

**Minutes of the General Committee held on Monday 14th August 2023 7pm at the Club and via Zoom**

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

Guest member Aimee Moore.

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

**1 Apologies for Absence** –Steve Gray.

**2 Minutes of previous meeting Monday 10th July 2023** - Approved unanimously.

**3 Matters Arising from Previous meeting** - None

**4 Correspondence –** Simon Reynolds requested that Windsurfers be allocate a different membership. It was previously agreed by the committee that two membership categories are available, someone who uses the water or a social member. No special concessions available. This was voted unanimously. AJ to write a reply to Simon**. Action AJ**

**5. Presentation and discussion of Club Development Plan led by Louise Provan**

A working group drawn from the membership was set up to write this plan. Contributions from the membership were through an online survey and focus groups on how to take the club forward. The club is in a great place getting better. How to build on that. The Plan covered 7 broad areas a GC member was elected to

lead each of the following areas.

On water activities SG

Training & Young people JW

Marketing & Communications SG/AJ

Bar & Social DL

Membership & Community AJ/AM

Property & Assets MO/TD

Administration & Finance MB

DF asked that more time to talk through and think about the presentation was needed.

A vote of thanks to Louise and the whole group.

**6 WOFC Update** –TD updated us.Discussions are continuing.

.

**7 Office and membership report** –Presented by MB

For large WYC social evens doorkeepers required. Non-members are not being signed in as visitors which contravenes our license. Allowed numbers to be researched. **Action MB**

A decibel reading meter has been purchased, kept in the bar.

Members event Booking form updated.

Catherine Pearce has requested that she takes the files which are the originals of historical negotiations mostly with WOFC and stores them with the Whitstable Museum archives. GC rejected this until further notice.

Whitstable week accounting will be prepared for next GC meeting.

Finances – Budget items for 20023-24 will be prepared for next GC Meeting.

Reserve of £30K being held for 30.9.23 payments to HMRC for VAT and Corporation tax.

**8 Sailing Report** – Received from SG

**Summer series:** Both Saturday and Sunday series underway and show improved numbers over 2022 which is encouraging as weather has been quite tough.

**Wed evening series**: six races completed with 24 boats competing to date.

**Whitstable week** took place last week - six races from ten were completed with 51 boats taking part, an increase on last year. Thanks to John Boorman for returning from the USA to PRO and to the safety boat crews (especially Jo and Sam), committee boat drivers and recorders that made the racing a success in some challenging conditions. The Wed-Sun format worked well and will be repeated next year.

The social programme was a success with big attendances for the quiz (thanks to Sam for hosting), Commodore’s cocktails/WYC band night and the Summer Ball.

Thanks also to our sponsors, Holidaycottages.co.uk and Sail and Sport (Charlie Campion).

**Upcoming events:**

Town regatta Aug 19/20 – the Tasar fleet has declined an open meeting.

August regatta Aug 26/28

Wanderer nationals/cruise Aug 30/Sept 3 – to be raced alongside club racing.

KSSA regatta Sept 16 (no club racing)

Dart 18 & B14 open meeting Sept 30/Oct 1 (no club racing)

**2024 programme:** Provisional dates:

Easter regatta: Mar 29/Apl 1

Club champs: May 25/27

Merlin/Tasar open: June 22/23

Laserfest: July 6/7

Whitstable week: 31 July/4 Aug (Wed-Sun)

Aug regatta: 24/26 Aug

Drop Town regatta

Other events TBA

**9 Property Report** – **Presented by MO**

Completed:

1. Gas smart meters now installed.
2. Electricity smart meters requested but having difficulties.
3. Maureen doing monthly water meter readings.
4. Cleaner – Helen doing monthly water temperature checks – Legionnaires disease!
5. Kellie doing weekly fire alarm checks.
6. Architects report for Stroud shed commissioned and received.
7. More powerful extractor installed in tenants’ toilet.

Booked for October:

1. New cellar floor - £3600
2. Veranda rotten timbers replacement c. £500
3. Office 2 & 3 window repairs c £500

To be discussed at next GC – priorities for expenditure 2023-24:

1. Stroud shed upgrade:
2. Floor + timber repairs + rear access stairs c £25,000
3. Roof c. £15K = c £40,000

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

Wholesale prices have increased so bar increases expected in September.

Gold bar cards awarded for prize members.

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

RYA inspection took place on 15th July, unfortunately no sailing as too windy, but happy with all our equipment, boat, policies etc.

**Courses**

Lots of cadet course have been taking place over the summer holidays, we have been running for cadets stage 1,2, 3 as well as day sailing, start racing and seamanship and spinnakers training.

Adult level 3 course has also taken place, again windy conditions.

Improver sessions proving very popular still with 3 more sessions still to run this year.

School sessions were very successful again this year with 24 students getting there stage 1. A number were interested about joining as cadets.

One to one sessions have also been taking place on a regular basis for adults and cadet age, which is a great way for someone to see if they are going to like sailing before committing to a two day course.

**Cadet Sessions**

Cadet sessions going well, been combined session recently because of tides. But split into groups for different training depending on abilities. Not quite so many because of holidays.

Cadet Fest next week 14th-18th August. 40 cadets booked in with 11 instructors helping out. Should be a good fun week with a cruise planned for Tuesday.

Cadet family fun day did happen but unfortunately was rather wet and windy, so we only had a few come down and didn’t do the BBQ as the weather was so bad.

Good number of cadets took part in Whitstable week in difficult conditions, but all enjoyed themselves.

**New Instructors**

We have 2 new qualified dinghy instructors that completed their 5 day course at Rockley. Finn and Fergus which strengthens the team having going through our assistant instructor training last year and one other Ryan who is booked for October.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 11th September 7pm at the Club or via Zoom

Meeting closed at 20.20.

**Chairman………………………………………………**