



AGREED MINUTES OF MAIN COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th January 2016

Present: Richard Blackburn (RB), Mike Briers (MB), Andrew Walls (AWa), Don Flannery (DF), David Miller (DM), Allan Williams (AWi), Keith Lawton (KL), Peter Bennett (PB), Richard Freeman (RF), Tony Robins (TR), Rob Jarman (RJ), Mike Leman (ML), Richard Elsdon (RE), Simon Redfearn (SR), Pauline & Alan Betts (PB,AB) .

Apologies: Tony Walker (TW), Stuart Hodgkiss (SH), Peter Pollock (PP), Richard Hoad (RH)

1.0 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. Proposed by RJ and seconded by AWA.

2.0 Matters arising

2.1 Club Handbook:- , RME confirmed he was focus for Handbook, the following actions were confirmed, completion by end January was requested:-

--- MJB updating the main rules, & Harry Taylor has supplied a revised Boat List.

---Sub- committee chairmen to review bye-laws, Dock = KL, Sailing=DF, House= RF

---Committee Membership: – MJB to update Main Committee, chair persons asked to review their individual lists and then send them to MJB to put together.

2.2 Clubhouse rent:- MJB confirmed that a Rent Memorandum was in preparation but awaiting FBC signature, MC agreed to withhold payment of new rent & arrears until this formal memorandum was signed.

2.3 Robert Marsh:- Further to last meeting, MJB informed MC that he would complete the letter to RM next week & would follow the agreements from the last meeting, MC affirmed the need to ‘keep it simple’.

3.0 Correspondence

3.1 FBC Correspondence:- MB reported FBC had requested details of RCC Clubhouse insurance. MJB indicated that he had submitted our insurance schedule, obtained via Alan Slorick & hoped it would suffice. FBC had also been requesting confirmation of our Charitable Status, in order to retain our ‘rate relief’, DHM confirmed he would reply

3.2 RYA Cruising News:- Received items to note included the opening of the consultation re North Irish Conservation Zone on 8th Dec, & some indications of progress toward LED navigation lights.

3.3 Other RYA e-mails: MJB noted that Preston Marina had refocused on Training, RJ confirmed this. It was noted that Greg Norris’s involvement was reduced, & his business was for sale. RJ noted comments from Adam McGovern, RYA NW, that regionally Training & Racing was increased despite a national trend for recreational sailing tailing away.

3.4 MC confirmed a nil response to an RYA request for nominations for a Youth Championship Award but confirmed we should consider nominations RYA Community Awards this year.

3.5 MB confirmed receipt of our RYA Certificate re Training Centre, noting however it had been wrongly addressed.

4.0 Treasurer’s Report

4.1 Bank Balances & expenses in November: DM circulated a report indicating RCC’s total bank balance was £80,233.16 & detailed RCC expenses in Nov which was some £1685.71, these were approved by MC.

4.2 Signatories:- DHM reported he had changed the signatories for RCC cheques etc. & was close to completing transfer of electronic banking.

4.3 Budgets :- DHM confirmed that he had now received budget requests from each sub-committee, in broad terms he reported if all committees budget requests were approved then a revenue account deficit of some £3500 could be expected, in addition he was aware of some £25,000 of capital requests. There was some discussion re what level of contingency funds should RCC retain, RF reminded MC that a figure of £60,000 had been agreed during his stewardship. MC agreed that a meeting of ‘Budget Holders’ in about 3 weeks to agree final budget proposals for review by next MC(post meeting note, this meeting is on 18/1/16)

5.0 Sailing Committee Report

5.1 Sailing Events:- DF reported that due to record flooding & strong winds all December sailing events were cancelled. However despite the weather stalwart members gathered in Preston Marina Café on the 28th and had a ‘sing-along’ . Despite the weather a successful ‘Eskimo Race’ was held at B&FYC with about 28 boats entered.

5.2 Jetty:- The problems with the jetty were still outstanding but FBC had promised to look into them.

5.3 Sailing Programme & budget for 2016:- DF reported that the Sailing Committee were well on with preparing a Sailing Programme for 2016 including Fairhaven and a budget had been submitted to Hon Treasurer.

5.4 Ladies Changing Rooms:- DF reported standing water in the Ladies changing room. There was some discussion that this may be a result of standing water through sea wall, extending the asphalt was suggested & will be put to FBC.

5.5 Dinghy Working Party:- DF reported a successful working party, pressure jetting dinghy tanks & a general clean up. Some problems with surface of the tanks was noted & resurfacing was to be considered, fabric committee noted .

5.6:- Garage work:- DF noted that work on the garage drain repairs would start later in Jan, the sailing committee were looking forward to using the garage area for winter boat maintenance.

6.0 Training Report

6.1 Training Plans:- RJ reported on a meeting of Training Instructors held on 15th Dec, Fairhaven & the river will be used, Fairhaven will provide a venue for beginners but adults will be urged to transition to the river as soon as possible. It inspected that all course attendees will become RCC members but a small additional fees is proposed to be charged but this has yet to be finalised. Courses will be run at weekends, FBC will need to be consulted & safety cover provided. Courses will maximise time on the water & early courses will be targeted at last year's participants, aiming at award of certificates, youngsters will be assessed for level 2/3 certificates. Screening will also take place at Fairhaven to decide which course is appropriate especially if the candidate is previously unknown, known candidates will be assessed on the river from the clubhouse. RJ continued that a normal course would be restricted to participants as we developed expertise, with children & adults being taught on separate courses.

