



Wivenhoe Sailing Club,
Minutes of the 89th AGM, held
6th March 2015, 19:30 at the Clubhouse

www.wivenhoesailing.org.uk

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Pat and Dudley Lean, Tony and Mandy Higbee, Carol and Mike Mitchell, Ann and Andy Diggins, Kevin & Julie Hoskings, Jan Sinclair, Naomi and Phil Thompson, Ivan Frost.

2. To note the minutes of the 2014 AGM

The minutes were noted

3. Commodore's report

The first thing to say is that it has been an immense privilege to be the Commodore of Wivenhoe Sailing Club for the past year. Now in its 90th year it is a major feature of the town and has now provided both access to the water and a social focus for many generations of sailors. This was particularly evident when the Wivenhoe one design Elise was launched last summer. To see some of her original crew present with those who had helped keep the boat going through the years was illustrative of the role these small wooden boats had played in the life of the community and continue to play.

The Vice Commodore had rashly promised champagne for all if there had been 10 Wivenhoe One Designs at the start of any one race and this was very nearly achieved. This did not quite happen in 2014 but there is every danger of 2015 providing an opportunity for 10 WODs to make it over the start at one time. There have been some discussions around the club as to where the Wivenhoe one design Association sits, but it is clear to me that this association is a special interest group firmly located within the Wivenhoe Sailing Club. This year the association created opportunities for many new faces to get on the water, some very close one design sailing and of course much food for discussion in the bar afterwards. It would be excellent to see the revival of this class continue this year and for many years to come.

The fantastic turnout for Sail 14, even in somewhat inclement conditions, showed that across the club the interest in getting on the water is undiminished and everyone involved in that event needs to be congratulated for showing the true spirit of the club in running a very well organised event, resulting in our very own armada dominating the River Colne. Of course the old adage of "if in doubt read the instructions" would have made it more obvious to me why several enthusiastic individuals were dangling off the side of a large boat in the middle of the river waving lunch bags at us as we passed.....

It can't pass without notice that we have been rather shorthanded this year among the general committee and the absence of a rear Commodore and in particular has been keenly felt. On the positive side it meant that the organisation of events had to be looked at very carefully and I would personally like to thank all of those individuals who came together to form teams around events to ensure that the social calendar was largely intact and continued to provide a highly enjoyable and often very tasty programme. The enthusiasm with which club members embrace opportunities to dress up never fails to amaze and the 1920s AGM was no exception. As we count the decades off, one a year, to our Centenary I look forward to many more such opportunities in the years to come continuing with the 1930s in 2015.

We have a new cruiser captain who has already started to bring the cruisers together again around organised events and connecting with the Wivenhoe and Rowhedge Yacht Owners is a good sign that we will continue to have a buoyant cruiser section. The turnout for last year's Wallet Shield is not what it has been but then the racing itself appears to have stepped up a gear in terms of the kind of boats and equipment used to gain competitive advantage. While the BCOSS series of races is possibly eclipsing the Wallet Shield it



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would be good to work out a strategy whereby Wivenhoe yacht owners could continue to join in such events and to be as competitive as possible. It is not so long since the Wallet Shield was in Wivenhoe hands and it would be good to see it coming back to Wivenhoe at some point in the future.

The AGM in 2014 tasked the general committee to carry through several actions which have certainly been taken on but there is still much to do. Part of this process, which is necessarily slow, is considering carefully what kind of club we want to be for the next hundred years. I don't think we want to change shape to chase grants or for administrative convenience but the world of the 21st century is very different to the first part of the 20th century and we need to make very sure that the sailing club is not at a disadvantage to similar organisations or is unable to take advantage of what support there is. The General Committee therefore has begun a series of information sessions which may result in some proposals coming forward but rest assured the decision for a change lies as always with you the members.

Best wishes and have some really good sailing in 2015!

4. Report of the Treasurer

The Club has still managed to keep its expenditure below its income, although when depreciation is applied, the accounts show a loss. An increase in fees to Members for 2015 has been applied in anticipation of unavoidable increases in expenditure which will occur in 2015, principally loss of our 50% rate relief and increase in electricity charges.

I am concerned for the future by the considerable drop in bar receipts; the % profit on bar sales is also down, so compounding the problem. It is fortunate that over the years the Club has managed to build up a fair financial reserve to meet the replacement of some fixed assets in the future. The Budget Sub-Committee will this year be preparing a schedule of replacement for those items which may be coming to the end of their life.

The 2015 accounts will show some slight changes to their presentation, in that Clubhouse Events will be shown in both Income and Expenditure, thus giving better information as to the turnover of the House Committee. Last year, the House Committee, in spite of no Rear Commodore, did absolutely sterling work! The item "Use of Clubhouse" which will in future be referred to as "Lettings" has held up well. Cruiser hard standing, Lifting Group and Dinghy Storage have all performed well and it is gratifying that the Club is able to generate such funds from these operations. Members will note that the cost of moorings charged by Colchester Council is the same as in the previous year; Colchester did not increase charges in 2014 and the result is we have a double "whammy" in 2015.

