

**Minutes of the General Committee held on Monday 8th April 2024 7pm**

**at WYC and via Zoom**

**Present:** David Figgis DF (Chair), Steve Gray SG, Mike Oliver MO, Robert Govier RG,

Maureen Bush MB, Jo Wyles JW, Dickie Ledger DL, Fef Griffin FG, Amy Moore AM,

Andrew Provan AP, Jane Davidson JD, Philippa Bloice PB.

**Via Zoom:** Terry Davis TD.

**1 Apologies for absence** – None

**2 Welcome new GC Members**

DF gave a vote of thanks to Andrew Jackson that was endorsed by all present.

Three new GC members were warmly welcomed, AM, AP, JD.

**3 Minutes of previous meeting Monday 11th March 2024** - Approved unanimously.

**4 Correspondence –** A letter was received from Richard Maltby thanking the club for the great honour of Lifetime membership.

**5 Matters arising from previous meeting:**

None

**6 Membership re application**

A membership re application was received from an ex-member who had his previous membership terminated in 2023 and his membership fees refunded in full.

The GC agreed unanimously to turn down his re application. **ACTION Office**

**7 WOFC update: TD**

Terry reported ongoing negotiations.

**8 Office report: MB**

The half year financial report to be sent out asap.

Change in Trustee appointment simplified with succession planning discussed.

The updated club rules being proofread and then will be put on the website.

Filming of Whitstable Pearl earning an income for the club, next filming in May.

The architect is completing a report on the Stroud shed liaising with Simon Reynolds.

Property rents reviewed and actioned from 1st April, a new tenant in 2nd office.

A talk at the club on Gamecock Oyster Yawl booked for 19th April. Other talks being worked on.

Whitstable week socials are organised.

All pay reviews completed and training rates agreed.

£15,000 loan repayment made as agreed at last meeting.

Club is back on Annual VAT returns.

**List of new members:** 1 cadet, 2 social families, 1 social individual, 1 water user family.

**9 Sailing Report: SG**

RO training completed and updated RO guide published. Updated SI’s published.

Topper training fully booked/open entries going well.

**Holidaycottages.co.uk:** launch shortly. Banners /advertising to be put up.

**Club safety manual**: requires major update. This was Discussed at the meeting; it needs to be concise built on the safety advice for free sailing and water sports (on the website) with an amendment system for going forwards. **ACTION SG**

**Strategic plan status:** windsurfing training proposal agreed by SG and agency appointed to create new website.

**10 House report: MO**

MO reported the new veranda canopy was on order to be erected on the 26th April volunteers required to help.

Rear door and frame fitted.

Flat 1 new kitchen installed.

**11 Bar report DL:**

DL reported the cellar was up and running and draft beer back on.

**12 Training report: JW:**

Club Safety Boat training went well with 12 members taking part. We were able to get out on the water as well to run through man overboard, laying race marks and recovering a capsize dinghy which was very helpful to those attending.

The Assistant Instructor training was completed on Friday with an on the water session in windy conditions, they prepared and launched the ribs as well as launching and recovery of dinghies in wavy conditions. They are now ready to start helping out with courses and cadet sessions.

Easter Saturday was the cadet set up day, all the boats were turned over onto their trollies and masts put back up where needed, ready for the new season. A number of cadets and parents came down to help.

The first cadet session was on Saturday, unfortunately due to the wind, they were unable to get out on the water, but they did some onshore training and familiarisation of rigging which will help for future weeks.

**Courses**

These have started again with a PB2 course over the weekend, and another one Monday/Tuesday this week for the AI’s.

Westbere Lakes on Tuesday/Wednesday with a Stage 1/2/3 courses all happening over there and back to Whitstable on Thursday to finish off.

**Topper Event**

This is all booked out for the training day on the 27th April with 9 out of 24 being local sailors. The Sunday will be racing for up to 40 boats. Some volunteers still needed for that day. Contact Matt Crockatt if you can help.

Matthew Crockatt has taken over from Ian Massingham as Cadet committee chairman.

**13 Social events team**

The Social events team AM, AP, JD was elected at the AGM to run effective social events. Various ideas were aired to get a feel of what was possible.

Teams target - to put together a social report before the next meeting.

**ACTION AM, AP, JD.**

**14 AOB**

FG organised a buffet for key volunteers that supported racing last year.

DF reiterated that it was important to pay subscriptions on time, sign in guests and make sure a good example is set by the GC.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

**Date of next meeting Monday 13th May 2024**