

# Royal Temple Yacht Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6 December 2015 @ 11.30 a.m.

The Commodore Frank Martin welcomed all those who attended.

## 1. Apologies

Sue and Tommy Foster, Paul and Norma Russell, Peter and Elaine Mair, Colin Grundon and Joanna Verrico, Dennis and Ann Payne, Margaret and Malcolm Hasler, Paul Woodward, David Ralls, Bill and Kathy Williamson, Jim and Lana Humphris, Rosie and Jeff Horton, Carol and David Say, Jim and Martine Boorman, Barry Smith, Tom Smith, Ellen Barrett, Ron Harmer, Ian Nassif, Ian Braithwaite, Brenda Cripps, Val Oates, Steve King, Bev Bickerstaff and Michael Bennett, Warren and Kathy Tuddenham, Jan Greenstreet, Pauline Adkin

## 2. Minutes of the AGM held on 7 December 2014

The Minutes of the meeting held on Sunday 7 December 2014 were agreed. **Proposed by Dave Parish and Seconded by Rod Oates**

3. **To consider matters arising therefrom.** None

4. **The Commodore introduced the Officers and Committee Members standing for election.**

5. **Election of Officers for the 2015/2016 year**

The following Officers were elected unopposed:

Commodore, Frank Martin; Vice Commodore, Andrew Beaumont-Hope; Honorary Secretary, John Barrett; Rear Commodore Sail, Steve Stokes; Rear Commodore Cruise, Stan Jacob; Honorary Treasurer, Nicholas Irwin; Honorary House Officer, Judy Pearson.

6. **Election of General Committee for the 2015/2016 year.**

The following were elected unopposed:

Terry Adams, John Adkin, Karen Cox, Des Crampton, Matt Green, Malcolm Hasler, Andrew Ketteringham, David Parish

The Commodore thanked the Officers and Committee for being prepared to stand for the Committee this year and welcomed Des Crampton, Matt Green and Malcolm Hasler as new committee members.

7. **To receive the Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 together with the Report of the Honorary Treasurer and to approve the same.**

The Honorary Treasurer gave a verbal update on the accounts.

The Honorary Treasurer requested that this meeting give the General Committee discretionary authority to raise the 2016/2017 membership subscription by an amount deemed by the Committee to be appropriate to secure the continued financial security of the Club, if such an increase is deemed necessary.

Stephanie Martin queried whether there should be a restriction on the upper amount that the subscription could be increased by. The Commodore responded that the General Committee are acting in trust on behalf of the membership and would not wish to increase the subscription by an amount over the norm, however if it were deemed that there would be a need to propose an extreme amount the Committee would take soundings within the membership before proposing such an increase.

The Hon Treasurer's proposal was presented to the meeting: **Proposed by Karen Cox and Seconded by Des Crampton. Carried Unanimously.**

**8 To receive reports from the Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore Sail, Rear Commodore Cruising, Honorary Secretary, House Officer, Chairman Entertainment Committee, Navigation School and Academy**

Questions were invited. None received.

**9. Appointment of Trustee**

In recent years the process for the appointment of Trustees had not followed the same procedure as it had for previous appointments. The intention at this meeting is to pass the resolutions detailed below for the appointment of Mike Brand as a Trustee. This process will also be followed in respect of future appointments of Trustees.

A letter has been received from a member querying the resolution 3) regarding the term of office and capacity of the Trustee and whether the appointment should be for a term of 10 years.

Anne Peers queried the financial responsibility of Trustees and queried whether the Trustee position should be changed to Directorship to avoid this financial responsibility. Peter Moore confirmed that Trustees do have a financial responsibility and take the risk. Stuart Carter asked if there is insurance in place for financial liability and was reassured that insurance is in place. Denys Tweddell stated that this is an issue that may be answered by a report from him in the New Year newsletter. Nigel Collingwood advised the meeting that within the RYA, as it is becoming difficult to find Trustees who are prepared to take on the financial risk, there is work being done to support Clubs who wish to become limited companies.

