

# **Ribble Cruising Club**

## **Agreed Minutes of Main Committee 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

### Those Present:

Richard Blackburn (RB)  
Martin Oldroyd (MO)  
Mike Leman (ML)  
Mike Briers (MB)  
Mike Leman, ML  
Keith Lawton (KL)  
David Miller (DHM)

Don Flannery (DF)  
Rob Jarman (RJ)  
Andrew Walls (AW)  
Peter Pollock (PP)  
Pauline Betts (PB)  
Richard Hoad (RH)  
Alan Betts (AB)

Richard Elsdon (RE),  
Tony Robins (TR)  
Peter Benett (PB)  
Stuart Hodgkiss (SH)  
Allan Williams (AW)  
Richard Freeman (RF)

**Eddie Freear & Eric Pearson:-** The meeting commenced with a moment of silent reflection to remember Eddie & Eric, both of them were at the heart of RCC, with over 90 years membership of RCC between them. Both had made substantial contributions to club life & will be sorely missed.

**1.0 Apologies:-** Tony Walker, Simon Redfearn

**2.0 Minutes :-** Minutes of the Main Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> February were presented. With the addition of Peter Pollock & Stuart Hodgkiss to the list of apologies, approval was proposed by RF & seconded by SH.

### **3.0 Matters Arising**

**3.1 Club Handbook :-** This was posted early march with 4 page log & 'What's On'. MB commented that Log was hard work, it was agreed to plan next one for August. MB also commented that some handbooks would need to be retrieved from resigning members.

**3.2 RYA:- Cruiser Forum** on 9<sup>th</sup> March, DHM & MJB attended, good event lot's of info & open conversations about 35 attended, now planning 2 per year. Topics covered included:- Flare disposal & use, LED flare is £100, NW Triage group very useful re MCZ's threat to slip at Knott End tidal lagoons Solway & Wyre etc. Wind Farms caused major discussion DHM comments about the need for clearer navigation lights was well received.

**3.3 RYA Community Awards,** probably too late now to nominate our candidate for Youth Award, closing date is very close 8<sup>th</sup> April

**3.4 RYA membership survey:-** MB must respond to RYA 'Vital Signs' survey

**3.5 Robert Marsh letters:-** No response from the 2 letters sent by MB and KL.

### **4.0 Correspondence**

**4.1 RYA Cruising News: MB commented that April issue included** MMO announcing s next phase of MCZ's, details of new arrangements to 'call Coastguard' & more windfarms being

**4.2 AnchorsHolme Storm Outfall,** MB informed MC that an e-mail from RYA had been received re a new storm outfall off AnchorsHolme, The RYA have already highlighted need for marking this danger, any other response was needed by 20/4/16

**4.3 CASC ? :-** MB commented on correspondence re opportunities of becoming a CASC, RE informed MC that it would probably be a non-starter as RCC would need to become 'Charitable' & members would give up ownership of club assets

**4.4 Lancs Playing Fields:-** MB informed MC that the Lancs Playing Field sub was due, MC discussed benefits of membership & agreed to continue to subscribe.

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4.5:-**RYA Safeguarding Children Workshop** MB reminded MC that on 16/4/16 the RYA was holding a workshop at Budsworth SC & asked if anyone wanted to attend. RE & RJ reminded MC that 'Safeguarding' was included as part of their RYA training.

4.6 **Sherry Evening**:- RB informed MC that he had received letters of thanks re the recent Sherry Evening from Mayor of Fylde, RNLI & both WLYC & B&FYC

4.7 **Marine Management Organisation**:- RB noted that the MMO were holding an open forum at the Solaris Centre on Blackpool Prom on 20/4/16 from 9 to 12am

### 5.0 Treasurer's report

5.1 **Treasurer**:- DM presented the March purchases for review totalling some £9737. RCC's bank balance was stated to be £95,290.84, with £29,202.43 in RBS, £1000 in Nat West & £65,088 in Skipton Building Society. DM commented that membership was up about £1500 on last year. He also said that most payments were now being made electronically which he preferred & that the VAT situation was still a 'work in progress'

5.2 **Insurance** :- MB presented to MC, on behalf of Alan Slorick, the annual insurance payments for approval. Alan Slorick advises there is little change from last year as our agreement to a fixed price runs for another year. The only policy change is £27.00 in respect of additional instructors which we added last summer. The other major change is that Insurance Premium Tax has gone from 6% to 9.5% adding £95.42.

