020: voted unanimously

2021

Committee re-election

In principle, the re-election of the committee has to be voted on this year.

In view of the pandemic and the very complicated operating conditions since 2020, the committee proposes that this vote be postponed until 2022. Proposal accepted unanimously by the members present. A call for applications will be launched at a later date to allow future candidates to prepare and to get to know about the team's work within the committee.

Terms of the 2021 club fees:

In 2021 the contribution remains unchanged i.e. 15 euros per person.

Members have two options to pay the fee:

- a transfer to the association's bank account (RIB appendix)
- a cheque to the following address Picard Philippe, 6 Avenue de la Belle Etoile, 41220 DHUIZON.

New pennants:

A quote from Borney was made for the purchase of 50 pennants with the club's new logo.

Size of the pennant 30/40 cm.

A pennant will be offered to each crew when paying the 2021 dues.

At the same time, the pennant will be sold for 10 euros each.

Activities in 2021

Currently, depending on the health crisis that is ongoing, it is impossible to schedule activities. However, there is still hope that the Heritage days will continue next September, provided that we have enough people.

To date (20 March 2021), the opening of the boating season, organized by the Agreement on May 8 in Nevers is still going ahead. An opportunity to get together...

Port security problems

The FCB officially contacted Marinov and the town hall following the break-in of 2 boats (recently).

MARINOV was contacted on March 13, 2021 by letter and an acknowledgement requested.

Marinov, through Mr Rosier, Director of Marinov, finally contacted Cathy on March 16 on the phone and told her the following:

- Marinov is aware of the security problems, asked VNF for the installation of cameras and had quotes made.
- The dustbin area will be fenced off (very soon) and access will be with the badge that allows us to enter the capitainerie.
- Marinov, in agreement with VNF, announces that the weed cutting in the port is planned in May or June over 3 - 4 days. Hoping that this time, the capitainerie will put in place a means of informing the boaters and of organizing matters in order to avoid the inconvenience caused during the previous weed cutting (2018).
- Opening hours of the capitainerie, it will be open from May to September 7/7 days. The boat club insists that any schedule changes or unforeseen events must be advised to boaters in the most appropriate and effective manner.
- Port dredging: big schedule of work, it is up to VNF to do the work valued at 1 million euros. VNF does not have the budget at the moment and is considering how to integrate this work into a larger programme. If this is possible, work "could" begin in 2022/2023. As we see, for now, it's very hypothetical. The boat club decided to question VNF directly on this matter. Dominique Ourseau gave us the name of the person to contact.

MAIRIE de Briare

Cathy had a telephone conversation on March 19, 2021 with Mr Bouguet (Mayor of Briare).

The Maire confirmed that there are many problems of security in the town (groups of young people and adults, various traffic in the port)

The means to combat this:

- A budget of 200,000 euros for the installation of 67 cameras, the position of the cameras regarding the port will be sent to the boat club, to be realized in 2021
- 2 municipal police officers (limited action, no rounds of the port, 35 hours per week)
- 2 highway surveillance officers (as above)
- Police surveillance, insufficient means.

The Mayor advised the boat club to write a letter to the town hall, to the police, the prosecutor and the prefect. Action in progress.

Welcome to partners:

Those invited: Dominique Ourseau President of **the Entente of Central Canals** (and long-time member of Briare Boat Club) and **Marinov**, David Delaby captain of the port of Briare.

Dominique announced the opening of the 2021 boating season, **which will be held on Saturday, May 8 in Nevers**. This day is piloted and organized by the Entente with various partners. Many Briare boat club members hope to be at this event.

The proposed programme (subject to the application of health rules) is attached.

Marinov did not attend the meeting (David is on leave from March 20 to April 12, 2021).

Any other matters:

Philippe Picard proposes communicating with boaters not members of the club to invite them to join us. The idea is accepted by all, action in progress.

End of the AGM: a little drink together, let's keep to our traditions !!!