

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE HELFORD RIVER SAILING CLUB
HELD AT THE CLUBHOUSE
at 19.30hrs on Friday 22nd January 2016**

The meeting commenced at 19.40 hrs was attended by 75 Members. The Commodore, Mr. Mark Buckley, was in the chair.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr. W. Bradley, Mr. & Mrs. N. Coward, Mr. T. Peter, Mr. & Mrs. D. Patuck, Mr. P. Harman, Mr. P. Wood, Mr. & Mrs. N. Carlier, Mr. R. Purshouse, Mr. & Mrs. J. Moody, Mr. N. Gough, Mr. A. Benney, Miss L. Benney, Mr. D. Ashworth, Mr. E. Bolitho, Mr. & Mrs. R. Hosking

2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 16th January 2015 were circulated to Members attending. There being no matters arising, it was proposed by Chris Hosken and seconded by Clive Dudley that the same be adopted as a true and accurate record. Approved on a show of hands.

3. Commodore's Report

Now that we are in the New Year hopefully this year we will have a fantastic summer. 2015 was marred by bad weather, with a lot of easterly gales and rain, with some moorings in the river not being used and visitor mooring numbers in the Helford being well down. This caused the Club to be used less by Members and visiting yacht crews, but we still have the best Club and facilities in the Falmouth area.

As you all know we are looking for and interviewing prospective new stewards and when we have any positive news about this we will let you know.

This year we have had a major problem with the Club's power supply cutting out on three or four occasions. We have had discussions with Western Power to see if we need to go onto three phase supply. In order to get the best deal the power consumption is being monitored. We can then decide whether to spread the power better over the two phases we now use. If this does not cover the supply we need, three phase will have to be brought into the Club and the expense will be significant.

The Q20 was causing problems last season so the Committee decided to replace it with a brand new Seaviper boat which is very tough and will last for many years. This will be used for Wednesday night racing as well as a rescue boat for other events. We have also bought two RS Vision dinghies

from the HRCST and this means we have fulfilled the adult sailing conditions of the Sports England grant.

Wednesday evening yacht racing has seen a disappointingly low turnout but the actual racing has been competitive and enjoyed by all who took part. There will be a meeting for all sailors to discuss the new season's racing on 26th February. Dinghy racing has been extremely successful, well attended and efficiently run as it will no doubt be again this year. The racing was very competitive and enjoyable for everyone. Adult sailing training on Tuesday evenings has also been successful both on and off the water during the season as well as out of it.

The HRSC Regatta on the first day of Falmouth Week was a great success with many racing crews coming back to the Club after the racing to enjoy our famous free teas and to enjoy the bar and the general atmosphere as well as the prize giving. Hopefully at this year's event we will have live entertainment into the evening.

In June the annual pre - L'Aber Wrac'h Champagne Recovery Party was enjoyed by all who managed to consume 60 bottles of champagne in one hour! This year we hope to have dancing into the night. The following day the Race itself was well supported with 28 entries, 17 of which were from France who dominated the race this time. Wally Royall in *Xenia* took the Sundancer Trophy for the first HRSC yacht to cross the finishing line.

John and Tom Lake took part in the challenging 2015 Azores & Back Race, sailing a very brave and hard race in often really bad weather conditions. They finished 26th out of 65 entries and were awarded the Commodore's Cup at the yacht prize giving evening for their efforts.

Junior sailing was once again fully subscribed to and very successful and well run. Many thanks to all those who gave up their time as without these volunteers the junior sailors would really miss out. It is a lovely sight to see them all on the water on a Friday evening.

In line with most other sailing clubs we have reduced the membership joining fee to £10 in order to attract more members. The annual fee has increased by the rate of inflation and all other fees have remained the same with the exception of temporary membership which has been reduced to only £50 per week.

This year we have put in place a contract for the Club's IT equipment which will be responsible for the maintenance of the office computers and can be accessed remotely from the head office in Penryn. We also have a cloud based software management system which will bring us into line with other clubs. You can find out more about this by talking to Sue Hewett or John Lake.

Other developments this year are the provision of a defibrillator on the balcony, the repair of the jetty steps and wall pointing down to the pontoon and new LED lighting in the main clubhouse room.

