



Minutes for General Committee Meeting, Wednesday 7th November 2018, 19.30 at the clubhouse.

Present: Nigel Cook, Bernie Hetherington, Dudley Lean (item 16 only), Carol Newman, Tia Reddish, Brian Sinclair, Marie Scales, Mick Scales, Eric Strudwick, Chris Wood, Julie-Anne White, Nick White

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Bill Kippen, Marilyn Standley, Martin Standley.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting – 10th October 2018

The minutes were confirmed as an accurate record of the 10th October meeting and were approved by the GC.

3. Matters arising not included elsewhere in the agenda

- There were no other matters arising.

4. Correspondence not included elsewhere in the agenda

- A note of thanks from Steve Hart regarding his Honorary Life Membership was received by the Committee.

5. Treasurers' Report and Finance

5.1 Update

- The October accounts recorded a surplus, principally because of the receipt of mooring fees for 2018.
- The YTD accounts indicate there is likely to be a loss of £500 before year end; this may be less subject to bar takings over the next few months.
- The GC is to consider at a future meeting potential sources of revenue/additional uses for the Old Hard as it is a significant cost every 10 years and as the Club owns the Old Hard Hut, it is our responsibility to maintain it. The GC is also to consider ways to gain a return, if that is considered appropriate, on the Club boats. The VC is to look at how many times club boats have been sailed by club members at races over the last sailing year.
- There is currently money in the deposit account and the Treasurers are investigating potential fixed rate savings account(s) to put the money into instead. Recommendations are to come to the next meeting.
- The Treasurers submitted a document regarding proposed WSC Fees 2019 including items to consider and cost pressures. The Treasurers have requested comments be emailed to them over the next few weeks on the document.

6. House Matters

6.1 Events

- Planning meeting – events noted at 26th October meeting have been added to the club calendar.
- Quiz night: Friday 9th November 19:30 with hot dogs and burgers.
- Laying-Up Supper – 17th November 2018 (formerly the Annual Dinner): arrangements are in hand, and a meeting has been held between the Commodore, Carole Newman and the catering manager to discuss costs. Following the dinner, a view is to be taken as to whether hosting the dinner in its current format should continue given costs; a survey of Club members is to be undertaken in respect to this. A barman is to be employed, Marie Scales has this in hand.
- Wine Tasting: Friday 23rd at 2pm
- St Nicholas River Run: 24th November
- Games Night: Friday 30th November 20:00.
- Wivgigs and Wivenhoe Corsairs hosting a gig regatta on 6th January 2019 at the WS Clubhouse.

6.2 Bar Committee

- A bar committee meeting has taken place. There is a need to keep the back entrance to the bar clear – trailers often block the door; the VC is to look into this matter.
- Bar prices were reviewed and some beer prices have increased. Wine prices too be addressed when new supplier agreed.
- The committee will meet twice a year and as required.

6.3 Cleaner Specification

- Marie Scales and Marilyn Standley have drafted a list of duties which were received by the Committee. Negotiations are still taking place as to who will undertake these duties. A member suggested adding to the list that a deep-clean to the carpet and upholstery is also undertaken on a 6-monthly basis. A quote from a commercial company is to be sought so as to ascertain the costs involved if all the duties on the list are to be covered. A discussion is also to take place between Marie, Eric and Kerry about the list of proposed necessary duties.

7. Vice-Commodore's Report

7.1 Sailing Committee

- The minutes of the Sailing Committee were received by the GC.
- Item 1.4: the Commodore confirmed that members views on the question of motor boats on moorings will be sought as part of a wider survey.
- The VC queried the membership of the SC in terms of having a minimum number of active sailors on the SC – currently it is split 50/50 between sailors and lifters. It is proposed that a dinghy captain, and WOD captain, cruiser captain etc. be included on the membership and the gender balance should also be addressed. A member of the lifting group must also be a member. The GC agreed to these proposals and requested the VC bring a new membership back to the Committee in the new year.

