

**Minutes of the General Committee held on Monday 14th July 2025**

**7pm at WYC and via Zoom**

Present: David Figgis DF (Chair), Mike Oliver MO, Maureen Bush MB, Andrew Provan AP,

Dickie Ledger DL, Steve Gray SG, Fef Griffin FG, Jo Wyles JW, Philippa Bloice PB.

Via Zoom: Terry Davis TD.

**1** **Apologies for absence** – None

**2 Minutes of previous meeting Monday 9th June 2025** Approved unanimously.

**3 Correspondence –**

**a**. Richard Maltby read WOFC beach lease in the office one document was missing, It was agreed it could be sent to him confidentially.

**b.** Ruth Oliver handed in her resignation with a three month notice period. A Huge thanks to Ruth for all her work over the last 8 years.

**4 Matters arising from previous meeting:**

1. WYC 125-year Anniversary event in 2027

Date set week commencing August 16th. Draft plan in place to focus on one 5-day period Wednesday – Sunday. To replace Whitstable Week with different events each weekday followed by a regatta Sat/Sun to include visiting fleets to race alongside. Multiple starts/courses to suit all including cats, cadet/improvers/transition to racing. A Dinner/black tie event on Saturday night. Sponsorship sought for different parts of the event. ACTION SG/AP

1. Social media subgroup priorities/objectives

SG is following various clubs to see how they work. GC should steer this group to have control. A small team needed to establish and administrate. To include a programme diary**,** create templates, manageFacebook sites and use of other platforms. Ayhan Betez drone sailing videos very good but need to be more concise. ACTION SG

1. Stroud Shed update

Agreed to accept a quote of £10,500 to remove asbestos roof and replace. Book in for mid-September. ACTION MB/MO

d. Membership fees for financial year 1.10.25 – 30.9-26

3 % increase on general membership

5% on social membership

No increase on facilities fees Agreed unanimously

e. HMRC miscoding of WYC VAT

Confirmation received we are back on annual returns.

f. Risk assessments and COSH reports – Outstanding C/F with MB/MO

g. Staff contracts reviewed with Government changes – Waiting for changes to employment rights going through parliament.

h. Fire procedures review – Outstanding C/F with MB/MO/Matthew Young

**5 Office reports: MB**

Office, Accounts/Finance, HR matters, other matters received.

**General report**

1. Car parking on ramp – allowed for deliveries/collecting boats and subcontractors working in club. Alternate parking for Keith if fishermen’s parking full is West Quay compound – agreed with Harbour master. Member’s complaint dealt with.
2. Rubbish collection – new bins for tins and plastic bottles installed in bar and Keiths to be put in designated bins collection area.
3. New info board in hallway for emergency contacts and utilities switch off points – staff training outstanding.
4. Filming enquiry ongoing – meeting Production Controller September to discuss.
5. Diary management busy as several groups use the club for their meetings.
6. Bar card management review ongoing particularly for members who have left the club with balances still on their card.
7. Web income – SG has analysed v inputs and just a few queries left to resolve.
8. Web training – ongoing for Sally and myself from SG.

**Membership report**

Sailing members down - Discover Sailing event next year to promote membership, along with face-to-face interaction with local clubs, advertising banner on decking, social media and transition to racing advertising. ACTION SG/JW

**Accounts**

Kept very tight, bar profit very good. Finance reserve funds running smoothly.

**New Members**

**1** x Social individual, 3 x Social Family’s, 1 x Water user individual.

**6 Sailing Report: SG**

**Recent events/WYC racing:**

Tasar nationals completed – 24 boats, great event!

Wanderer/Wayfarers completed – 18 boats, worked well with club racing.

Summer series racing commenced – some low turnouts, especially Lasers

**Upcoming events**:

Laserfest July 12-13 30+ entries

Whitstable week Aug 6-10 Entry live – 5 entries

KSSA training Oct 4 On KSSA website

Concerns about Laser turn out this season being very low.

Whitstable Week information on website, email going out to all members.

**7 House report: MO**

Kitchen extraction ventilation system needs attention. Thank you to Peter King for repairing the sink water supply /drainage in the training room.

**8 Bar report: DL**

Staffing issues to be resolved.

**9 Social events report: AP**

List of social events planned to end of March 2026 has been updated. This includes 6 Winter Talks on a range of topics from Smuggling, Bob Dylan, Art & Absinthe, Thames Barges, Swale and Wildlife.

Summer Acoustic gigs on the deck following afternoon racing have been rearranged:

* **Sat 23rd July** – Jon D, Rachel and Christian -5pm to 6pm – no food – before Freewheelers party who are having their own BBQ.
* **Sat 16th Aug** - Dave Sansom, PK and Tracy 5:30pm to 7:30pm - Food served from 6pm - details to follow
* **Sat 23rd Aug 2025** - Jeremy Scott - 5:30pm to 7:30pm - Food served from 6pm - details to follow - Make a Bank Holiday weekend of it, with Club Championship as well.
* **Sat 30th Aug 2025** - John Gibbons and Simon Buck - 5:30pm to 7:30pm - Food served from 6pm - details to follow.

Still looking for a good food solution for this – last Paella was a bit disappointing, so will investigate alternative suppliers for the Aug gigs.

Whitstable Week socials have all been arranged – thank you to Maureen, Tizzie,

Phil & Ian, Mike O and others.

* **Weds 6th Aug** – Quiz Night
* **Thurs 7th Aug** – Music Club Gig
* **Fri 8th Aug** – Commodore Cocktails
* **Sat 9th Aug** – Band – “Total Recall”

**10 Training report: JW**

In the last 4 weeks there has been a Level 1, 2 and 3 adult courses held. Good number on the level 1 but only 2 booked for Level 2 & 3. All went well with several saying they would come again or possibly join the club.

PB2 also held and perfect calm conditions both days.

Dinghy Instructor Pre assessment last week, which two of our Assistant Instructors passed, unfortunately the DI course planned for WYC had to be cancelled as not enough people, but they have got booked on a course at Rockley later in the summer.

Last session this week for our schools group, they have all done well with some windy weeks, but should all get there stage 1.

Cadets have been going well with some good numbers, up to 30 out at a time. The bookings are now open for Cadetfest in August for those that have attended at least 6 cadet sessions.

Several one-to-one sessions have taken place to give people a chance to see if they like sailing and want to go onto do a course.

Improvers and Transition to racing going well, with a number TTR people now regularly taking part in club racing and Laserfest last weekend.

Corporate afternoon of sailing held on Monday 14th, for 12 adults as part of their team building day.

In two weeks’ time the youth courses start when the schools all finish. We have all stages happening from 1 to 4 as well as spinnakers and day sailing, so going to be a busy summer as usual.

**11. AOB:**

John Cooper was thrilled to be asked if he would be President of WYC but declined the invitation due to personal reasons. If he changes his mind, we will welcome him.

WYC supplied Tankerton Rotary Club with a dead mirror dingy, requested to plant flowers in.

Rebuilding Sea Defences – No information available at all.

The meeting closed at 20.15

Date of next meeting Monday 11th August