I now come to my personal position as Hon Treasurer. I am seeking to be elected again for the coming year 2015/6 but this must be my last year. I am therefore now asking for a member to step forward to take up these reins. It is an interesting job and I hope someone will come forward in the next few months so that we can work alongside one another until he/she feels ready to take over. This has been my third stint as Treasurer, my first commencing in 1979 – 2 years after joining the Club. I believe I have now completed 22 years in total as treasurer.

Guy Ward

The Hon Treasurer highlighted the loss the club made after depreciation of just over £1,000.

The Hon Treasurer made available a list of responsibilities a treasurer of the club currently has.



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1. Income and Expenditure Account for year 2014 showing details of previous years				
INCOME	2014	2013	2012	2011
Subs/Joining Fees	£15,696	£16,123	£15,261	£15,065
Mooring Fees	£8,053	£7,905	£7,061	£6,609
Dinghy Storage	£2,649	£2,298	£2,084	£1,945
Cruiser Hardstanding	£5,272	£3,186	£4,336	£3,332
Cruiser Lifting Group	£2,152	£1,130	£503	£881
Sailing Events	-£369	-£294	-£267	-£545
Clubhouse Events (incl of costs)	-£685	£406	£277	-£735
Use of Clubhouse	£6,662	£6,760	£3,867	£5,306
Sundry Income/Donations	£412	£597	£606	£1,259
Bank Interest	£502	£1,050	£437	£663
Cadet Funds	£982	£1,159	£400	£775
Bar	£20,786	£24,972	£26,558	£28,797
Total Income	£62,111	£65,290	£61,122	£63,351
EXPENDITURE				
Rates/Water	£3,597	£3,563	£3,401	£3,524
Electricity	£4,303	£3,728	£3,627	£3,415
Insurance	£4,157	£4,105	£4,432	£4,642
Repairs/Renewals	£8,162	£3,775	£7,879	£3,255
Cleaning/Wages	£8,856	£7,909	£6,478	£5,297
Tractor/Hoist costs	£972	£785	£817	£365
Moorings	£5,622	£5,622	£5,463	£5,194
Boats/Engines	£2,468	£2,343	£1,553	£2,413
Alarm/Security	£1,907	£3,031	£1,326	£2,337
Phone Print Post Stat'y	£1,754	£1,831	£1,257	£1,561
Donations/Subs	£615	£630	£595	£430
Sundry/Flag Officers' Exps	£1,099	£902	£1,497	£666
Bar Costs	£14,978	£17,427	£16,632	£21,824
Total exp before depr'n	£58,491	£55,651	£54,956	£54,924
Depreciation	£4,794	£5,808	£7,329	£5,566
Total cost	£63,284	£61,459	£62,285	£60,490
Net Profit/Loss	-£1,174	£3,831	-£1,163	£2,862
I have examined the records of the Wivenhoe Sailing Club for the year ended 31st December 2014 and confirm the above statements are in accordance therewith.				
Anne Hunter - Independent Examiner				



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2. Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2014			3. Notes/Management Accounts		
	2014	2013	Bar	Yr 2014	Yr2013
FIXED ASSETS			Revenue	£20,786	£24,972
Property	£920	£968	Gross profit	£5,808	£8,142
Rescue boats incl outboards	£1,940	£2,587			
Cadets Boats	£1,614	£2,659	% profit on sales	27.94%	32.60%
Furniture and Fittings	£285	£425			
Lease	£16,666	£16,800			
Tractor	£50	£99			
Stair Lift	£2,230	£3,329			
Plant and Machinery	£99	£148			
Tractor Shed	£6,313	£6,645			
Crane (Hoist)	£1,918	£2,131			
Boat Shed	£9,535	£10,037			
Cycle & Mast Racks	£214	£285			
Projector & screen	£266	£397			
Canoe & Kayak racks	£1,237				
Topaz dinghy rack	£509				
Total Fixed Assets	£43,796	£46,512	(value after depreciation)		
CURRENT ASSETS					
STOCK					
Bar	£2,351	£2,572			
Clothing	£0	£0			
PETTY CASH					
House cttee	£632	£737			
Cadets	£547	£372			
Diesel float for tractor	£0	£150			
Bar till	£271	£175			
Bar cage	£121	£254			
Vice Comm float	£0	£50			
BANK + INVEST	£57,635	£56,476			
Total Current Assets	£61,558	£60,786			
TOTAL	£105,354	£107,297			
FUNDED BY					
Profit and Loss	-1174	3831			
Reserves	£90,756	£86,924			
Lottery Grant	£14,678	£14,678			
WOD Assoc - temp	£1,093	£1,863			
TOTAL	£105,354	£107,297			

Note regarding depreciation of assets:
The assets are depreciated over 3 to 20 years depending on the type of asset.
Generally equipment is depreciated over 3/4 years, buildings over 20 years. The lease on the clubhouse over 125 years as per lease.