8. Membership

8.1 Applications

- Application received from Catherine Hadgraft, single membership; owns a boat (shared with Ms James below). First: Rob Maloney, seconded: Chris Wood. The GC approved the membership.
- Application received from Lorraine James, single membership; owns a boat (shared with Ms Hadgraft above). First: Rob Maloney, seconded: Chris Wood. The GC approved the membership.
- Application received from Fanny Joly, single membership requested but her partner has joined her so perhaps a family membership is more appropriate; not specified if she owns a boat. First: Julie-Anne White, seconded: Chris Wood. The GC approved the membership.
- Renewal notices are to be sent out via post after the budget committee in November.

9. Buildings and Maintenance

9.1 Building Sub-Committee

- The window frames have been painted in the Old Hard.
- New foyer lights have been installed.

10. Communications

10.1 WSC Alerts

- There was no discussion on Alerts.

10.2 Facebook Page and Website

- It was noted that Martin Standley was continuing to review the website and the Facebook pages and also how the Facebook page will link to WebCollect. Martin has provided the Commodore and Secretary with a "tour" of the new website which will hopefully be up and running in February 2019.

11. Group Memberships

11.1. WCKC

- There are no items to discuss.

11.2. Wivgigs

- The Wivgigs AGM took place last week and discussed the idea of joining together with WSC. The Wivgigs seem positive about this offer and discussion with the Club are ongoing.

12. Membership Software

The development of the software system – WebCollect – is continuing and it is hoped that this the software is in place by March 2019 at the very latest. The free trial subscription ends in one month; if we're unable to extend the free trial the Treasurer will subscribe to the lowest payment option and increase this to the requirements of the Club once the system goes live; this was agreed by the Committee.

13. Health and Safety (Standing Item)

Annual review of H&S Documents: the Commodore is to undertake the review and report back on the documents in January. Safety boat training should also be considered as this time and ensuring there are enough sufficiently trained people.

14. Member Feedback (Standing Item)

Positive comments were received regarding the Laying-Up Lunch.

15. Follow up from Strategy Meeting

A separate meeting is to take place to further develop the club strategy. A member submitted a document which forms the basis of an action plan following the meeting held on 26th October. The strategy will be informed by the RYA affiliated clubs meeting at the end of November. Dates for future strategy meetings with set targeted topics are to be circulated – the next meeting is to take place in the last week of January but if possible earlier (a suggestion was made to meet on Friday nights). The intention is that proposals can be made in time for the March AGM.

16. Any Other Business

- It was noted that Nikki Robinson will provide some food (hot soup) during the winter dinghy series.
- A discussion took place on the Whats App dinghy sailing group and whether there was a way to increase awareness of the events that the dinghy sailing group throughout the club. It was however noted that all events are on the Club calendar and that the Whats App system is working well for the dinghy sailors. It was suggested that we open a Whats App for the club as a whole – The VC and Secretary will discuss this further; the VC has volunteered to act as the Administrator for the group.
- A request has been made to produce a pocket club calendar for members for the next sailing year.
- Hard cleaning dates are to be confirmed and added to the club calendar.
- Early discussions are taking place between the Club and the Colne Yacht Club and perhaps more widely to have a specific person to undertake maintenance work. A member queried whether this could be extended to the Clubhouse for management of property maintenance. The Commodore is to raise this with fellow local clubs.
- A very positive response was received following an external event regarding the cellaring of the ale.
- RNLI collection box to be behind the bar.
- A suggestion has been made to purchase inexpensive wall panels to help with noise when events are on to absorb sound. The VC will consider this and inform the GC of possible options at a later date.
- 11th November: Manningtree gigs from Steward Sailing Club have requested to launch from the Clubhouse for an event in Rowhedge.
- 27th December: Row and Ramble, Viking is available. Members will be able to take their own sandwiches to the Albion; chilli to be hosted back in the clubhouse upon return.

Next meeting Wednesday 5th December 2018, 19:30

Signed as a true record..... *Bernie Hetherington*..... 5th December 2018