



Minutes of a meeting of the Sailing Committee on Monday 20 April 2026 at 7pm

Attendance

Role	Name	Attendance
Rear Commodore Sailing	Steve Gray	Yes
Club Manager	Anthony Middleton	Yes
Commodore	David Figgis	No
Training Principal	Jo Wyles	Yes
Chief Instructor	Katie Berrington	Yes
Race Recorder Coordinator	Rachelle Hockey	No
Support Boat Team Representative	Matt Young	Yes
Laser Class Captain	Paul Kelly (PK)	Yes
Tasar Class Captain	Liz North	Yes
Merlin Rocket Class Captain	Jon Bloice	Yes
General Handicap Fleet Captain	Vacant	
Small Catamaran Fleet Captain	Glenn Cook	Apols
Big Catamaran/ Asymmetric Fleet Captain	Peter King	Yes
Cruisers Fleet Captain	Jeremy Scott	Apols
Cadet Fleet Captain	Niall Martin	Teams
Windsurfing Fleet Representative	Simon Reynolds	Yes
Beachmaster	Georgios Rafeletos	Yes

Actions & decisions

Minutes of the March meeting: approved.

NM mentioned success of WYC members Jack Taylor and Ralph Hadley at Topper event at Rutland on weekend of 11 & 12 March.

SG. Checking on storage on Cadet area of boat storage – boats sailing most often should have best spot.

Action Katy/Jo

Equipment Status

All operational except PG

New Members

SAGE REF		NAME	MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	BOAT/BOARD/KAYAK	REASON FOR JOINING
WEAT01		Charles Weatheritt	Young Person	Laser	Joined by Katy W
NEWT09		Harry Newton	Water Individual	Laser	Rejoining
PAYN02		Cliff Payne + James 18 Joshua 15 Tommjo 12	Water Individual – was Social		All doing courses, hopefully Cadets
LOVE04		Roy Lovelidge	Water Individual	Laser	Return after year away
PADG01		Nigel Padgham	Water Individual		Return after year away
AXFO01		Michelle Axford + Isabella 10 Araminta 9	Social Individual		Already done courses, will do cadets
BUCK06		Simon Bucknall + Wildfred 15 James 18	Water Family		Courses, cadets, improvers.

2026 Programme

Topper SE traveller	April 18/19	Complete	Niall & Steve
Town regatta	May 2-4	NoR online/camping open to book	Steve

Merlin Rocket/ Tasar open	May 30/31	NoR/SI's published/booking open	Jon, Zanna, Tom & Steve
Discover sailing	June 14	Complete RYA listing	Jo, Katie & Anthony
Laserfest	Jun 27/28	NoR/SI's WIP/booking open	PK, Tom & Steve
Whitstable week	July 29-Aug 2	NoR/SI's WIP/socials published/booking open	Steve
Wanderers/Wayfarers	Aug 15/16	NoR/socials/booking open	Richard & Steve
Club Championships	Aug 29-31	NoR/socials WIP	Mark Fagg & Steve
Dart 18 & B14 open	Sep 26/27	NoR/SI's/socials WIP	Glenn, Simon H, Tom & Steve

Topper Event: NM – Went very well. 29 entrants Saturday, 27 Sunday. 11 WYC entrants with significant number from Cadet programme. WYC 1st in 5.3 – Joe Barton. A few issues about bad manners among some entrants.

Town Regatta. SG – Visitors encouraged with no entrance fee for races and camping for six on West Quay available. (subsequent note: Camping subject to completion of new fencing)

Merlin: JB - Three bookings at present, though expect more nearer the time. Tasars will promote more over coming weeks. Will set provisional date for 2027 and make decision based on success of this year's event.

125 year anniversary – 2027 17-22 Aug 2027.

Sailing:

Tornado and FD classes contacted. Also contacted by Danish owner of 50-year-old FD who would like to participate. Andrew Proven in contact.

Classic & vintage racing dinghy association interested

5 day regatta for visitors and club boats – two races per day.

Multiple starts/courses to suit all including cats and cadet/improvers/TTR

Social:

Programme taking shape

Sponsorship:

Strategy agreed

Training & Cadets

Inspection for Westbere went well, will a few bits of paperwork required. Also met with Head of Sailing at Kings School regarding use of their boats, very happy for the arrangements to continue, but we are also going to be using their safety boats at Westbere in the future.

First cadet course of the year last week at Westbere. Very lucky with the warm weather, all went well and 2 new cadets from the course have joined the club.

First powerboat course running on 16/17th April for our Assistant instructors, all very keen, so running a 2 boat course with 6 in total.

Weekend of 18/19th April is the LSE Topper Open Training and Racing weekend. So far we have 27 boats booked for the Saturday training, with 9 from Whitstable taking part and then racing on the Sunday.

Easter Saturday was our Cadet set up day, with a reasonable number of cadets and parents coming along to help turn the boats and rig where necessary.

First Cadet session of the year is Friday 24th April and first improver session is Sunday 26th April.

Class comments

LN – working on music for Merlin/Taser event

NM – Cadets – working on Topper event for next year, ITCA very keen.

SR - remedial work on Stroud waterproofing complete. Thanks to JB who organised and AM who helped.

Other matters

Discover Sailing 14 June 2026. JW, KB & AM meeting to start planning.

ILCA training. NM proposal for May 25/26 for current Topper sailors moving to Lasers. Problem with tides on proposed dates limiting sailing time. Will look at other dates.

NM – Boat recycling issue raised. Will be able to act at end of June earliest due to timeline for boats with disposal notices.

West Quay. Work to install permanent fencing to start April 28 or 29. Heras Fencing will be removed. **Action: AM**

SR – questioned what water users should expect ref safety boats coming to their aid irrespective of whether participating in racing. Review and republish safety guidance as required. **Action: SG & AM**

Dinghy Cruising – The meeting noted successful completion of first cruise of the year.

Date of next meeting: Monday 18 May 2026

Steve Gray
21 April 2026