

Minutes of the RTYC General Committee held on 2nd Sept 2022

Present:

Commodore:	Martin Morgans
Vice Commodore	Karen Cox
Rear Commodore Sail	Piers Hodges
Rear Commodore Cruising	Don Gray
Hon Secretary	Stuart Carter
House Officer	Judy Pearson

Terry Adams; Nigel Collingwood; Andrew Beaumont-Hope; Dave Parish, Mark Kingsland, Frank Martin, Peter Thomas, Mike Brand, John Barrett

Apologies:, John Stoneley; Rachel Morgans

Approval of Minutes of the last meeting Friday 5th August 2022. The minutes were agreed and signed by the Commodore. Proposed Vice Commodore, seconded Mark Kingsland

Matters Arising Therefrom: There were no matters arising

Correspondence. There was some discussion on correspondence received from a member reference a collision with another member's yacht that occurred during a club race where there was some damage. The Committee were agreed that the matter was between the members concerned and the Honorary Secretary was authorised to reply to the correspondence in that vein. FM also asked that the Race Instructions contain a rule to the effect that any collision resulting in damage should be followed with a protest.

Honorary Secretary. The report from the honorary secretary had been distributed to the GC members. There were no comments.

Hon Treasurer: The Honorary Treasurer's report had been circulated. Commodore said that he had been handed a profit and loss print-out from Sage, generated by Julie Rook. The Commodore said he intended to pass that on to the HT for his perusal and for him to generate an ex-committee report on the Club's finances. Commodore said that he was uncomfortable with our current situation. The VAT receipts had been completed after a great deal of work from Julie who should be thanked for stepping in. Additionally Julie has been reviewing many of the current contracts with suppliers of various services and has identified a number of significant savings. The end-of-year accounts are in some jeopardy following the lengthy (and somewhat Kafkaesque) processes required by the bank to allow the new club officers to have oversight of our accounts. He has arranged a meeting with Dudley-Gore to discuss any assistance that they can give us to ensure that we meet the EOY deadline. He will inform the committee of the outcome of the meeting by e-mail.

The Commodore also announced that we had employed 3 new staff on zero hours contracts at minimum wage allowing the club to reduce the hours of the more expensive staff and having a minimum to nil effect on the wage bill. This should also give the club manager more time in the office.

Bar previous month & YTD plus stock. The P&L printout gave a comparison of bar takings, but, as per last month's GCM we have no figures for costs making the comparisons meaningless. Hopefully, with the situation at the bank being resolved we should have meaningful figures soon. DP asked if the margins were still the same. The Commodore explained that after the recent price rises the margins were still running at the correct levels.

Rear Commodore Sail. Report was issued to GC members via e-mail. VC said that the dates for RW 2023 had been set to 7-11 August. RCS also said he was resurrecting the racing crews' lunch on the 23rd of October at 1500. He had also collected the Ivor Thomas Amusements Buoy from Deal Coastguard with the loan of a member's trailer. Unfortunately it looks to be beyond economic repair.

Rear Commodore Cruising. The report from RCC had been circulated and will be published in the newsletter. The Commodore expressed his thanks to RCC for a superb summer cruise to the Netherlands which raised the club profile internationally. The Cruising supper will be on 22nd October.

House Officer's Update. HO stated that she had been in touch with Carthews reference trophy refurbishment, and they will be done "soonest". A structural engineer for the company that installed the reinforcement for the dance floor/Hold bar ceiling will be coming to inspect shortly and HHO will be meeting with them at RTYC. The club has had one quote for the Boilers of £7000 all-in. an updated quote. There was a visit from the RNVR and while here they were shown a programme and 2 boxes of photographs from an event involving the RNVR that took place in the Club in 1939. It had been suggested that the mementoes should be given to the RNVR club. JEB asked HHO to make sure that we kept some of the items as they are relevant to the history of the RTYC.

Advertising. The Commodore elicited nil replies when he asked if a suitable position for a banner had been found. (vide previous minutes)

Entertainments. No report this month as Rachel is dealing with family matters. The Commodore expressed a wish for a Commodores lunch in October as there had not been one since pre-pandemic times. (PM note: now in January 2023).