Mark Gregory, our Honorary Secretary is retiring after seven successful years. My thanks go to Mark for all he has done for the Club and to Heather for her support. His successor will be Peter Lethfead-Currie.

I would like to thank the Committee members for all their hard work and dedication during this last year. Those members leaving the Committee have done three years' really hard work.

I would like to present the Robin Preston Memorial Trophy this year to someone who has done so much for the Club, often behind the scenes. He has been Commodore on two occasions and is always ready with good and sensible advice. The Trophy goes to John Jane.

Finally I would like to thank all those Members who use the Club regularly as without them, we would not exist. I wish all Members a happy and successful year both on and off the water.

4. Honorary Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts

Copies of the accounts to the end of year 30th September 2015 were circulated with the minutes. A copy had been posted on the Club noticeboard as required by Rule 31. In the absence of a representative from the Club Accountants a detailed explanation of the salient matters in the Accounts and Balance sheets was given by the Honorary Treasurer, John Lake. A current account balance of £33,000 and a deposit account balance of £93,464 were reported. The Honorary Treasurer stated that the running costs of the Club were £8,000 per month and that the membership numbers had dropped to 978.

A question was raised by a Member critical of the outgoing stewards and the lack of due diligence by the Committee in making such appointments. The question was answered by the Honorary Secretary who outlined the difficulty in recruiting stewards and reiterated the correct procedure for Members to complain at the time of any problem arising.

There being no further questions it was proposed by Rob Hewett and seconded by Jane Benney that the accounts be adopted. Approved by a majority on a show of hands.

5. Election of Club Accountants

It was proposed by Chris Hosken and seconded by Jane Benney that Messrs. Kitchen and Brown, Chartered Accountants, be retained as the Club accountants for the coming year. Approved on a show of hands.

6. Election of Officers

The Honorary Secretary presented a list of prospective Club Officers along with their proposers and seconders. It was proposed by Sue Hewett and seconded by Dominic Brandreth that the nominees be elected en bloc. Approved by a majority on a show of hands.

POSITION	Candidate	Proposed by	Seconded by
Commodore	Mark Buckley	A. Brown	D. Church
Vice Commodore	Heather Ibotson	D. Church	D. Flunder
R Commodore Sailing	Clive Dudley	M. Buckley	P. James
R Commodore Amenities	John Bolitho	J. Jane	A. Speakman

Hon Secretary	Peter Lethfead-Currie	M. Gregory	M. Buckley
Hon Treasurer	John Lake	H. Flunder	A. Speakman
Captain Yachts	Nick Gough Pat Scannell	2 nd year	
Captain Amenities	Position vacant		
Captain Moorings	Giles Ruscombe-King	2 nd year	
Captain Social	Position vacant		
Capt Safety Boats	Chris Hosken	2 nd year	
Captain Dinghies	Stephen Brooks	P. James	D. Church
Captain Juniors	Nick Glossop	M. Buckley	D. Flunder

Co – Opted

POFSA Representatives Rear Commodore Sailing
Captain Yachts

7. Rule Change

It was proposed by Sue Hewett and seconded by Carol Lawrence that a new rule 37 be introduced to allow Members to opt for electronic communication thereby effecting a considerable saving to the Club on postal charges. Approved on a show of hands.

8. Any Other Business

The Honorary Secretary informed the meeting that no items had been notified this year under the Club rules and declared the meeting closed at 20.20 hrs.

9. General Questions

John Head outlined the work of the Helford River Navigational Aids Committee and stated that he had last asked for donations in 2009. As a new August Rock illuminated buoy had been purchased he requested Club Members to assist with the cost by voluntary donations.

Joan Kearsley presented a case for the reinstatement of the children's room and an improvement to training offered on Club premises. Carol Lawrence and Anthony Jenkins also spoke in favour of these. This was met with agreement by Members present and Club officers. A question was also raised expressing concern over the use of Club facilities by non-members. This was answered by the Honorary Secretary who called upon Members to exercise due diligence in spotting such abuse.

Mark Buckley thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20.36 hrs.

..... Commodore

..... Date