The Commodore responded that the Trustees have a responsibility to hold the Club's assets in Trust on behalf of the members. He noted the comments above and requested the meeting to vote on the following:

- 1) Following the death of Trustee Gordon Greenfield, the remaining Trustees propose the appointment of M. Brand as a Trustee. **Proposed by Stuart Carter and Seconded by Dick Smith. Carried Unanimously.**
- 2) The Trustees propose that with effect from this appointment, the term of office of Trustees shall expire on the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Trustee, unless terminated earlier for reasons stipulated in the Trust Deed. **Proposed by E Ball and Seconded by D Parish. Carried Unanimously**
- 3) The Trustees propose that the Chairman of the General Meeting be appointed as the Club's Agent as co-signatory with the existing Trustees and the new Trustee in executing the Appointment Deed and in giving effect to the amendment to the Trust Deed in respect of term of office as proposed. **Proposed by Stuart Carter and Seconded by Des Crampton. Carried Unanimously**

## 10 Any Other Business allowed by the Chair

There being no written AOB received, the Commodore asked the members if they had any questions they wished to raise.

Anne Peers asked when the Handbook will be printed for 2016. The Hon Secretary responded that there is now an issue around data protection which would require it to be updated on a regular basis with express permission being obtained from all members what information they would be prepared to have included within the Handbook. It has also been found that as soon as it was printed a great deal of the information was inaccurate. Therefore a decision was taken by the General Committee that the Handbook would not be produced in future. The Vice Commodore advised the meeting that a new club website is being built which would provide a members page where they can log in and get all the information they require and the most important part is that the Members have total control. Denys Tweddell asked if the information will be available as a hard copy. The Vice Commodore advised that the Club would provide some support for members to become familiar with the new site. Neville Petts stated that he was disappointed that this decision was made without members being made aware. Terri Crampton asked when the site would be available and the Vice Commodore responded that it was being built now. Candy Owens asked if the site is compatible with Outlook. The Vice Commodore stated that his understanding was that it was but would check.

An events programme will also be produced either weekly or monthly from the website and the Temple News will still be produced by email and hard copy to those members who request to receive copies in the mail. Anne Peers was concerned that using this method of communication and losing the handbook would mean that the history of the Club would be lost which was disgraceful.

The Commodore apologised if members felt that the General Committee had acted inappropriately in making the decision to not produce a handbook but pointed out that the members elect the Committee to make the executive decisions in respect of the running of the Club, in the best interests of members. The Committee had made the decision, in view of the data protection issues, that the new website was the best way to provide information to members whilst protecting confidentiality. Electronic and hard copies of the Newsletters would be retained, thus safeguarding the historical aspects. The members were reminded that the General Committee minutes are available for all members to read in the Club.

Barry Duffield brought a charitable project to the members' attention. A book has been produced on the Story of Kent and its Lieutenancy. This book, produced by David McDine in aid of The Alan Willett Foundation, is available now to interested members for £25.00. Money raised goes to Kent charitable causes.

The Commodore stated that in closing he would like to extend his thanks to Officers and Committee members who are standing down this year:

Paul Woodward who has served the committee and Ramsgate Week for many years grateful thanks are extended to him, and his offer of continued support for Ramsgate Week is much appreciated.

John Barrett one of the Club's longest serving Officers stood down at this AGM. John joined the General Committee in 1986, served as Vice Commodore 1994 – 2000, Commodore 2001 – 2005 and then Honorary Secretary from 2006 - 2015. He was also responsible for setting up Ramsgate Week in its present form and the continuing success of the 250 Club. Grateful thanks were extended to him for all he has done over the years and he was presented with a picture of his yacht Stiletto. John responded that he was overwhelmed and thanked the Commodore and the meeting for their good wishes.

The Commodore declared the meeting closed.

**Meeting closed at 12.13 p.m.**

EA2015