The figures therefore are:

RYA Combined Policy (inc. IPT) £2883.83, DAS Legal Protection £50.37

Engineering Inspection (Dock equipment) - £276.00 inc. VAT. These were approved

### 6.0 Sailing report

6.1 **Sailing**:- DF reported that 2016 sailing season had started over Easter with around 10 boats with many of the participants being Juniors from last year's Sail Training programme.

6.2 **Safety Boat 2 (SB2)** DF noted that the new launching trolley for SB2 was still awaited, expected mid april. There were also some issues with the engine for SB2, see later

6.3 **Car Parking**:- DF noted that there were some issues with the public parking on the ramp in front of the lifeboat house, RF said he had approached FBC & they will enforce their 'no parking' in that area, RCC members & RNLI will have to display either an RCC or RNLI 'Car Sticker'. A note should be put on RCC website & future log, RH to note. .

6.4 **Race Marks** :- DF reported that the ODM had been reinstalled, and mark 11 replaced. An inflatable mark had been obtained from WCA (MB) along with some chain & anchor (RF). This will be used to set better cruiser courses.

6.5 **Race Box**:\_ DF thanked RH for his efforts in race box & lights, LED lights had been installed & a new horn was underway. DF reported an additional expense to replace the Wind Speed indicator for the weather station, a cost of £163 was approved.

6.6 **Garage workshop**:- DF reported that the basement workshop was now operational with 240V power & lights, racks were also in place to store RCC equipment .

7.0 **7.1:- RYA Instructor Training**:- RJ reported that he had attended an RYA Instructor Training Day in March at Southport SC. Additional logbooks had been obtained at 50% discount in prep for 2016 season. RCC was notified who our Inspector was for year & an inspection will be organised. Several RYA initiatives were promulgated including a partnership with clubs whereby commission was earned for encouraging new RYA members.

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**7.2 Training:-** RJ reported that 1<sup>st</sup> events on Fairhaven had commenced, however it had been extremely cold, one youngster having to be removed & restored ashore. Overall a successful weekend with Stage one certificates for most participants & stage 2 for the more experienced. RJ thanked all the volunteers for their support to a successful start to Training.

**7.3 Safety Boat 2 Engine:-** RJ informed MC that SB2's engine had become unreliable, it is an old 50hp Suzuki which is difficult to get repaired. He informed MC that having a reliable second safety boat was essential. In fact Martin Knott had resigned from the Training Programme until the matter was resolved. In discussion it was also revealed that the main Safety Boat engine, even though reliable, was also some 30 years old. After much discussion MC approved an additional expense that a new 30HP outboard of around £3800 inc VAT, be purchased for SB2 as soon as possible. A proposal by KL was approved in that each sub committee should review it's Revenue & capital plans for this year before any further major capital purchases to confirm the affordability of the purchase & planned expenditure. Sailing Committee agreed for instance to consider delaying it's purchase of an additional Laser 2000. Dev Comm was actioned to review the 10 year plan, currently at draft 3.. There was some discussion on VAT, as a Safety Boat could it be VAT free, also there was possibly an engine at Preston Marina ?

### 8.0 Dock Report

**8.1 Dock Report:-** KL reported on Dock Committee progress, FBC waste transfer forms were now in line, a potential tractor sale had fallen through, (note it was agreed to return the buyers deposit), Creek perches were underway & an electrical certificate for the dock site was in progress. The trailer & winch work was still in progress, a structural engineer was needed to underwrite the design. Other matters included new tarmac were also underway,

**8.2 Crane:-** A crane was being organised for 1<sup>st</sup> April but so far there were only 2 takers at £35, however last year the crane hire broke even.

**8.4 Environmental Agency:-** KL reported that a response to the Environmental Agency re their plans for Main Drain & Liggard was being developed, Tony Halliwell from RYA NW was also in the loop now to advise.

