

Wivenhoe Sailing Club

Minutes of 98th Annual General Meeting (AGM) Friday April 26, 19.30 hrs

1. Attendance and apologies for absence

58 members attended the AGM

28 members have related their apologies for absence

2. The minutes of the 2023 AGM, which were already agreed by the GC, were noted.

3. Commodore's report on the year

The Commodore summarised the Commodore's report, as circulated ahead of the AGM.

Noted were the successful events, our thriving club as well as our future plans on extension of changing rooms and installation of solar panels.

4. Report by the Treasurer and Independent Inspector of Accounts

The accounts circulated to the members prior to the AGM were reported on.

During the AGM it was noted that:

- Increase in expenditure outpacing increase in income
- Reserves in place help protect uninsured liabilities
- Buoyant cadet fund and membership income
- Costs impacted by water leak at old Hard
- No corporation tax expected to be due
- Increased assets due to expansion of fleet
- Bar profits favourable year on year
- Looking forward, electricity contract to be more favourable than current, but insurance costs increasing. Bar profits will be impacted by the appointment of a paid bar manager
- We were custodians of defunct Wallet association's funds, which have now been distributed amongst a number of Sailing charities
- We propose to continue to appoint Quantum Accountants as independent examiner

The following questions were raised by the AGM attendees:

Q: How much do we need to hold in reserves.

A: there is no specific target reserve, but it is often said that you should hold 1 year of unavoidable costs in reserve. Management of costs is based on ongoing assessment of affordability per project.

Q: Can we separate members from non-members bar income.

A: This is now done, for corporation tax purposes. Also, clubhouse and events costs will be split going forward.

5. Adoption of the accounts and approval of independent inspector of accounts

The accounts and the appointment of independent inspector of accounts were both adopted by the AGM attendees.

Proposed by: Stuart Bannerman

Seconded by: Ginny O'Dell

6. Election of Officers

The nominations were accepted by the AGM attendees

Post	Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
Commodore	Julie-Anne White	Eric Strudwick	Bill Wilson
Vice Commodore	vacant		
Rear Commodore	Alan Tyne	Steve Hart	Nic Cross
Hon Secretary	vacant		
Hon Treasurer	Eric Strudwick	Bernie Hetherington	Bill Wilson
Hon Sailing Secretary	vacant		
Hon Membership Secretary	Bill Wilson	Ginny O'Dell	Anthea Le Cornu

The WSC General Committee have indicated their approval to co-opt Nic Cross as Vice Commodore and Chris Wood as Sailing Secretary to the post following the AGM.

7. Election of Members to serve on General Committee

The two nominations received were accepted by the AGM attendees.

Post	Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
Committee Member	Anthea Le Cornu	Julie-Anne White	Eric Strudwick
Committee Member	Tony Higbee	Dave Souch	Phil Booth

8. Motions submitted by Members

Full motion recorded in "Motions submitted by Members" document, circulated ahead of AGM.

Solar panels.

Proposed by Julie-Anne White and seconded by Eric Strudwick.

Motion: The membership give authority to the GC to secure the best deal on the most appropriate PV Solar & Battery System for the club. Final figures with a revised payback period will be made available as soon as practicable.

Scope: 15 panels on boatshed roof, with or without battery. Planning permission not required.

The AGM attendees approved the motion.

The AGM attendees shared the following views for considerations:

- Benefits of battery installation to be weighed up against income on selling back to grid vs battery storage for evening and smoothing between days with different weather
- The use of the clubhouse to be considered, including evening use
- Even if deciding against battery now, consider being ready for a battery in the future by getting a hybrid inverter, or instal with small battery, to avoid significant costs later
- Installing an EV charging point might introduce further preferential rates
- Roof structure suitability (there will be a structural survey)
- Confirm guarantees on panels, inverter and battery
- Any degradation/cleaning/maintenance requirements
- Anti bird netting recommended

9. Any Other Business

- Bernie Hetherington: Congratulations on extending the club fleet. Could General Committee consider a charging model for use of club facilities. A debate amongst AGM attendees followed, with a bias against a pay per use model. It was noted that payment model has been reviewed by the General Committee. A Statement of understanding drafted, keeping facilities such as boats and lifting hoist free to use, but with an expectation members volunteer their time to support the club. The statement of understanding is due to be published on the website.
- Alan Tyne: Next year is our centenary year. Different ideas are being generated. House committee happy to be coordinator, but invite for anyone who would like to set up/be part of a small working group.
- Ginny O'Dell: Please come and talk to us to volunteer downstairs at the volunteer point

Meeting closed at 20.40