

**Notes of the General Committee held on 13 January 2020 at 7.30pm at Whitstable Yacht Club**

Present: Kelvin Tolson (Chairman), Maureen Bush, David Figgis, Robert Govier, Fef Griffin, Richard Ledger, Richard Maltby, Mike Oliver & Ian Wild

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

Apologies were received from Terry Davis, Elizabeth Lambert, Martin Muirhead & Jo Phillips.

**2 Commodore’s Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Kelvin welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished them a happy new year.

**3** **Minutes of Previous Meetings held on 11 November and 9 December2019**

The Minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed.

**4 Matters Arising**

**4.1 Item 4.2 - Flags**

Ian Wild said he had registered with the Heritage Fund but had yet to apply for a grant. Some preparatory work was needed and was in hand.

Catherine Pierce had been asked to provide further details on her proposal to get the Club’s photos and pictures scanned at the museum and any likely cost.

**5 Land & Property**

**5.1 WOFC**

Terry Davis had indicated it was time to serve notice on the WOFC to renew the beach lease. Kelvin said the sub-group dealing with the Public Inquiry had met and he reported on action taken

**6 Correspondence**

**6.1 Safeguarding Issues**

Ian reported that the member who had made allegations, dealt with at the August GC, had again raised them. This was being dealt with.

Maureen said that the Club’s GDPR policy had been updated.

**7 Office & Membership Report**

**7.1 Trustees**

Maureen gave the background to the issues relating to the change of Trustees and the amount of work this had entailed. A resolution was passed to change the signatories to the bank mandate.

**7.2 Club Manager – Job Descriptions**

Maureen had broken down the Club Manager role into three functions and the job descriptions had been circulated. Discussion would be held over to a future meeting.

**7.3 New Members and Resignations**

The lists of members who had joined in November and December were approved. The list of resignations was noted. A list of members whose subscriptions were outstanding was also noted.

**7.4 Quarterly Membership Report**

The report on membership numbers to December 2019 had been circulated. Ian pointed out that the changes introduced at the last update of the membership structure five years ago had now worked through. Raising senior membership to the state retirement age accounted for the decline in senior membership.

**8 Finance**

Martin had circulated the draft accounts to September 2019 which should be taken as final. The Club was still in a tight cash flow position. Martin had also circulated the management figures to end of December with his comments. Income was down on the previous year.

**9 “3 Year Plan – Development”**

Kelvin said that Paul Kelly and Louise Proven, both senior marketing executives, had volunteered to look at the development of the sailing and social side with a view to growing membership. Maureen suggested that Paul Cook should be contacted as he had carried out an extensive review some years ago. A meeting was likely to be held towards the end of February.

**10 Sub Committee Reports**

**10.1 Sailing Committee**

. Robert Govier said the last race had been on the 15th December though there had been a good turnout for informal racing on New Year’s Eve.

The sailing programme would go to press by end of February.

It was noted that Ruth Oliver would be employed to check sailing equipment each Monday during the sailing season.

Martin had asked for a breakdown of the income and expenditure relating to sailing for the coming season.

**10.2 House Committee**

Mike Oliver had circulated a written House report. It was likely the cost of repairing the race hut may be higher.

A project to restructure the bar would be included in the Development Plan.

A schedule of rental income had also been circulated which showed a significant increase with the new offices. The Club was also being used more during the week by outside bodies.

**10.3 Bar, Catering and Social Committee**

Dickie Ledger said it had been a quiet new year. The new bar supervisor was settling in. There would be a Burns Night Supper and some social events around the rugby.

**10.4 Training**

Richard had circulated the agreement with Topper and stressed the need for the Club to build up its own fleet of boats. The Club would represent Topper at the Harbour Boat Show.

Consideration was being given to extending DBS checks to some parent helpers as well as senior instructing staff. He had another possible Child Protection Officer in mind.

The training programme for the coming season was almost ready.
He would be attending the RYA’s Principals Conference.

**11 Any Other Business**

**11.1 Harbour Boat Show**

Kelvin reported he was now on the committee. It was agreed that an incentive of reduced membership or training cost for people signing up on the day should be on offer.

**11.2 February Meeting**

Ian pointed out that a decision regarding any increase in subscriptions and fees would have to be taken at the next meeting ahead of the AGM. To be discussed at the meeting with Martin.

**12 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be at 7.30 pm Monday 10 February 2020

The meeting closed at 21.12 hrs.