**8.5 Dock Electricity:-** MB reported that he had recently agreed, after consultation with KL, a 12 month fixed price for Dock Electric at 11.47p per Kwh & 27p per day.

**8.6 Berthing:-** KL reported that the berthing notices had all been sent out, AB said some £15,000 had already been received. There were some issues with monies outstanding from 2015/6 . Mr J Bosson had been sent a letter from Alan Slorick reminding him of his debt, to date no reply. It was agreed that there were issues regarding people who owed money to RCC & a policy should be developed, Dock Committee & Dev Comm were actioned to review process consistent with RCC rules & dock bye laws.

### 9.0 Fabric

**9.1 Fabric report:-** DHM reported that garage drain was now completed. The dinghy tank gate will be modified to allow personnel to pass without a key but stop boats.

**9.2 Clubhouse Electric & Gas:-** MB reported that RCC had entered into 2 contracts with British Gas re Clubhouse Gas & Electric. These are both one year contracts only|:- -----The Gas price is as now 60p/day standing charge & 3.2p/Kwh. -----The Electric is 21.2p/day standing charge, 13.5p/Kwh for weekday, 12.28p/Kwh for weekend & 8.7p/Kwh for night use. These are comparable to home charges & we get a further 6% discount on these because we use Direct Debit

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## 10.0 House Report

**10.1 Social report:-** RF reported that The Sherry Evening had been a great success thanks to everyone's contribution &, Pat & George Chiles. RH was trialling some other speakers to resolve the problems with the sound system. Looking ahead The Fitting Out Supper on 16<sup>th</sup> April, was to be a dinner & film night, and the 'Push The Boat Out' will be a catered lunch.

**10.2 Tuesday Talks :- MB reported that the last Tuesday Talk Mar 'To Russia with Love' excellent talk but only 35 members present but £50 raised for 'Sailability' . Next Talk is 'Cruising To Anchor in Balearics' on 26<sup>th</sup> April. MB reported that the Espanola talk for Sept was now cancelled, KL asked if we could get a talk on 'Bluebird' ?**

**10.3 LEGIT RNLI fundraiser:-** A request from RF to use the RCC toilets during the April RNLI LEGIT Fund raiser was approved.

## 11.0 Development Committee

RB reported that the Dev Comm meeting for March had been cancelled, other RCC activities took priority. Topics for next meeting , planned for 19<sup>th</sup> April, include :- review of 10 year plan, Land Acquisition, Clubhouse Lease & access issues.

## 12.0 Communications

RH reported that the weather station had needed a major repair, see item 6.5. The website had been continually updated keeping members abreast of News, Funeral arrangements & social events. However input was continually needed.

## 13.0 Membership

**13.1 Membership** RE reported that there were no new members this month but he informed MC that there were around 12 resignations & 18 non-payers. The 18 non-payers were read out, MC noted that there were several 'non members' who still had boats at Dock, these included J Bosson, A Cartlidge, R Lowcock E Whitworth (cradle only) These issues should be dealt with under the processes being developed item 8.6

**13.2 Joan Blake:-** MB recorded that Joan Blake has agreed to become an Associate Member and paid £36 including the surcharge. Her son Mathew was an Ordinary Member now & was now taking responsibility for the boat.

## 14.0 A. O. B.

**14.1 Dinghy Park Fees :-** MC were informed that Andy Jones was responsible for collecting dinghy park fees.

**14.2 Club Dinghy Refurbishment:-** MC recorded it's thanks to Chris Butler & John Gallagher for refurbishing several of the older RCC boats some 5 Mirror Dinghy were now serviceable.

**14.3 Incident supporting water survey :-** The events of xxx were reviewed, when RCC members & safety boat were employed to support a 'Water Survey' . The team ran out of water well over on Southport side and were brought to Southport shore by 'Southport Rescue. Simon Begley drove round to recover the team. It was noted that No-one was ever in any danger. It was agreed however that the event had not been properly planned & late requirements put on team that were in fact not really feasible. The next event is much less onerous involving only several water samples in Main Drain. MC agreed that a donation should be sent to Southport Rescue with our thanks.

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Next meeting: - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 20:00, RCC Clubhouse.