



Minutes of the General Committee held on Monday 10th August 2026 7pm at WYC

Present: David Figgis DF (Chair), Maureen Bush MB, Philippa Bloice PB, Matthew Crockatt MC, Mike Oliver MO, Fef Griffin FG, Steve Gray SG, Andrew Provan AP, Anthony Middleton AM, Jo Wyles JW.

Zoom: Terry Davis TD.

- 1 Apologies for absence - None**
- 2 Minutes of previous meeting** – Monday 6th July 2026 approved unanimously.
- 3 Correspondence –**
 1. Contact from the Whitstable Twinning Association about a visiting German Yachts man and possibly give a talk at the club. DF Replied **AP/AM to follow up**
 2. Subscriptions – Senior concession eligibility tied to government retirement age plus a ten-year membership requirement checked on Sage. Agreed to check subs renewal wording. **ACTION SG**
- 4 Matters arising from previous meeting**
 - a. WYC 125-year Anniversary event in August 2027.
Agreed to pick up momentum with this event. Event now listed on the website. **ACTION SG/AP**
 - b. No 1 Sea Wall
Initiated 1st phase of repairs with potential recharges to tenants. Drone footage of roof producing detailed roof drawings before contractor work. MB reminded all that any repair over £2.500 required 2 quotes and if appointed to a club member it must be declared in the club accounts. 2nd phase - No 4-bathroom replacement requires another quote. Plan to get on with both asap. **ACTION AM/MO**
 - c. The Forge planning application
Club will adopt a neutral position while monitoring determination timelines.
 - d. Beach safety
Safety signs erected on beach and on ramp.

Transit pole failure as top fixing failed. Spare brackets available, Peter King looking at it tomorrow.

DF proposed to get the pole reinstated asap then take in down for the winter and repaint it.

5 Office report: AM

- No 1. Some work to go ahead in September, low cost and work to be carried out at cost of tenant. Drone footage to be examined then by builder.
- No 4. Quote for bathroom enclosed. More than expected, will try to get new quote asap. Recommendations welcome. Peter King says quote is in expected ballpark.
- Office 3 now let with increase of rent across both that and office 4. Keith has vacated his office and am now marketing it.
- Work with Steve and Liam going well for online database and membership accounts on website. Expected to launch for renewals Oct 1.
- Waiting to hear from Whitstable school about their course next year.
- Boat auction complete, first boats moved out.

Dispose of unsold boats – interest in most vessels, at this stage get whatever we can if boats are removed.

Finance report: MB

Club is close to breaking even with contingency options.

Transfer of payroll and related tasks to AM by end September.

Request to procure a new office computer and complete data transfers by September liaising with Robert Govier.

Volunteer recruitment and role clarity needed – We need More club members involved. Email all club members with an online link and role description for volunteer tasks. This link would also be included with subscription renewal communications.

ACTION AP

New Members: AM

1 x Water User Individual, 2x Water user family, 2x Social Family, 4 x Social individuals

1 x Water overseas family, 2x Water overseas individual, 1 x Water overseas YP

3 X Water user YP

Whitstable Ladies Social Club visiting to find out more about our club. Good recruitment opportunity, offer membership from now till next September.

6 Sailing Report: SG

WYC racing:

Summer early series - Sat all 8 races completed, Sun 3/5 completed

Sat: numbers similar to 2025 - Sun: numbers way down on 2025 levels

Dawes trophy – very windy and shifty, won by Tony Dod & Ali Nicolson's Dart

Whitstable week – great weather, great racing & great socials – 59 starters just short of last year, won by Rick and Sarah Perkins. Many thanks to all volunteers.

Whitstable week band on Saturday night was a great success, will hire again. Looking to appoint a dedicated social coordinator for the week to harmonize sailing, music, and event logistics.

ACTION AP

WYC racing: upcoming dates:

Wanderer nationals/Wayfarer Southernns – Aug 15/16

Club championships – Aug 29-31

2027 dates:

Easter	Mar 26-29	HW 15.07-17.48
Toppers	Apl 3/4	HW 11.33/12.16
Spring BH	May 3	HW 09.38-11.26
Whit BH	May 31	HW 07.15-09.33
Merlin/Tasar	Jun 4-6	HW 13.49/14.35
LaserFest	Jly 3/4	HW 12.44/13.36
125	Aug 18-22	HW 14.18-16.25
Aug BH	Aug 30	HW 09.58-12.19

Slotty:

Thanks to Rob Harvey for joining roster but remains short of drivers as Colin Smith now back on Greta.

