

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23 March 2019 at 5.00pm at Whitstable Yacht Club**

Present: Richard Bradburn (Commodore), Robert Govier (Rear Commodore – Sailing), Martin Muirhead (Hon Treasurer) and fifty voting members.

The Commodore welcomed Cllr Colin Spooner, Lord Mayor, to the meeting and thanked members for attending.

1 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from 16 members.

**2** **Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 24 March 2018**

The minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed.

**3 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4 Correspondence**

Letter received from RNLI thanking the Club for granting their crew Honorary Membership.

**5 Commodore’s Report**

The report had been circulated with the agenda.

Dick Bradburn said there had been good progress in a difficult year. The Club properties, Nos 1 & 2 had been refurbished and were generating more rent and the ramp had been restored. He thanked Mike Oliver for the former and Kelvin Tolson and Mike for the ramp.

There had been a big increase in social activity which was generating income from the bar. Again, he thanked the bar and social committee.

Training was going from strength to strength thanks to Richard Maltby and his team. This was leading to better links with the RYA and other sailing clubs.

Finances were challenging but thanks to Martin Moorhead and Maureen Bush the position for the future was much sounder. He drew special attention to the massive amount of time Maureen had put in as unpaid Club manager and said the Club owed her a huge debt.

He thanked the Officers of the Club and all the General Committee who had served during his term in office.

**6 Sailing Report**

Robert Govier reported the previous year had been another good season with 87% of scheduled club races sailed. This was an increase on the previous year. Most “event races” had also been sailed. Races had only been lost because of too little or too much wind. In addition Richard Maltby had organized a series of cruises and improver sessions which had proved very popular.

He listed the events that had been hosted in the previous year and outlined the coming program which included the Tornado Nationals. He thanked all the volunteers who made this possible and did so much to raise the profile of the Club.

The Meeting of Sailors had agreed that the events policy should be reviewed. Consideration was being given to hosting championships and open meetings for prestigious classes that had had prior links with the Club.

**7 Finance Report and Presentation of Accounts for year ended 30 September 2018**

The Hon Treasurer’s report had been circulated with the agenda.

Martin Muirhead said it had been a year of repair at substantial financial cost, most notably, to the ramp and to No 2. Net income from the bar was down due to increased costs brought about largely by changes to the minimum wage and pension arrangements. The loss for the year had been £30k. The Club had got through thanks to the significant loan and generous donation of £10k from a member.

The Club needed more members and more income generating activity.

The lease for the beach was due for renewal in August 2020.

The Financial Report and Accounts were unanimously approved.

**10 Appointment of Independent Advisers**

MHA MacIntyre Hudson was appointed Independent Advisers for 2019/20.

**11** **Subscriptions and Fees for Implementation 1 October 2019**

The General Committee had proposed that subscriptions and fees could be increased by up to 5%. This would depend on the impact of Brexit on costs.

The proposal was approved.

**12 Election of Officers and General Committee**

The following, having been duly proposed and seconded, were elected:-

Commodore Kelvin Tolson

Vice Commodore Jo Phillips

Rear Commodore – Sailing Robert Govier

Rear Commodore – House Mike Oliver

Hon Treasurer Martin Muirhead

General Committee Maureen Bush, Terry Davis, Fef Griffin, David Figgis, Tizzie Lambert, Richard Ledger, Richard Maltby & Ian Wild

**13 Election of Honorary Members**

The following were elected: the Lord Mayor of Canterbury, Mike Wier (Harbour Master), Glynn Hall-Edwards (Senior Port Controller), Neill Austen (Whitstable Sea Scout Leader), Mike Judge (Hon Secretary of the RNLI) and nominated RNLI members. Also, individually, Gavin Barr, Ian Embry, Larry Lamberton MBE, Valerie Webster and Margaret Winn. In addition, Wendy Fitzpatrick and John Cooper were elected.

15 **Any Other Business**

The rostering of volunteers, and in particular windsurfing members, for voluntary duties was discussed.

There was a vote of thanks to Dick Bradburn as retiring Commodore and an exchange of burgees with the incoming Commodore, Kelvin Tolson.

The meeting closed at 5.55pm.

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Chairman