

## **2. Annual General Meeting Minutes – December 6, 2015**

Commodore Simon Walworth opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and introducing the existing Committee Members.

### **Present:**

### **Officers:**

Simon Walworth, Richard Barrett and Mike Raymond

### **Members:**

Ros Rogers, Ian Campbell, Nick Rogers, Roy Price, Tom Clay, Hywel Morris, Nick Robinson, Tim Wade, Keith McQuillin, Andy Hyland, Michael Wilde, Hugh Sturdy, Viv Turnbull, Adrian Lucas, Peter Chambers, Christine Drummond, Keith Bateman, Chloe Barrett, Mike Greenland, Dick Meridith, Stuart Laycock, Sophia Laycock, Joan Laycock, David Steele, Nick Ross, Nicky Bedford, Sarah Andersen, Cliff Espin, Bob Swaffield, Paul Naser, Rodney Robinson, John Clarke, Eric Blyth, Tim Greathead, John Hutchinson, Greg Ansell, Tiggy Ansell, Ian Hickman, Lee Young, Adele Young.

43 members present with 41 members entitled to vote.

### **Non-Members:**

Sarah Revers

### **Staff Members:**

Tim Murdoch and Jackie Geller

## **1. Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence were received from: Ed Morris, Steve Spurrier, Les Radford, Chris Burleigh, Heather Cowell, Toni Hancock, Richard Sheppard, John and Ilana Hopwood, Alan Edis-Burton, Richard Tongue, Chris East, David Lawrence, Dane Oliver, Rory Morrison, Tina Chambers, Paul Knight, Geoff and Brenda Jackson, Carolyn Mayes, Michael Banting, Caroline Kersey, Jamie Moir, Cleverly family, Joe Gallivan, Ann Fullick, Amanda Jukes, Ros White, Peter Toddhunter, John Miller, Irene Hincks, Neil Speck, Ravi Gill-Taylor and family and Alan Guy.

## **2. Minutes of the AGM 2014:**

The minutes of the 2014 AGM were circulated with the Notice of AGM and were presented to the meeting. These were adopted as an accurate record.

Proposed by: John Clarke

Seconded by: Nick Ross

Votes in favour: 41

Votes against: 0

Abstentions: 0

The minutes of the AGM 2014 were unanimously approved.

## **Officers Reports**

The Flag Officer reports from the Commodore and Vice Commodore had been previously circulated with the Notice of AGM. Individual Flag Officers highlighted aspects of their reports at the meeting, (Members should refer to the Notice of AGM for the full reports).

### **3. Report from the Commodore**

The Commodore's report was circulated with the Notice of AGM.

Simon also added an additional thank you to the professional staff both past and present. SW also introduced Chloe Barrett who joined us this year as our Chief Instructor.

### **4. Report from the Vice Commodore**

The Honorary Secretary's report was circulated with the Notice of AGM.

### **5. Report from the Honorary Treasurer**

As was the case last year, the accounts have been subjected to an Independent Review, rather than an audit, for the same reasons. We are very grateful to Roy Price for executing this task for the Club. Our Operational Surplus for the year amounted to £19,000.

- Establishment costs included the first full year of the new Lease charge, and also show the first full year of depreciation on the Clubhouse improvements.
- Sailing costs benefitted from reduced costs of maintenance of the club boats, and less Event Sponsorship paid out.
- Legal fees on incorporation continue to be required but will hopefully cease soon.
- The net Galley costs are broken down in a note, and are mainly in respect of the six months since Jackie joined us and the drinks machine was installed. Next year will see a whole year's costs for these, but also a little more income. In addition to the direct takings shown, and its less tangible benefits, the Galley makes a significant financial contribution both to training, in respect of lunches prepared, and to social events, increasing the overall worth to the Club.
- The accounts show an Extraordinary Item of £12,5K, which is the writing back of a provision made over 6 years ago in respect of potential increases relating to the new Lease which never materialised.

As usual every group made their contribution to the Club's income.

Pure Membership charges continue to provide about 46% of income. Subscription income was the highest for three years, although conversely boat space income is down slightly through reduced demand.

Although there are a host of membership categories, the subscription income primarily falls into four groups:

- The racers, perhaps the heartbeat of the club, keep the Galley going and generally put in significant hours of effort in all areas to ensure the club stays in one piece throughout all seasons, not just the fair-weather ones.
- Equally, Membership for Social Sailing increases and needs to be supported wherever possible, and the RYA tell us this is a growing area across clubs.

- Family members are headed up by both Racing and Social Sailing Adults, frequently wanting the benefit of the great coaching available for their children.
- Finally, approximately 30% of the subscription income comes from Associate Memberships, a significant proportion, and shows how much we should value our Associate Members who also contribute through other areas such as Training whilst making use of the Club during hours that would otherwise be quiet.

Income from training and coaching was slightly down this year, but was still of the same order as Membership income. Some of the reduction was intended as some unprofitable courses were removed from the schedule. Youth coaching, as important as ever continues to develop and contributes not only directly in fees and galley income but also to bringing through many future members and instructors. Again the Club is grateful to all the members, young and slightly less young, who contribute such time and effort to both the Coaching and Training.