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Anne Hunter - Independent Examiner



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The Secretary explained the changes in rate relief – Colchester Borough Council has closed the scheme we used to take advantage of and replaced with new scheme; unfortunately we do not qualify for the new scheme. However, we do now qualify for Small Business Relief on our premises to the value of approximately £2,000. We will not receive rate relief on the old hard.

The bar manager responded to a question on details about the reduction in bar takings – noting the footfall is much reduced. It was clarified that we cannot open the bar due to licencing rules during Sunday Morning racing

5. Adoption of the accounts

Accounts proposed Ian Hunter and seconded by Ewan Alexander . There was one abstention (Robin Calvert).

It was confirmed the accounts are available online and were posted on the board as per constitution

6. Nomination of the Election of Officers

The nominations were taken en bloc and all were approved.

	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Commodore	Stuart Bannerman	Guy Ward	Ewan Alexander
Vice Commodore	Bruce Anderson	Lyn Button	Sue Goldsmith
Rear Commodore	Veronica Alexander	Stuart Bannerman	Guy Ward
Hon Treasurer	Guy Ward	Ted Reddish	Rod Terry
Hon Secretary	Eric Strudwick	Guy Ward	Ewan Alexander
Membership Secretary	Margaret Hetherington	Myrna Ekeroth	Ann Vickers
Sailing Secretary	George Brown	Nel Mooy	Bernie Hetherington

7. Nomination for the election of General committee members

The nominations were taken en bloc and all were approved.

Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Ewan Alexander	Stuart Bannerman	Bruce Anderson
Maureen Peck	Brian Sinclair	Ewan Alexander

8. Report Back re 2014 AGM Resolutions

a. Motion 6.1 Members Handbook

The commodore explained that the Handbook has been produced, but is still very much in draft as certain elements not completed. It most probably be available online. Ted Reddish noted an error in the draft handbook; that the club does not have a Bosun.

b. Motion 6.2 Explore the adoption of the RYA constitution

The Vice Commodore presented a summary of the work done including comparison on some known grey areas in our constitution (Liability/Disposing of boats procedures/Criteria for membership).

He reported that, in general , the RYA constitution was more specific and clearer than the current WSC one.

This issue will be included in the current discussions about club structure and possible incorporation.



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The Secretary added that following a meeting in Jan on our structure a further meeting will be held in 2 weeks time, led by Keith Phillips

The Commodore added that a representative of the RYA has also agreed to visit to further discuss our options as well as approach to potential funding requests

c. Motion 6. 3Interiors and bar

The Commodore reported that although no significant process has been made, it is planned to create a proposal in the coming year

d. Motion 9 Increase Membership

The Commodore reported that he was striving to make the club outgoing and the clubhouse banner was the first step in this process. We now have two Group memberships: Wivgigs and Wivenhoe Canoe & Kayak Club. During the last year WSC had 22 new memberships giving 238 in total (1 Young Adult, 78 Adult, 141 Family, 2 Country, 4 Life, 12 Hon Life). Of these, 52 memberships were currently unpaid.

It was mentioned that we now also have facilities available to members (Hunter, Sport 16).

Mr Brian Sinclair congratulated the club on gaining group memberships

e. Motion 10 To approve role descriptions

Work has started, but as these have not been concluded they will be submitted for approval at a later date

f. Motion 12 To report back on progress

As above

A query was raised if the club has done a risk assessment. The secretary explained that there is a responsibility on the club for a fire risk assessment which is completed annually. Documents are available. Furthermore, a health and safety risk assessment is performed, which is wide ranging - including premises and procedures.

Following a question on record storage, it was commented that although no consistent procedure, documents in general are stored in cloud facility and locally backed up, which include the key club documents. Some other documents are not centrally stored, such as the lifting group document.

9. Appointment of Independent Inspector of Accounts

Ann Hunter has indicated she is happily to continue this year. Proposed Julie Ward, seconded Jane Valentine

10. AOB

- a. As this is the last AGM for the long standing Hon Treasurer, a bottle of whisky was presented
- b. Tim Denham read an extract of the minutes of the very first AGM, held in the Black Buoy
- c. Janine Ford-Bowyer noted that next week a Tapas night will be held, including musical accompaniment



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- d. The vice commodore noted the spring hard working party on the 28th of March

Meeting ended 20.25



These minutes were approved as a true record at the General Committee meeting of April 1st 2015.