



HELFORD RIVER SAILING CLUB

Minutes of a General Committee Meeting held at the Clubhouse on
Monday 6th October 2014 at 1930 hrs.

Present

J. Samuel, M. Gregory, C. Symes, D. Blanning, A. Biggs, S. Hewett, C. Dudley, J. Bolitho, H. Ibotson, D. Brandreth

Apologies

J. Skewes, M. Buckley, P. Greensmith

Minutes of Last Meeting

It was proposed by Clive Dudley and seconded by Dave Blanning that the minutes of the last Committee meeting held on Monday 1st September 2014 be adopted as a true and accurate record. All in favour.

Commodore

The Commodore said that on 19th September Jack and Sophie had given him their notice and he had already informed the Committee members. Julian Samuel said that sailing activities had all but finished. Bart's Bash with the Albia Cup was a successful event with visiting boats attending. Donations on the day amounted to £183. The event will be scheduled for 20th September 2015.

Vice Commodore

No report.

Rear Commodore Sailing

Chris Symes said that the last POFSA meeting had taken place whilst he was away and he is awaiting the report. Wash up meetings are being arranged. Annual prize giving arrangements are in hand and a date to be agreed. The 21st November 2014 was suggested.

Rear Commodore Amenities

John Bolitho reported on the snagging list which had recently been prepared. The light in the ladies toilet had been fitted. The balcony fence in the car park had been constructed and the kitchen door is to be replaced this week. The trees will be cut down in the autumn. The coffee machine in the hall is in place and will be connected up very soon. The remaining items are being attended to.

Honorary Treasurer

Sue Hewett gave the account balances as follows: Current Account £13,531.77 and Scottish Widows £36,180.20. After discussions at the recent Management Committee meeting, Sue Hewett was seeking the Committee's approval to an overall increase of 3.7% on 2014 charges. After explanation this was agreed, all in favour. The Members' loyalty cards will be introduced on 24th October and a 10% discount will be applied on bar purchases. The cost of the card to Members will be £2 and they will be available from the bar. This was unanimously agreed. A quotation for the lost mark had been received at £565 plus chain and

anchor and this will be put to the insurers. Sue warned that the December meeting may not be at the beginning of the month to accommodate the accountants and the timetable. In conclusion she reported that the last stocktake had been satisfactory.

Honorary Secretary

Mark Gregory asked for members' views on the level of rent to be charged for the flat and kitchen when new stewards are being appointed. After discussion it was agreed that the costs of the kitchen should, as far as possible, be covered and those dealing with an appointment should have a discretion bearing in mind that the present flat rent appeared to offer very good value. Mark Gregory sought approval to instruct the Club's solicitors to prepare Notices to Quit the flat for service on the stewards following upon their giving notice, so that the legal position of the Club is protected. This was agreed. An invitation to a Quiz Night at Flushing Sailing Club next March had been received and was given to the Social Secretary as HRSC may wish to send a team. Notice of the RYA Annual General Meeting had been received and this is being attended to. The date for the Club's Annual General Meeting needed to be fixed so that the timetable can be established. After discussion it was agreed that this will be on Friday 16th January 2015 at 19.30 hrs. All agreed. To assist with preparation of the Winter Newsletter contributions are now required together with details of the winter social programme. These should be sent to Penny in the office as soon as possible please along with items for the 2015 Yearbook.

Captain Yachts

Clive Dudley said that items he wished to raise had already been referred to, comprising Bart's Bash, the loss of the sea mark and the wash up meetings which are to be arranged.

Captain Dinghies

Andy Biggs said he was still receiving a lot of support and wash up meetings are being arranged. He was hoping to organise a winter gathering for First Aiders and Safety Boat personnel to discuss issues and as a refresher for everyone involved. Dinghy prize giving is being arranged.

The Teaching of Sailing

All Committee members had now had an adequate opportunity to consider this important aspect and Julian Samuel invited further comments. After discussion it was agreed that it is not practical to proceed with this from the Club's point of view.

Captain Moorings

Dave Blanning said that he wished to discuss use of the pontoons in winter – should they come out or stay in? One or two Members had continued to use the facility last winter and he sought guidance from the Committee for the coming winter. This was discussed and it was agreed that all insurance aspects should be checked because most boat insurance expires at the end of October.

Captain Juniors

Dominic Brandreth said that Posh Nosh night had been arranged for 17th October 2014. Rachel will stand down for next year and he was therefore looking for new helpers, particularly sailing instructors and at present he did not have enough to cover all aspects. This season had provided 15 weeks of sailing and one week had been rained off. He expressed the view that the Club should provide incentives for people to stay rather than hire an instructor, and help could be given to those wishing to do an instructors course with the

RYA. Also raised was the use of Club boats. Whereas this must be within the control of individual Captains, it was important to remember that if it was a Club activity there must be a safety boat available.

Captain Social

Heather Ibotson said she would be discussing matters with the stewards on their return from holiday. In their absence Toby and Megan had done very well. In response to requests she wished to make it clear that there will not be a Dinner Dance this winter.

Captain Safety Boats

In the absence of Paul Greensmith the Commodore said that Paul was working with Chris Hosken to take the boats out and that the Jaffa is already out.

Captain Amenities

No report

POFSA

No report

Membership

The following had applied for membership:

Mr. M. Hutchinson & Ms. E. Hall MIJ

Mr. & Mrs. M. Slater MIJ

Mr. & Mrs. G. Long MIJ

It was proposed by Chris Symes and seconded by John Bolitho that they be accepted for membership. All in favour.

Any Other Business

The Commodore invited members' views and opinions on the overall position of Club stewards in view of the difficulties experienced over the past five years or so in our ability to retain stewards for a reasonable period. The format was considered. Should it be on an employed rather than a self-employed basis, or franchised, or should we persevere with the present system. Perhaps the engagement of older stewards would be better because historically this had worked better for the Club. Are our catering and hospitality aspirations too high and would a more modest 'club' approach be desirable? In summary all these aspects and others were considered and discussed at length, and it was suggested that those on the Committee with the responsibility of replacing the stewards should proceed on the self-employed basis, if possible, as this was the best basis for the Club and bearing in mind all that had been discussed when selection had to be made.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 3rd November 2014 at 19.30 hrs

There being no other business the Commodore thanked members for their attendance and valuable input and the meeting closed at 21.30 hrs

SignatureCommodore