

**Notes of the General Committee held on 9 August 2021 at 5.30pm via Zoom**

Present: Jo Phillips (Chair), Maureen Bush, Terry Davis, David Figgis, Robert Govier, Fef Griffin, Richard Maltby, Martin Muirhead, Mike Oliver & Ian Wild

**1** **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Richard Ledger & Kelvin Tolson.

**2 Minutes of Last Meeting held on 12 July 2021**

The Minutes were agreed as a correct record.

**3 Commodore’s Email**

It was noted that a significant number of the present General Committee would not be seeking re-election at the AGM. Committee members were asked to give thought as to who would be good successors and to notify the Commodore. Maureen Bush had identified areas of responsibility where people need to take ownership.

**4 WOFC**

Ian Wild drew attention to a number of issues that had arisen from the Public Inquiry

that had not been highlighted in his written reports.

A Site Visit was scheduled for the coming Thursday. Friday was the deadline for any final correspondence. The Inspector would then formally close the Inquiry in writing.

The decision from the Magistrates Court on the Forge license was due on 24 August 2021.

Jo Phillips proposed a formal vote of thanks on behalf of the General Committee to Ian for the work he had put in on behalf of the Club at the Public Inquiry.

**5 Covid 19 Update**

The Club was returning to normal. Members would be encouraged to act sensibly within the current guidance.

**6 Office & Membership Report**

Maureen Bush had circulated a written report. She drew attention to the success of the recent Try Sailing Day and the number of membership applications this had generated. Everyone who had contributed to its success was thanked. There was a need to find someone to take responsibility for ensuring all the new social members were welcomed into the Club.

Ian confirmed there had been no progress on the County Court Claim and a preliminary hearing, via telephone, was still scheduled for October.

Maureen had written to the visitor who had caused an incident in the bar and advised him he would no longer be welcome in the Club.

**7 Finance**

Martin Muirhead had produced a comprehensive report and detailed figures for the nine months to the end of June.

It was agreed to confine the discussion to deciding what increase in fees and subscriptions should be introduced from 1st October 2021 as this was urgent. Individual meetings would be arranged to review the different cost centers and this would lead into a special budget meeting outside the General Committee. Martin would be involved throughout.

After a wide ranging discussion it was agreed to go for a 4½% increase in subscriptions and fees.

**8 Sailing Issues**

Robert had circulated a written report. Although the weather had been difficult, Whitstable Week had gone well with a good attendance at both the sailing and social events.

The “Squall Incident” had been thoroughly investigated and reports sent to the appropriate organizations. The Club had coped well and lessons learnt were being implemented. It had highlighted the problem of people not turning up for their duties. It was agreed a summary should be sent to the WOFC. Robert was thanked.

Members should be reminded to keep the barrier from the harbor to the beach closed.

**9 House Issues**

House issues had been covered in the Office Report.

**9 Bar, Catering and Social Issues**

Dickie Ledger had sent a written report.

There was some confusion over bar opening times. Maureen would provide a Notice.

**10 Training Issues**

The RYA Inspection had gone well and there was further discussion on the success of the Discover Sailing Day. Richard Maltby drew attention to the exponential growth in his responsibilities since taking over as Principal. Richard was thanked again and the fact the cadet programme was going from strength to strength was noted.

**11 Date of Next Meeting**

This would be on Monday 20 September 2021 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room and via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 6.55pm