

**Minutes of the General Committee held on Monday 15th May 2023 7pm at the Club and via Zoom**

**Present:** Andrew Jackson (Chairman), Steve Gray, Maureen Bush, Mike Oliver, David Figgis, Jo Wyles, Dickie Ledger & Philippa Bloice.

**Via Zoom:** Terry Davis. Robert Govier

**1 Apologies for Absence** –Fef Griffin

**2 Minutes of previous meeting Monday 17th April 2023** - Approved unanimously.

**3 Co-opting member onto the GC**

Member Aimee Moore has been invited to attend GC meetings with the possibility of taking on a communication role. **ACTION AJ**

**4 Matters Arising from Previous meeting:**

New Membership category figures and Membership fees for October 2023 to be carried forward to next meeting. **ACTION MB**

Temporary social membership for clients of Holiday Cottages is not going forward, it is too difficult for them to manage.

Loan repayment completed.

Discover Sailing membership discount is 70% discount from June – September.

8 Places are available for a beginner’s sailing course in July after discover sailing, if a non-member the full fee is due if they become members, they receive a membership price.

MB agreed funding for the Cellar floor to be repaired. MO and DL to agree when works to be booked in. **ACTION MO/DL**

**4 WOFC Update** –TD reported that negotiations are continuing, we have a working relationship with WOFC.

**5 Office and membership report** –Presented by MB.

No membership report received

MB reported the rule changes were outstanding and would be done next week. **ACTION MB**

New tabletops for the committee room have been supplied free of charge by Richards Veneers. Many thanks.

A donation of £500 from a member who wishes to remain anonymous paid for WYC cadet entries to the ITCA UK national series Topper event, a huge thank you.

Staff contracts are out for discussion with various staff.

The Tea bar from club’s kitchen outdoor hatch is now open before and after sailing.

**6 Sailing Report** – Received from SG

The spring series has seen some decent weather and turnouts have improved as a result. As of May 10th, 7 of the planned 8 races have been completed. In the Lasers 27 boats have started at least one race with a highest turnout of 15. The handicap fleet has seen 28 boats start at least one race with a highest turnout also of 15.

The decision to run racing for non-Lasers as all-In handicap was made for the spring series and may continue through the rest of the year.

The RNLI pursuit race saw 28 starters and raised £138 for Whitstable RNLI.

Topper Coastal Champs now has over 100 entries and organisation is at an advanced stage. Please note that changing room access will be restricted to under 18s only between the hours of 9am-10.30am and 3.30pm – 5pm on both days and that the Laser and Tasar rows of the beach are to be cleared.

The Club Champs follow over Spring bank holiday. Preparation is underway for Laserfest in early July and the Dart/B14 open at the end of September.

The Sailing Committee have raised concern over the structural integrity of the Stroud Shed and the uneven slabs that extend the width of the path from the Forge back towards the YC.

Club Champs prize giving asap after the last race on the Monday. ‘Champions Hour’ at the bar with 15% off drinks between 1pm-2pm.

ITCA to be reviewed so lessons can be learnt after the event.

Any major events should go to the GC for approval. A major event planning form is available and works well.

**7 House Report** –Received from MO

**Completed works in last month**

1. Sea Room redecorated
2. New Ice machine installed
3. No 1 – front elevation ground floor timber frames and front entrance porch redecorated.
4. Further electrical works in Sea Room.

**To Complete**

1. No1 – timber repairs to underside 1st floor orial window.
2. Roof repair around chimney, front roof office. Scaffold erected on pavement.
3. Redecoration of gable end, street elevation, of flat no 4.
4. Quote obtained for beer cellar floor. Break out existing lay new reinforced smooth concrete floor. £3,600 – await expenditure approval.

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Professional advice and a risk assessment on Stroud shed to be undertaken. **ACTION MO**

Temporary notices put up on Shrouds shed alerting to the problem with no admission of any liability. **ACTION MB**

Broken slabs on the side walkway reported, MO to inspect. **ACTION MO**

**8 Bar, Catering & Social Report –**Presented by RL.

The bar is staffed as per normal bar hours, two weeks advance notice for extended hours are required.

**9 Training Report** – Received from JW.

**Courses**

Two powerboat courses have taken place in the last month with another one this week, all booked up for next month as well.

Several one-to-one sessions have taken place, which allows individual to see if they are going to like sailing before committing to a course or can just be a reminder to someone that hasn’t sailed for a while.

Adult level 2 course took place over the weekend of 22nd April 8 people with several club members took part. Adult Level 1 course over the coronation weekend again with 8 people who were all new to sailing.

Ruth & I ran a Topper race training day, a couple of weeks ago for our cadets that are taking part in the National Champs next week. A number have never raced before, and so we did a lot of start practice and course sailing.

**Cadet Sessions**

Several cadets’ sessions held with good numbers, a split session for beginners and then advanced on a Friday night which was good. Bank holiday Monday was a combined session with 34 cadets taking part. Unfortunately, last Fridays was cancelled as too windy.

Improver sessions are going well on a Wednesday night and some Sundays, regularly getting 10 boats outs which is great. Some progressing to join in racing as well.

**Topper National Champs**

Entries have now closed, we have 109 entries in total, so will expect about 80 boats to be at Whitstable this weekend. All arrangements are going well, we have a good number of volunteers from the club helping out. 15 of our cadets are entered and most of our Toppers are being used for the event. Arrivals start on Friday afternoon, laser and Taser rows are being moved down the beach to give us space. Going to be a busy weekend!

**Discover Sailing / WYC Open Day**

This is on Saturday 17th June, between 11am – 3pm, we will need volunteers on the day and anyone who is willing to take people out for a trial sail for 20 mins would be appreciated, also a variety of boats full rigged for people to look at. It’s a good opportunity for people to see the club and what we do, we get a lot of new members from it. We also have a Level 1 course planned in July for anyone who want to learn to sail from that day. No racing taking place on that day.

The scattering of the ashes of our late Honorary Club President, Larry Lamberton MBE, will be held on Sunday 21st May. The Whitstable RNLI Lifeboat crew will scatter them in the sea off the West Quay in a ceremony starting at 2.30pm

DF asked for better boat organisation on the beach from Cadets.

**10 AOB**

Winter ball tickets will be released after Whitstable week**.**

**Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 12th June 7pm at the Club or via Zoom

Meeting closed at 19.50.

**Chairman………………………………………………**