Ramsgate Week. We have made the decision to move our annual regatta into August for all the reasons discussed at our last committee meeting. It will therefore take place from Monday 7-11th August 2023. We are now discussing whether to drop the Round the Goodwins Race from the first Sunday and move that to another date. Traditionally the regatta was only over five days and to be honest not many of the off-shore racers stay to compete in the regatta so we shouldn't lose too many yachts and it gives a little breathing space between Cowes and us. I've had a lot of family commitments this month and with the uncertainty of the dates I've not been able to reach out to our competitors and sponsors but will endeavour to get on with that in September. TA said that when one of our members visited the Dartmouth regatta, there were lots of activities in the town that dovetailed with the main event. Would it be possible to follow their example in Ramsgate and organise some events that were allied to the regatta but involve the town and visitors. VC said we were hopefully doing that and, post pandemic, there will be greater liaison with the Ramsgate Town Team especially Rebecca Smith, the leader of the promotion department. TA said he would send in a list of the events that took place in Dartmouth one of which was a rowing competition.

Navigation School. ABH said that registration for the day skipper course was going very well with 17 applicants, but the Yachtmaster course is very quiet. VC said she would put a notice out on Facebook about the Navigation school courses. The Commodore said that there was an opportunity to organise an RYA recognised 1 day 1st Aid course for a maximum of 12 people. PT asked that the courses take place on Sundays rather than Saturdays.

Academy. Not a lot to report. The Academy will start on the water on the 11th September and there was a need for placements for 2 people.

Social Media. Going well. VC to post about Nav School

Membership. The list of new members was circulated for authorisation. JEB asked if one of the proposed members who had applied for trial membership had been interviewed. As it could not be established that they had been contacted and interviewed the candidate in question was deferred until the next meeting. The rest of the candidates were passed unanimously.

Membership Cards. The card printer and cards had arrived. There was a question on the use of the QR code for payment on Uniware. MB said that the UPAY QR code was dynamic, and a static code would not be viable. Uniware has been contacted for clarification and a possible solution.

AOB.

- a. The Commodore reported that Stonaco Fabrications had visited to survey installation of the disabled ramp. The recommendation is now for a light aluminium ramp to be installed. We are awaiting a quote from the company for both the ramp and the railings to protect the club waste bins.
- b. The Commodore raised the problems of the amount of money being lost on errant racing buoys and asked for suggestions. One of the suggestions was to drop the buoys before each race and take them in at the end of the day. This would require a RIB (and a RIB crew). There has also been some talk of using the Academy to train on small boats in the harbour. This would also require a safety boat. A RIB would also allow the Nav School to offer a PB2. RCS gave a rundown on the state of the buoys and the problems with the ground tackle and the strength of the buoys themselves. There was a general discussion about the necessity for the club buoys against the use of the Trinity House buoyage; which led to ideas about the way to encourage younger people into sailing. The decision was made to resurrect the sailing committee under RCS who would discuss all of these points and bring more concrete proposals to the GCM
- c. JEB offered his thanks to those who attended Ollie's funeral. It was extremely well attended and the family were appreciative for the RTYC support.
- d. MB brought up the fact that under the new membership categories, widows, who were previously given free membership, were now being asked to pay and this was leading to widows feeling excluded and leaving the club completely. It was agreed that this could be reviewed.
- e. MB also brought up the possibility of a monthly membership but on a yearly contract. HS explained that this already existed on WebCollect at £17 per month on a Direct Debit.
- f. There was a short discussion about new members and VC suggested that there should be a new members evening in the near future. This could occur on a Friday night.
- g. NC asked that the CO of the Sea Cadets had been voted in as an Honorary member and nothing had happened. HS agreed to process his application form if NC could get one to him. Additionally NC talked about the simulator that the Sea Cadets had installed and there could be a liaison visit by the RTYC to the Sea Cadets to see it working.
- h. VC brought up that the MYA licence needs renewal by the end of September

DONM. Friday 7th October

Meeting finished: 2037