

Minutes of the RTYC General Committee held on 6th December 2022

Present:

Commodore:	Martin Morgans (MM)
Vice Commodore	Karen Cox (KC)
Hon Secretary	Stuart Carter (SC)

Terry Adams (TA); (ABH); Mike Brand (MB); Rachel Morgans (RM), Nigel Collingwood (NC), Peter Thomas (PT), Frank Martin (FM).

Apologies; Don Gray, Julie Rook, Piers Hodges, John Barrett, Judy Pearson, Dave Parish, Andrew Beaumont-Hope, Andy Ketteringham, Mike Kingsland, Alan Lucas

Approval of Minutes of the last meeting Thursday 3rd November 2022. RCS raised an amendment to the minutes. The minutes were agreed and signed by the Commodore Subject to the tabled amendment. Proposed Vice Commodore, seconded RM (**PM Note:** Minutes have now been amended and signed)

Matters Arising Therefrom: No matters arising

Correspondence. Commodore raised the matter of the correspondence from the 2 structural engineers who visited the club reference the problems with the floor in the main bar. The first engineer who was the engineer on the previous attempt to stabilise the floor has sent in a list of safe loading calculations for the floor and has said that the floor is in no danger of collapse under normal use. We have asked for qualification of the term "normal use". His report cost several hundred pounds.

The second engineer has currently charged us £300 but he has said that further work, including cutting holes in the Hold Bar ceiling to enable fuller inspection. This will cost £1000 to both confirm that the original work had been completed correctly and to determine the next course of action. The Commodore stated that there was an option where we stop the floor moving completely by ripping the floor apart installing and installing RSJs or similar at a roughly estimated cost of £20k-£30k. He was reluctant to spend the £1000 for the second survey if the position was clarified favourably by the first report.

FM said that as the first surveyor had been retained by the builder who had carried out the original work it would be better to obtain an independent opinion. The Commodore agreed saying that both surveyors said that the floorboards would also need fixing down which would mean lifting the carpet and would go a long way to stabilising the movement. There was a short discussion about the use of the hold bar for functions and the course to follow and a vote was taken to instruct the second surveyor to carry out the full inspection. Proposed RM, seconded VC passed.

There had also been an e-mail from a past member who had resigned because of a disagreement with the club and subsequently asked to rejoin. His email said that he recognised that the wording of his resignation letter had been the reason that he had been asked to withdraw his request to rejoin and would like the opportunity for a face-to-face meeting to discuss the matter. It was decided that the Honsec would arrange for an informal meeting as soon as possible.

Honorary Secretary. The report from the honorary secretary had been distributed to the GC members. HonSec said that current membership was 236 and we were about to suspend those members who had not renewed. There was some discussion about the funds remaining on the suspended member's gold card account and whether our entitlement to retain it was in our current byelaws. It was apparently not the case but maybe it should be.

Hon Treasurer: Julie was unable to attend the meeting, but Treasurers report had been circulated. Unfortunately, it was not complete. The Commodore introduced a P&L report which suggests a profit of £9K but the Commodore asked that the report is held over until the January meeting. However, the trends are encouraging.

Functions were profitable but it can be seen that the biggest earner is the Hotel. The Commodore suggested that, in order to maximise the profits from the rooms and enable a justifiable price rise, we should be looking at refurbishment of the accommodations, especially the bathrooms. There was short discussion on room refurbishment. The Commodore was authorised to seek quotes for the work.

Rear Commodore Sail. RCS report has been circulated. Peter Thomas queried the remarks on the Gold Cup in Ramsgate Week being awarded to either Cruising fleet or IRC fleet depending on the most populated. MB said that He took that to mean that as part of trying to grow RW. Currently the IRC fleet is diminishing, and the Cruiser fleet is growing. It could be that in the future we may revert to RW being all cruiser classes, as it was some years ago. For now, racing participants will not be allowed to switch classes once they have registered.

The Commodore raised the matter of the invoice from Carthews for engraving the racing trophies which was £2,500. He queried the amount saying the Cruisers had their trophies engraved at Ramsgate Trophies for £68. There was some discussion on the matter. It was decided that there should be a qualitative comparison of the two engravers and in future there should be quotes invited before raising an order.

Rear Commodore Cruising. The report from RCC had been circulated and will be published in the newsletter. There was one comment that one of the proposed cruises conflicted with the weekend of the Coronation. The Commodore asked for opinions on whether the club should organise something at the premises on that weekend. It was decided to wait and see if the Town was organising anything.

Honorary House Officer. The new boilers have been installed and are working well. They have not yet presented a bill as they have to come back and service to the other 2 boilers which need new gaskets. (PM Note: this work has now been completed).

KC asked if the WIFI had been fixed following the installation of the new VOIP telephone system. The problems were still being investigated. (PM Note: now working)

Advertising and Marketing: KC said that there had been a very productive meeting between KC, MM, SC, the office admin/events coordinator and 2 club members who are professional in the field of events organisation. A way ahead was agreed that included enhancing the RTYC website so that information on events were to the fore. Pricing information, sample menus and up-to-date imagery should be available at the click of a mouse. An on-site caterer was a necessity. Information about weddings is increasingly being asked for and this type of event is likely to be a substantial source of revenue.

The Commodore said that Katherine was being snowed under by the increased workload and we need an admin assistant to allow Katherine to expand her work as administration of events.

There was a discussion about price differential between members and non-members and it was proposed that the differential should be 12%, the same as the bar. Proposed TA, seconded NC. Passed.

Entertainments. Report was accepted. RM said that, as usual December is very busy. The Xmas dinner is fully booked with 85 covers. There still seats available for NYE. There is a tentative calendar for next year which has been through the office for deconfliction. We are desperate for a dedicated caterer and have put out feelers with several catering companies all whom are very booked up. One asked us to try again for 2024.

MB posited that caterers and catering companies might be more interested if the package included the bar

Ramsgate Week. Report was accepted.

Navigation School. Doing Brilliantly.

Academy. Doing well. There is a get-together during the next week

Social Media. Ongoing

Membership. Two new members. Passed. Currently we have 236 Members

Membership Cards. ongoing

AOB.

- a. **Insurance premium.** The Commodore raised the matter of the new insurance premium. The latest desktop valuation has shown that we have been very under-insured. Consequently the latest premium has risen quite considerably. There is a body of opinion that says we may be carrying too much silverware. The building has been assessed as £3.2M for a total rebuild. There was a discussion on the way ahead and whether the realisation of redundant assets would boost our cashflow enough to enable fulfilment of the current business plan. It would need a full business plan presented to a general meeting. There would also be a need a proper physical valuation
- b. **Officers' drinks** Proposed that Flag officers contribute £50 towards the cost of Officer drinks.
Accepted

DONM. Tuesday 10th January at 1930

Meeting finished: 2126