

**Minutes of the General Committee held on Monday 11th November 2024 7pm at WYC and via Zoom**

Present: David Figgis DF (Chair), Mike Oliver MO, Maureen Bush MB, Jo Wyles JW,

Dickie Ledger DL, Andrew Provan AP, Steve Gray SG, Fef Griffin FG, Philippa Bloice PB.

Via Zoom: Terry Davis TD.

1 **Apologies for absence** Amy Moore AM, Robert Govier RG, Fef Griffin FG.

**2 Minutes of previous meeting Monday 14th October 2024** Approved unanimously.

**3 Correspondence**

None

**4 Matters arising from previous meeting:**

Club open day 2025 – To stay on matters arising. Date set 21st June. SG and AP to put a suggested timetable together for next meeting. **ACTION SG, AP**

Fire drill training – DL to do individual staff training so staff become familiar with procedure. **ACTION DL**

A guide to leaving a gift to WYC in your will – MB to write guide and put out to members in March. **ACTION MB** Use of yacht/platform while Slotty is copper coated – Colin Smith has offered his launch while this is completed **COMPLETED**

Club 125 year anniversary planning 2027 – Work in progress SG and AP. Possibility of organising a Retro Olympics. **ACTION SG, AP**

WYC Ball – Although a popular event last year ticket sales have not reached the 100 required to break even.

**5 WOFC update: TD**

Terry reported ongoing negotiations.

**6 Office reports: MB**

Accounts/Finance, HR matters, Budget Items, other matters received.

National Insurance and wage increase after the Budget are not dramatic for the club.

Accountant working on end of year figures to be completed this month.

A member has renewed his membership, he is on restrictions that remain in place. A copy of the restrictions to be resent to the member.

**List of new members received** – 1 x social individual, 1 x Social Family.

**7 Sailing Report: SG**

**2024 programme:**

**Autumn series completed:** 16/17 races completed.

AiH won by Joe Barton from 36 starters (29 in 2023)

Laser won by Harry Newton from 34 starters (31 in 2023)

**Winter series:** 2/3 races completed - turnouts already exceed 2023!

**Year to date**: Turnouts up 8% (@693) with winter series ongoing – best year since 2018 (at least). YTD AiH turnouts up 27% (@249), Laser turnouts up 12% (@213) for series racing only.

**New website:** launch December – training ongoing November.

URL - Uniform Resource Locators - web addresses guiding you to specific internet pages to be sent out to GC members for testing prior to website launch. **ACTION SG**

Objectives: modern look, simple navigation, better shop functionality, same or better content, works on all devices, maintain, or improve traffic

**2025 programme**:

**Open events**:

Solo training/ Spring Champs April 26/27

Topper training/SE travellers May 10-11

Tasar nationals June 13-15

Wanderer nationals July 28-29 with club racing

**Club events:**

Club Championships May 24-26

Open day/RNLI pursuit race June 21

Laserfest July 12-13

Whitstable week Aug 6-10 (Harbour Day Aug 9)

Town regatta Aug 23-25

Slotty booked for Coppercoat renewal May 2025

Year on year sailing series numbers rising.

Sailing Programme for 2025 - SG work in progress.

Printed programme for 2025 - FG, SG working on together.

**8 House report: MO**

External carpentry - Railing and bin store fence and 1st floor office window completed.

  Roof works to No 1 and 2 ordered with Wood Roofing awaiting scaffold - licence from C.C.C.

Window repairs no 1 & 2, awaiting parts on order.

**9 Bar report: DL**

Meeting with AP monthly to liaise with social events.

Cellar area to be concreted underneath beer keg area.

**10 Training report: JW**

Cadet season has now finished, we had the clear up day for boats on 2nd November which allowed us to turn all the boats and take all equipment back up to the classroom to be sorted out.

Cadet laying up supper planned for 23rd November at the club, bring and share for up to 40 people with 37 booked so far.

Russ from Toppers came down on 1st November to service all our Toppers and Topaz ready for next year. We have 10 sound Topper hulls and 5 Topaz ready, just need to get some sail repairs done. Also checked over several cadet own boats ready for next year.

We had 11 young people take part in the course at Westbere during half term, windy on the first day, but able to get out on the lake, a lack of wind on the second day and back to Whitstable for tidal experience on day 3.

Ruth and I have been working on dates for next years courses which will start at Easter.

We are attending an RYA L&SE meeting on Tuesday 12th November at Docklands Sailing Centre.

**10 Social events team report AP**

The Winter Talks have proved to be popular, especially with the non-sailing social members. We have seen some fresh faces at the club, who expressed enthusiasm for the talks, and requested more. With that in mind, we have secured an additional talk for “Marsh Harriers, Owls and other Wildlife at Emley Nature Reserve, Sheppey" – Gareth, Director on Friday 7th Feb 2025.

The Music Club gig on Sat 02Nov was a great success. It was a more laid-back event with “Unplugged” theme with cabaret tables and pushing the wine list. The bar takings were up (£500 profit), and as Magda pointed out, selling wine by the bottle is a lot easier for the bar staff, compared to pouring the equivalent of 4 pints! We will repeat this format for the next Music Club gig (29Mar2025) as well as for the NYE gig with the “Dead Pelicans” - at least for the first set.

Next big event is November Ball at Marine Hotel – Fri 22 Nov – still some tickets for sale. (MB/PB)

We have started monthly meetings with bar & social to co-ordinate future events and compare actual bar takings with projections for events. This will help in planning events and ensure continued profitability.

See you all for the next talk “Flying Dutchman at WYC” – 14Nov2024 @ 7:30pm.

**AOB**

Set up of a new Maintenance group – Establish a small maintenance team to carry out jobs within the club. **ACTION MO**

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

Date of next meeting Monday 9th December 2024