

**Minutes of the General Committee held on Monday 11th August 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, , Philippa Bloice PB.

**Via Zoom:** Terry Davis TD, Jo Wyles JW

**1 Apologies for absence:** Philippa Bloice PB.

**2 Minutes of previous meeting Monday 14th July 2025:** Approved unanimously.

**3 Correspondence:**

RYA verbal info received by DF is that risk assessments are being considered pre any racing. Action: MB to contact RYA to ask for more information and relay to DF/SG/MO. Action: MB

**4 Matters arising from previous meeting:**

1. WYC 125-year Anniversary event in 2027

Date set week commencing August 16th. Flying Dutchman, Tornadoes, windsurfers contacted re sailing events. Social events being discussed. Draft plan in place to focus on one 5-day period Wednesday – Sunday. Sponsorship sought for different parts of the event. Task force required – DF/SG/AP + 2 others Action: SG/AP

1. Social media subgroup priorities/objectives

A small team will be established during August to administrate. To include a programme diary**,** create templates, manageFacebook sites and use of other platforms. Action: SG

1. Stroud Shed roof replacement

Booked for Oct 6-8th. Simon Reynolds will clear top of shed before 6th. Action: MB/MO

**5 Office reports: MB**

**General report**:

Concern raised re no vetting of new members. MB to check club rules, membership form and discuss with Sailing Secretary. All agreed that membership should be approved by GC. Action: MB

**Finances:**

1. Bar card management review for members who have left the club with balances still on their card. These will be cleared and treated as a donation. Action: DL/MB
2. Web income – SG has analysed v cc receipts, a few queries left to resolve. Action:MB
3. Member loans to WYC – still £16k.

**New Members:** 5 Water users and 3 Social.

**6 Sailing Report: SG**

**Recent events/WYC racing:**

Summer series racing commenced – turnouts down from 2024 for AiH (by 30%) and Lasers (by 50%). Wed evening series – turnouts same as 2024

Laserfest July 12-13 34 entries, 6 from visiting clubs

Whitstable week Aug 6-10 61 entries, 5 from visiting clubs

**Upcoming events:**

Club championships Aug 23-25

KSSA training Oct 4 On KSSA website

2026 events:

Topper training/open Apl 18/19 Provisional

Town regatta May 2-4

Merlin/Tasar open May 30/31 Confirmed

Laserfest Jun 27/28 Confirmed

Whitstable week July 29-Aug 2 Confirmed

Wanderer open Aug 15/16 Confirmed

Club Championships Aug 29-31

Dart 18/B14 open Sep 26/27 Confirmed

**Full 2026 programme WIP**

**7 House report: MO**

a) Veranda and tea bar steps rotten – to be taped off and dangerous. Carpenter quote agreed. Date for works awaited. Action: MO

b) Cycle rack usage – those using buildings to lock up to-please do not. Action: MB

**8 Bar report: DL**

a) Replacement Bar Manager required Action: DG/AP

b) Job description necessary Action: DL/MB

c) Bar cards blacklisted as members have left – balances left on cards to be considered as a donation- must be done by Sept 30th financial year end. Card suppliers working on a solution -potential cost £25 per month. Action: DL/MB

d) Bar staff thanked -in particular Magda - for keeping bar working so well with staff shortages and new staff under training.

e) WW sales less product and staff costs c. £2,000 profit.

**9 Social events report: AP**

It was agreed that 120 is the maximum number of people at any event.

A successful Whitstable Week with some great social events that were well attended. Thank you to Phil Emery (Quiz), Tizzie (cocktails) and Mike for organising “Total Recall” band, plus all of the musicians for Thursday and the bar staff for the whole week.

Looking forward to the rest of the year, we continue our Summer Saturdays with Acoustic Sessions on the deck as follows:

**Sat 16th Aug** – Patio Dave and April Blood 5pm to 7pm – No food, so bring your own or takeaway.

**Sat 23rd Aug 2025** - Jeremy Scott - 5:30pm to 7:30pm – Club Championships and Bank Holiday weekend. Buffet booked by Sue Carver who did Tasar Nationals, which was very good. Need to get online booking started for that at £12 a head. Sue is charging us £10, so that will allow for VAT. Plus we can reclaim some of the VAT from her ingredients and materials.

**Sat 30th Aug 2025** - John Gibbons and Simon Buck - 5:30pm to 7:30pm – No food

**Social events planned to end of March 2026** updated. Includes six Winter Talks on a range of topics from Smuggling, Bob Dylan, Art & Absinthe, Thames Barges, Swale and Wildlife.

In addition, there are some other new social events also pencilled in.

**2025 Sat 29th Nov** 7pm to 10:30pm Music Club Gig - Unplugged Cabaret style evening

**2025 Sat 6th Dec** - 7pm to 11pm Laser and FD Xmas party - 40 people sit down dinner and DJ – being organised by PK & AP.

**2025 Weds 31st Dec** - NYE Party - 120 people, £15 a head, band TBA.

**2026 Sat 7th Mar** - 7pm to 10:30pm "Native and New" - Original Showcase of artwork and performance from members.

**10 Training report: JW**

**Courses:** Start of a busy summer of courses, since the last meeting there have been the following courses:

RYA Youth Stage ½, RYA Youth Stage 1/2/3, RYA Youth stage 1 & 4

RYA Adult Level 1, RYA start Racing / Using Spinnakers

Several one-to-one sessions have taken place, giving people an introduction to sailing.

A number of improvers/ TTR have taken part in racing and some did race during Whitstable Week.

CadetFest this week includes a cruise to Sheppey and ends with a cadet social Friday night.

Although bookings were slow to start there has been some late bookings even up to the day before the course, which is good but not always easy to staff.

**New Training Manager** - to replace Ruth a job specification has been sent to RYA London and SE area. KSSA and EKYA have sent to local clubs to see if any suitable candidates as well as on our social media and LinkedIn. We have put a closing date of 18th August 2025.

**Other**: training courses for 2026 to be reviewed following analysis of 2024/2025 attendances. Action: JW/SG

**11 AOB:** None. The meeting closed at 20.10. **Next meeting Monday 8th September 7pm**