Contributions made through Events staged by the club added over £10,000, and this amount is actually slightly higher if some items such as related boat hire are considered. Amongst these events were the Ladies Team Racing and the British Universities Qualifier. Thanks are due to all those who organise and execute these events, which contribute so much not only in income but also to reputation and marketing.

Finally on income, the Social group should be mentioned, and again indeed thanked. Although not formally tasked with contributing anything in financial terms to the Club's income, they of course do so through the general increase in activity around the Club which they generate, both in the Galley and other areas.

It is fairly easy for members to be completely oblivious of areas of activity in the club other than those which interest themselves. From the viewpoint of Treasurer, it is interesting to see just how important the interaction of each group within the club is to its overall financial health. Whilst different groups like to promote their own interests, which is greatly preferable to none of them being interested, it is all the activity going on at the Club that contributes financially to the benefit of everyone involved, by reducing the overall costs. If the Club was to focus on only one activity, then the cost of participation for those people involved would rise significantly. The more each group can do to promote and support the others as a single unified Club, the better.

Turning to the Balance Sheet, the final costs of the Clubhouse improvements, in particular the Galley and entrance, have been capitalised and added to our Fixed Assets. Once again we were fortunate to receive a very generous grant of £20,000 towards these costs from the Hanson Trust, and the Club is extremely grateful both to them, and to Rory Morrison for her lead role in obtaining it for us. Similarly, with boats, we are grateful to Tim Murdoch for pursuing the Sport England grant to fund 2 new RS Visions, and to Tim and Sarah for their alertness in hunting down the additional Optimists and Toppers at advantageous prices when they came up.

In the note against the Bank balances is shown the main items of future expenditure that the Committee is 'saving up' for. Although not formally committed funds, in that they could still be used elsewhere in emergencies, many costs, such as a fleet of boats, are of sufficient size that we need to make sure we are accumulating enough cash specifically for when those costs have to be settled.

Finally, I would like to add my thanks to those already directed at Sarah Revers, who has been such a help to myself and other Treasurers. Virtually every figure has been at her fingertips whenever needed, and she has handled the day-to-day transactions of the Club better than any Treasurer has a

right to hope for. I hope she will not be missed too much in that respect, as Tim and Chloe pick up the baton, but she has been a remarkable help to us all.

Mike Raymond, Treasurer, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2015

## **6. Presentation of the Reviewed Accounts**

The audited accounts were presented to the meeting with the Treasurers report, as detailed above.

Simon reiterated that Mike has done an extraordinary job in sorting out the clubs finances and developing the financial structures. Many thanks to Mike for this.

## **7. Adoption of the independently reviewed accounts.**

Proposed by: Andrew Hyland

Seconded by: Tom Clay

Votes in favour: 41

Votes against: 0

Abstentions: 0

The resolution to adopt the audited accounts was unanimously approved.

## 8. Membership Rates for 2016

	CURRENT 2015	PROPOSAL 2016	
	Full 2015 Rate	Full 2016 Rate	Discounted Rate for Payment by 28/2/16
<b>Joining Fee</b>			
Adult	£150	£150	
Family	£150	£160	
Concessionary Adult: (under 26)	£75	£75	
Concessionary Adult: (over 60)	£75	£75	
Social	£75	£75	
<b>Annual Subscriptions</b>			
Adult	£150	£155	£140
Family	£190	£200	£180
Concessionary Adult: (under 26)	£85	£90	£80
Concessionary Adult: (under 26 and in full time education)	£50	£52	£47
Concessionary Adult: (over 60)	£85	£90	£80
Junior	£50	£50	£45
Social	£50	£52	£47
Winter Membership – Adult	£60	£60	
Winter Membership - Junior	£30	£30	
<b>Duty opt out fee</b>			
Single membership	£100	£100	
Family membership	£150	£150	
<b>Boat Parking</b>			
Dinghy Ground Space	£77	£80	
Optimist Ground Space	£44	£45	
Boat Racks (Optimist/Topper)	£27	£28	
<b>Other Rates</b>			
Open Meeting Fees (Inc. Temporary membership)			
Single Hander	£10	£10	
Double Hander	£15	£15	
Junior SH	£8	£8	
Junior DH	£10	£10	
<b>Temporary Membership (RYA affiliated Clubs)</b>			
1 day	£10	£10	
1 week	£25	£25	
2 weeks	£40	£40	

	CURRENT 2015	PROPOSAL 2016	
	Full 2015 Rate	Full 2015 Rate	Discounted Rate for Payment by 28/2/16
<b>Club Boat Hire Charges (per boat)</b>			
Adult - full day	£20	£20	
half day	£15	£15	
Under 21 - full day	£15	£15	
- half day	£10	£10	
Group – full day	£30	£30	
– half day	£20	£20	
Wednesday Evening Race	£7	£7	

Simon said that a very small cost of living rise has been added to the subs. The main reason is that it is easier to put small increase in now to keep the club ticking over, rather than a large increase when it is needed.

