

FELIXSTOWE MASTER MARINERS CLUB

Minutes of the 2026 Annual General Meeting Held at Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club at 10:30 hrs on 17th March 2026

1. Apologies for absence: Bruno Mennens.

The meeting was attended by 10 members of the Club: Capt.Ian Buckle (chair),Capt. Nigel Palmer, Capt Timothy MacGuire (secretary), Capt.Geoffry Hartgrove (President), Adrian Scheele, Richard Palmer, Malcolm Stafford (treasurer). Observers: Keith Dereham, Peter Salmon and Peter Ashford.

2. The minutes of the AGM held on 15th April 2025 having been previously circulated, were accepted and approved unanimously after being *proposed by Adrian Scheele and seconded by Malcolm Stafford.*

2.1 There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3. **Club Captain's report:** -

Club Captain Ian Buckle stated that he had completed two years of his term of office and remarked that membership numbers were steady at around 95 plus. The club was in a good financial position heading into 2026 and support for maritime charities via the raffle was holding up well. The 2025 large bursary in the name of our past president Captain David Ingham managed by Ipswich Maritime Trust was also supported by John Ingham and family from David's estate. Further bursary awards to be reviewed later in 2026.

4. **Staff Captain's report:** This post is vacant. Timothy MacGuire is filling in temporarily. The new FFSC tv monitor for speaker presentations works well as does the sound system replacing the old projector and screen. Club volunteers are a difficult topic due to lack of participation especially as the committee grows older.

5. **Treasurer's report:** The accounts for 2025 had been circulated to the membership with the AGM agenda. These had been accepted in the previous committee meeting held in February. David Cattermole has agreed to act as club auditor for 2026. Practically all luncheon payments are now done electronically by the BACS system. It is envisioned that the old cashiers desk for on the day payments will soon be closed.

6. **Secretary's report:** Club correspondence is functioning well with connections to Felixstowe town council, nautical charities and the membership at large. All correspondence is done electronically with the Royal Mail service no longer used helping to keep administration costs to a minimum.

7. **Dining secretary's report:** Nil to report. Malcolm Stafford is standing in as temporary dining secretary during Bruno's absence on health grounds.

8. **Election of Officers and Committee for the forthcoming year.**

8.1 Election of Club Captain: following the two year tenure of Captain Ian Buckle, the post is now passed to Captain Nigel Palmer who has kindly volunteered.

8.2 Election of Staff Captain: post remains vacant, Capt.Timothy MacGuire acting as temporary staff captain until a new volunteer is found.

The other existing members of the Committee retire at the AGM and are eligible for re-election. They have all indicated their willingness to stand again and as no other nominations had been received, are proposed for re-election en bloc.

The following nominations were presented to the meeting: -

Life President	Captain Geoffry Hartgrove
Club Captain	Captain Nigel Palmer
Treasurer	Malcolm Stafford
Secretary	Captain Timothy MacGuire
Dining Secretary	To be advised
Staff Captain	Captain Timothy MacGuire
Recruitment & PR	Malcolm Stafford
Membership Secretary	To be advised
Web Captain	To be advised
Committee 1	Richard Palmer
Committee 2	Adrian Scheele

The above persons were duly voted and declared as Officers of the Club and Committee members for the forthcoming year.

9. Independent examiner of the accounts for a period of one year – Club Member David Cattermole has kindly agreed to continue as auditor in this capacity for which the meeting wished to record its thanks.

10.A.O.B Date of the next ordinary committee meeting - **14th May 2026 10:30 hrs** at the QVSR Felixstowe Seafarers Centre.

11. Date of the next AGM: Tuesday **16th March 2027 10:30 hrs** at Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club.

The meeting closed at 10:45 hrs.