



## Minutes for General Committee Meeting, Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 19.30 at the clubhouse.

**Present:** Nigel Cook, Bernie Hetherington, Dudley Lean, Carol Newman, Tia Reddish, Marilyn Standley, Martin Standley, Brian Sinclair, Marie Scales, Mick Scales, Eric Strudwick, Chris Wood, Julie-Anne White, Nick White

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Bill Kippen.

### 2. Minutes of the previous meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018

The minutes were confirmed as an accurate record of the 5<sup>th</sup> September meeting and were approved by the GC.

### 3. Matters arising not included elsewhere in the agenda

- Annual Meeting of the Brightlingsea Harbour Committee is to take place Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October, all welcome to attend – a major item for discussion is likely to be the jet-ski issue.
- Letters of objection have been sent by the club and committee members regarding the proposed jet-ski pontoon at Brightlingsea.

### 4. Correspondence not included elsewhere in the agenda

- Thank you received from the Wivenhoe Society
- Civic Service at St Mary's Church 21<sup>st</sup> October – invitation from WSC. Tia volunteered to attend on behalf of WSC

### 5. Treasurers' Report and Finance

#### 5.1 Update

- The accounts for the month of September are in surplus - largely due to receiving the mooring fees.
- YTD accounts: just short of a surplus but have £10K spent in maintenance, part of which will be capitalised e.g. new lights and dishwasher. Expectation currently held is that overall, we will break even (including all increased refurbishment costs etc.).

### 6. House Matters

#### 6.1 Events

- Laying-Up Supper – 17<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (formerly the Annual Dinner): arrangements are in hand, caterers will be the same as last year. Need to sell approximately 65 tickets in order for the event to be revenue neutral. It was suggested that it was made clear to members that part of the cost of the Laying-Up Supper will be subsidised by members' fees if we are unable to sell sufficient tickets.
- Kindred Club Lunch – 28<sup>th</sup> October: £6 per head.
- Curry Night: Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. (now Feb 9 Hon Sec)
- Quiz night: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 19:30 with hot dogs and burgers.
- St Nicholas River Run: 24<sup>th</sup> November
- Games Night: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 20:00.
- Wivenhoe Rowhedge Yacht Owners' Annual Dinner: 1<sup>st</sup> December. The WRYO has requested to book the WSC for this event. Kindred Club rates will apply. (Request now withdrawn Hon Sec)
- A request was made by a member for events to be planned well in advance. A further suggestion was made to appoint the GC for an October start rather than March so as to better assist in planning. Another member suggested that the Open Day be moved to the start of the season rather than the end of the season. The GC agreed that this should be discussed further and that the Commodore would come up with dates for a winter programme (until May) and requested the Vice-Commodore look at the summer season sailing dates. It was agreed that a sub-set of the GC involved in organising events (the House Committee) will get together between now and the next GC and confirm events to take place over the coming year.
- A request was also made to confirm to all members the procedures for making bookings at the Club so as to avoid double-bookings and ensure that those that need to be informed (for e.g. Mick and Marie Scales who run the bar) are informed in good time. The Commodore, Marie Scales and the Bookings Secretary are to discuss this further and resolve this issue.

- The Vice Commodore has received member feedback that the Laying-Up Supper is too expensive for some members to attend and therefore would it be possible to reduce the cost of the Supper. It was agreed that we could look at the cost of the Supper, together with the membership subsidy issue raised above, and come back to the GC with a recommendation at a later date.

## **7. Vice-Commodore's Report**

### **7.1 Sailing Committee Minutes**

- The minutes of the Sailing Committee have been received by the GC.
- The SC requested that the issue of moorings – displacement motor boats (Item 1.4) be referred to the RYA for their advice. The GC agreed that they felt the rules are clear, as is our lease, and that they wish for the Club to be as inclusive as possible. It was noted that this section of the lease has not changed in over 30 years. All members, whether they own a displacement motor boat or a sailing boat, must be treated fairly when the moorings are assigned. Applications for a mooring from non-members will not be accepted. The Secretary was asked to write to the RYA to ask them for their interpretation of our lease and the resulting response will be sent to the SC.
- Item 1.6 The GC expresses its thanks for Mike Mitchell for donating the Wayfarer hull.