Keith McQuillin asked what is the joining fee for? Simon said that this was traditional in most clubs that there is a joining fee. If the membership wished to change this in the future, the club would need to find this income in other ways. Membership figures are static year on year and we don't need to offer incentives such as waiving the joining fee for special events such as suggested by Andy Hyland.

The resolution to adopt the membership rates for 2016.

Proposed by: Mike Greenland

Seconded by: Roy Price

Votes in favour: 42

Votes against: 0

Abstentions: 0

The resolution to adopt the membership rates for 2016 was approved.

## **9. Proposed Amendments to the Club Constitution and Rules and Bylaws**

### Resolution 9.1

Nick Ross asked what are the disadvantages of removing the CASC status. Ros Rogers answered that we would lose rates relief of 80%, approx. cost £6000 to the club. However, the costs required to maintain the CASC status could amount to much more. There is discretionary rate relief offered by the council which we are looking into. Ros went on to say that at present we don't really have a choice. Only 50% of members took the recent survey the club put out regarding use of the club, which unfortunately does not give us the information required to make a confident decision to remain a CASC. If we can comply we can opt-in at a later date and opt-out now during the grace period rather than face consequences of not complying in the future.

We are talking to the RYA about how we obtain numbers who attend the club but some of these are costly, eg. swipe cards etc.

The RYA are looking into what is best for clubs and are in talks with HMRC, they will advise when they can. The Committee feel the right decision is to de-register now and opt back in if it is right for the Club.

Proposed by: Nick Ross  
Seconded by: Tim Greathead  
Votes in favour: 41  
Votes against: 0  
Abstentions: 0

The resolution 9.1 was approved.

### **Resolution 9.2 and 9.3**

It was agreed that the meeting would vote on resolutions 9.2 and 9.3 together.

Proposed: Mike Greenland  
Seconded: Paul Naser  
Votes in favour: 41  
Votes against: 0  
Abstentions: 0

The resolutions 9.2 and 9.3 were approved.

## **10. Election of Officers**

**The meeting agreed that they would vote on the election of officers and the election of committee members in one go.**

One officer from the current Committee was prepared to put themselves up for re-election as follows:-

Honorary Treasurer: Mike Raymond

The following nominations in accordance with procedures within the Club Constitution have been received:-

Commodore: Ros Rogers  
Vice Commodore: Chris Davey  
Rear Commodore Sailing: Ian Campbell  
Rear Commodore House: Paul Brearley

Proposed: John Clarke  
Seconded: Hywel Morris  
Please see below for voting details.

## **11. Election of Committee Members**

The following nominations had been received to stand for the Committee:-

Simon Walworth, Richard Barrett, Eric Blyth, Paul Naser, Rory Morrison, Sarah Andersen and Christine Drummond.

Proposed: Nick Ross  
Seconded: David Steele

Votes in favour: 42  
Votes against: 0  
Abstentions: 0

The relevant members were elected as officers or committee members of the Club for the forthcoming year.

## **12. Committee Nominations for Honorary Membership**

**The meeting agreed that they would vote on the election of Honorary members in one go.**

### **Proposal for Honorary Membership – Simon Walworth**

The Committee would like to nominate Simon Walworth for Honorary Membership for a period of 5 years.

### **Proposal for Honorary Membership – Sarah Revers**

The Committee would like to nominate Sarah Revers for Honorary Membership for a period of 5 years.

### **Proposal for Honorary Membership – John Clarke**

The Committee would like to nominate John Clarke for life Honorary Membership.

### **Proposal for Honorary Membership – Rod Robinson**

The Committee would like to nominate Rod Robinson for Honorary Membership for a period of 5 years.

### **Proposal for Honorary Membership – Mike Robinson**

The Committee would like to nominate Mike Robinson for Honorary Membership for a period of 5 years.

Proposed by: Committee

Seconded by: Nick Ross

Votes in favour: 41

Votes against: 0

Abstentions: 0

### **Proposal for the Bill Bacon Award – Simon Walworth**

Sarah Revers presented the Bill Bacon Award to Simon.

Simon thanked everyone for the award.

## **13. Election of independent reviewer (amended from Honorary Auditor).**

Roy Price kindly put himself forward to the role of independent reviewer for another year. The Committee passed on their thanks to Roy for doing so.

Proposed by: Eric Blyth

Seconded by: Tom Clay

Votes in favour: 41

Votes against: 0

Abstentions: 0

#### **14. Further Presentations**

**Youth Award:-** Every year we have many of our youngsters who do a great job on behalf of the Club so it is often very hard to pick one person for this award. This year however we have chosen Adele Young who has been exceptional in sailing. Adele has had a fantastic number of years sailing optimists and has recently moved onto 420's.

#### **The meeting closed at circa 14:45**

Followed by tea and cakes and ideas towards the club's 5 year strategy. RR invited all members to stay and give their suggestions as to what they would like to see in the future.