Boat parking:

Auction completed, remaining boats to be disposed of.

7 House Report: verbal MO

Properties 1 and 4 - Agree a list with AM for spending.

8 Bar Report: MC

July was a good month at the bar with sales and profits (before costs) greater than 2025.

Sales increased by 11% and gross profit by 12% year on year. In comparison to last year top-level figures were as follows:

- Magda and all the Bar staff should be credited with a lot of hard work through a series of events for Whitstable week. Extract and send a thank you to her.

ACTION AM

- There were also other events, such as private parties, that generated good sales and required a lot of hard work to support.
- A bar staff meeting is required but has still not been arranged because of difficulties getting a date that suits all parties. I would appreciate some assistance in arranging this.

Year	Sales value	Profit	GP %
2025	17904	8602	58
2026	19877	9622	58

DF to be involved in the Bar staff meeting - address the need for clearer roles and responsibilities.

Improved member behaviour - (returning glasses, showing appreciation).

Derogatory social-media comments about staff caused a furore.

Agreed to circulate a chairs letter reminding members to channel all complaints through the club manager and treat staff respectfully.

ACTION AM/DF

9 Social Events Report AP

Good Whitstable Week. Thank you to Phil Emery for Quiz Weds, Music Club Thurs, Anthony & John Crickmere for Oysters & Fizz, plus Tim Barton acoustic on Fri, and Mike Oliver for Zoot band on Sat.

I think the bar takings over the 5 days have rubber stamped the success of the week.

Next weekend, we have the Harbour Day. I have a stand, so in addition to displaying two wooden boats, I also have a display/poster for WYC. I am hoping to encourage new members along, so just need some application forms, and perhaps some help in talking and persuading new members along.

Looking ahead, we have last of the Summer Sat acoustic sessions on deck on Bank Holiday Sat with Jeremy Scott. Anthony looking at options for food for this.

Then it is into the Autumn! Winter Talks start, plus Halloween, then Xmas parties.

Next year's Carnival - to try and involve the cadets in some capacity. **ACTION AP**

Plans made for Harbour Day – staffing, posters membership forms, QR code for signup. Club to present a polished presence.

10 Training Report: JW

NSSA at Downs SC went well with Katie covering 4/5 days on safety/medical boat. Thanks to Fef for towing the boat both ways and the borrowed trailer. We had 3

cadets taking part for the Kent team, William and Freddie in Toppers and Jack in his ILCA 6.

With the summer holidays now in full swing we had Stage 1 / 2 course during the first week with 18 people taking part. Last week we had a Stage 1/2/3 course in windy conditions with another 18 taking part, so far everything fully booked.

We had an extra PB2 course at the end of July as 2 people wanted to do it before September and were able to fit it in.

Improvers is going well with quite a few new people joining having done their level 1/2 courses after discover sailing.

Whitstable week we had a good number of cadets taking part in racing for the week, despite the varying conditions during the week. All really enjoyed themselves.

Cadets is going well with slightly less numbers due to holidays.

Cadetfest starts Monday 10th. We have 24 cadets booked in plus an additional 10 instructors or AI's who will run each group. Planning on the usual cruise to Tankerton for Ice creams, paddleboarding/ kayaking, racing, beach games and water games, raft building & windsurfing as well as an all-day cruise to Harty Ferry on Tuesday, forecast looking good for the week. Tuesday evening a BBQ at the club and Friday evening Fish & Chips on the deck to finish of a busy week.

11 AOB

Congratulations to WYC Topper sailors Ralph Hadley and James Martin who competed in the recent Topper Words Championships in Brittany – both made the gold fleet with Ralph finishing an outstanding 6th overall and James 61st from a fleet of 134. Extract and send congratulations to the sailors.

ACTION AM

Meeting closed 8.25pm

Date of next meeting Monday 14th September 2026