

Minutes of the RTYC General Committee held on Thursday 14 December 2023

Present:

Acting Commodore	Karen Cox
Acting Vice Commodore	Judy Pearson
Acting Joint Hon Secretaries	Elizabeth Anderson / John Barrett
House Officer	Alan Lucas
Rear Commodore Cruisers	Don Gray
Rear Commodore Sail	Pier Hodges (Part of meeting)
Treasurer	Terry Adams
Principal: Navigation School	Andrew Beaumont Hope

Frank Martin: Nigel Collingwood: Andy Ketteringham; Tom Smith

Apologies: Mike Brand, Lawrence Mayne

- **Approval of Minutes of the General Committee meeting held Thursday 23 November 2023.**

Proposed by Andy Ketteringham; seconded by HO Alan Lucas and Carried

- **Matters Arising:**

- It had been agreed that that Gold Cards would be offered to Navigation School students who are temporary members of the Club for the duration of their course. Unfortunately, it had not be possible to implement this option before the meeting; following discussion it was agreed that the implementation of Gold Cards for Navigation School students would be reviewed in time for the October 2024 start.
- The stairlifts will not be removed prior to Christmas. A company will come in to replace the batteries for now. A service will however need to be carried out in the New Year.
- **Correspondence** None
- **Rear Commodore Sail Report including Academy** Report submitted.

The RCS submitted a report on the St Lawrence College proposal. Piers was congratulated on his efforts to progress the link between the Club and SLC students.

Nigel Collingwood submitted a report on the Academy.

There appears a slight conflict between the Academy arrangements and the SLC arrangements, therefore the Commodore stated that a meeting will be held outside of this Committee with the RCS in the hope of finalising the arrangements for SLC. The Commodore will also discuss the RTYC Academy with NC and an update will be referred back to this Committee. The Vice Commodore will also be included in these discussions and Jo Brand will be requested to advise with regard to any safeguarding issues.

The RCS advised that the Stonar buoy has been brought in and is currently in the outer harbour awaiting lift out. ABH suggested to protect the buoy from damage once it's lifted out that tractor tyres be used to sit the buoy.

- **Honorary Secretary** No update at this stage; however relevant matters will be raised during meeting.
- **Finance** Verbal Report

Bank Account as at 14 December 2023

C/A £9937: R/F £407.32: S/A £88,555. Total for December c£8899.

Total for November c£112,000

The year-end figures for 2022 – 2023 will stand at a loss between £75k to £95k. Some of the costs are down to the roof but this figure includes a c£17k trading loss. The Committee needs to be aware that we have not received a full set of accounts since June 2023

The Hon Secretaries have been looking at staffing levels and a decision was taken to let our General Manager go today, 14 December 2023; this will make a saving of c£42k pa to our outgoings which is not sustainable. We have offered a reasonable severance package which will be paid by the 21 December. We took very good instruction from our legal Advisers.

- **House Officer:** Report submitted

Following the sad death of Bradley Morgan who was contracted to work on the club roof, work has come to a standstill, however the roofers who had been working with Bradley are hoping to finish the work. There is two weeks work left to do. AL will work out what finances are left to be paid and provide this information to Frank Martin. AL will provide an update to the next meeting.

The radiator needs fixing in the snooker room, however there is a problem with the two boilers in the basement so these need to be checked first before other work.

- **Bar Committee:** Verbal Report

Tom Smith talked through his calculations for the increase in discount and stated that his report would be circulated for the next meeting. It was agreed that a membership committee should be formed to discuss and agree membership categories, fees and discounts for 2024 - 2025 in time to be placed before the AGM. TA to Chair; Commodore; Vice Commodore, Frank Martin, one of the HS and Tom Smith to be on committee.

- **Rear Commodore Cruisers** Report submitted

The RCS talked through the cruising programme for next year. It is proposed to hold a couple of talks in the New Year and Kevin Finn has offered to give a talk in April 2024.

- **Entertainments**

We do not have an entertainments person, therefore the socials are being managed by members. It is hoped that someone will be appointed following the February AGM.

Burn's Night arranged for 26 January 2024. JEB and SC organising.

Consider organising a Murder Mystery evening in the Hold Bar in the early part of 2024. The Vice Commodore to take a lead on this.

- **Ramsgate Week/Social Media** Verbal Report

The Early Bird Entrance has opened with two boats entered so far.

Social media ongoing.

- **Navigation School**

Yachts master Students are all doing well. We hope to offer a further VHF course next year through Jonathan Hague and Paul Kelly who ran a successful course for the Navigation School through the Little Ship Club.

- **Members and resignations**

At present there are c228 paid members, with 53 unpaid; Total 14 resigned. Including two resignations in December, Martin Morgans and Anna Turner.

Webcollect is not proving a successful membership database so we are currently using a spreadsheet to keep track of our members. It is planned to draw a line for updating webcollect at the end of December so that we can start work on rebuilding programme to make it more user friendly. Discussions will be held with the programmer. This cut off point is also required to enable work to start on the AGM.

- **AOB**

The Commodore asked those attended this meeting who would be prepared to stand for election at the forthcoming AGM. The Commodore will stand, Judy Pearson proposes to stand as Vice Commodore, Don Gray as Rear Commodore Cruisers, Andy Ketteringham plans to stand as Rear Commodore Sail. Terry Adams for Honorary Treasurer; Alan Lucas House Officer; John Barrett and Frank Martin as NEDs; Andy Beaumont Hope on behalf of Navigation School;

The role of the Hon Secretary and the importance of continuity of this role needs to be further discussed outside of this meeting.

Tom Smith and Nigel Collingwood indicated their intention to stand.

- Ramsgate Illuminations. The Club has received £1000 sponsorship from Ramsgate Town Council which will enable the boats to be lit up. The judging will be held on Monday 18 December and the prizegiving will be held at the RTYC on Tuesday the 19 December. Most of the lights have been given out to boatowners and the display is looking good.
- Club Newsletter: Sue Foster has said she can produce a newsletter mid-January.
- TA stated that we need to set up a working group to see what options we have to generate more income. It is proposed that we focus on Wakes and parties rather than weddings which can be quite intrusive to our members. We need to revisit alternatives.
- NC asked if we had approached TDC to see if there are any monies available to support the finances for the work to the roof. He was advised that the funds he was referring to are levelling up monies for the town and harbour and these funds are already allocated.
- NC asked if the Club uses the RYA for our insurance cover and was advised that we do.

AL asked about the WhatsApp Groups and who were the admins and should they be updated and reviewed on an ongoing basis. It was agreed that these groups are now a bit unwieldy.

Date of Next Meeting: Friday 12 January 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

This meeting will be a limited agenda meeting to prepare for the AGM

Meeting finished: 21.45

Annual General Meeting arranged for Sunday 25 February 2024