### **7.2 Wallet Shied Race**

The race went very well. Unfortunately, only two clubs including ours took part, the other being the Colne Yacht Club. All local clubs were notified but unfortunately the date was set quite late. The Colne Yacht Club will organise the Wallet Shield Race for next year.

### **7.3 Dinghy Spaces**

The Vice Commodore would like contact the WSC to see if we could rent additional dinghy spaces.

### **7.4 Open Day**

Thanks were expressed by the GC to all those who took part in the Open Day and contributed to its success.

### **7.5 Covers and Signage**

A member of the GC requested that covers be bought for Topaz and the day boat. The GC agreed to the cost, c.£60 each. The member also requested purchasing a new Clubhouse sign; additionally the one by the gate also needs replacing and it was suggested one by the path would also be a good idea. The GC agreed for Martin Standley and the Secretary to organise new signage.

## **8. Membership**

### **8.1 Applications**

- Application received from Alan Hartley, family membership; does not currently own a boat. First: Martin Standley, seconded: Chris Wood. The GC approved the membership.
- Application received from Martin Verney, single membership; owns a sailing boat. First: Chris Wood, seconded: Brian Sinclair. The GC approved the membership.
- Application received from Samantha Cohen, family membership; owns a cruiser. First: Nigel Cook, seconded: Eric Strudwick. The GC approved the membership.
- Application received from James Gallagher, single membership; owns a cruiser. First: Nigel Cook, seconded: Chris Wood. The GC approved the membership.

## **9. Buildings and Maintenance**

### **9.1 Building Sub-Committee**

- It was requested that the GC pay for a thorough deep clean of the Clubhouse and investigate the possibility of getting in cleaners on a contractual basis. It was agreed that we should draw up a list of specific duties and ascertain what duties are required and the frequency. It was also agreed that deep cleans of the Clubhouse should take place on a more regular basis. The GC requested that Marilyn Standley and Marie Scales discuss this further and report back to the GC at the next meeting with a suggested way forward.

## 10. Communications

### 10.1 WSC Alerts

- There was no discussion on Alerts.

### 10.2 Facebook Page and Website

- It was noted that we do not have a feedback mechanism, for e.g. how do we inform members about successful events etc. It was further noted that we do not have mechanisms in place for contacting those who attend the Club Open Day (non-members) about their experience – those who attended were not asked to provide email addresses for instance. It was commented that if we can plan the Open Day earlier in the year (link with calendar discussion under 6.1 above) then it will help us better organise events.
- The GC requested that Martin Standley review the website with a view to updating it. Martin indicated that our current website is free and that making changes will likely incur modest costs (c.£60) which the GC agreed.
- The GC also discussed the issue of a regular one-page newsletter. This will be discussed further at the strategy meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> October.

## 11. Group Memberships

### 11.1. WCKC

- The Vice Commodore approached the WCKC to see if they would like to integrate more with Club. The WCKC AGM discussed the issue and declined to pursue this any further.

### 11.2. Wivgigs

- The Wivgigs took part in our Open Day and took people out on their gig which was well received.

### 11.3 Wivenhoe Corsairs

- The VC suggested that GC consider making the same arrangements with the Corsairs that we have in place with the Wivgigs. The GC agreed that the Vice Commodore could approach the Corsairs and discuss this with them further. The Secretary is to send the Vice Commodore a copy of the Wivgigs financial arrangement with the Club for information.

## 12. Review of Cloud Membership Software

The Secretary circulated an email earlier in the week (copy notes from that). Proposer: Chris Wood, seconded by Martin Standley. The GC voted unanimously in favour of using the WebCollect software system.

## 13. Health and Safety (Standing Item)

The clip holding the grating was broken and has been repaired. The Vice Commodore confirmed that it has been logged in the book.

## 14. Member Feedback (Standing Item)

Positive feedback was received verbally from members in regards to the Open Day. The GC expresses its sincere thanks to all those who took part and helped out on the day.

Some members of the public enlisted members of the Club to scatter some ashes down the river and have expressed their gratitude to those who made this possible.

## 15. Any Other Business.

- The memorial seat for John Stewart has been ordered by his representative and will be placed on Club grounds.

Next meeting Wednesday 7th November 2018, 19:30

Signed as a true record.....*Bernie Hetherington*.....November 7<sup>th</sup> 2018