6.2 Powerboat 2 training:- Over the winter a Power Boat level 2 course is planned to increase our team of qualified safety boat drivers, this will be run by Alan Jones from the RYA at B&FYC. 4 RCC candidates have been identified, when qualified they will boost RCC coverage during sailing activities.

6.3 Provisional dates for 2016:-

3&4 April Fairhaven, assessments for youngster stage 1 or 2 , 23 & 24 April, Clubhouse for tidal assessments, 11 & 12 June New adults beginners from 2015 'Try Sailing', 25 & 26 June New beginners course at Fairhaven for youngsters. RJ explained that they had hoped for a Youth course at Easter but schools were setting their own holidays this year & they may not coincide. RJ also said that Alan Jones (RYA) intended to support RCC much as last year.

6.4 Senior Instructor Training:- Alan Jones was very supportive that RCC grew the number of Senior Instructors, 3 RCC instructors were hoped to go on an appropriate course early this season.

6.5 Fees:- There was a discussion re fees item 7.1, MC supported RJ's view that RCC should charge some fees but these should be appropriate in this 1st instance, try & cover operational costs but not a full revenue stream.

7.0 Dock report

KL reported from a Dock meeting convened on Tuesday 8th December:-

7.1: Dock Working Party:- The main item was planning for dock WP on 13th Dec at which approx. 35-40 50 people attended. Poor weather over weekend led to a reduced turnout, but a reasonable amount of work achieved including, One new-build pontoon completed & a second awaiting new barrels, refurbished pontoon launched & installed Liggard no17, pontoon wire & chain replacement in main drain, repairing holes in car park, tree pruning & tidy up. 2 further work parties are planned but no date set.

7.2 Other items:- Tug Plinth, Now considering garage storage for tug using ramps, tractor sale - no progress. AB awaiting response from DVLA for replacement V5 which may improve our selling position & Trailer purchase was still ongoing.

7.3 Winch Replacement: Still ongoing but Dock Committee has decided to get frame construction plans drawn up by structural engineer & a contact for structural engineer obtained.

7.4 Budget:- Alan Slorick is to update the draft budget, moving new winch wire from capital to maintenance.

7.5 Dock fees:- Dock Committee have noted the request from Main Committee to reconsider berthing fees for next year & they will consider that when dock budget is finalised. MB suggested again that that from any perspective, Dock fees should go up, cost of operating dock has increased (electricity, VAT, more professional help). Also Dock is only RCC asset & is owned by whole club, it should contribute to overall club funds on an Annual basis to fund capital plans. These capital plans obviously always include Dock but also Sailing & Clubhouse. My suggestion is 15% increase as a minimum giving a £2/3000 contribution to CLUB FUNDS. There was some support for that view.

8.0 Fabric report

8.1 Garage repair:- DM reported that the repair to the walls in the garage & the drain will be completed by end Jan.

8.2 Ladies changing rooms:- DM confirmed that there was standing water on both sides of the sea wall in the ladies changing room & outside. He would check the levels to see if that was relevant, duck boards were also being considered to resolve this infrequent event.

8.3 Dinghy Tank Resurfacing:- DM reported meeting a local contractor who had quoted £15/m², a total of £4000.

8.4 2016 budget: this is being prepared & would include some chair recovering, as well as Trophy case & bookcase. The Disabled Access should be remembered for 'capital plans'

9.0 Social report

9.1 Social Events:- RF reported that Social Committee now had about 6 or 7 social functions in place for 2016, Simon Redfearn & Mike Lynch are also sorting out some Junior events. December saw some 90 people at the Christmas Party & Housewarming on 12th Dec, with about 25 at the New Year's Eve event. A Traditional Burns night will be held on 30th January 2016, a 'Curry Evening in Feb, The Sherry Evening is already planned for Sat 12th March, Fitting Out Dinner in April, Push the Boat Out Lunch in June & Laying Up Supper in October to be an outside event. RF said that overall the objective was to get several teams involved so that it was not always the same people 'doing' events. He informed MC that unfortunately due to *anno domini* Pat & George Chiles will be unable to cater for RCC in future although they have agreed to continue serving & clearing up. RF & partner Jackie Rawcliffe with Roger & Alison Audsley are undertaking catering for Burns Night.

9.2 Sherry Evening invites:- RF reported that the Mayor had been invited, further invites would be sent to Mark Menzies our MP, RNLI- Coxswain of LSA Lifeboat & Partner, Commodores & partners of WLYC & B&FYC.

9.3 Tuesday Talks:- MB reported that he was well on the way to organising 8 talks in 2016 + 3 in 2017 allowing their inclusion in the Handbook. He reported he had 5 firm, 4 probables & some ideas, a new talk 'Cruising to Anchor in Balearics' - Shaun Beverley from Lytham was now planned for April, next is Jan 26th 'Port of Freckleton'.

10.0 Development Committee

RB reported that Dev Comm had not yet had a meeting but would start on 19th January. Dev Comm would be looking at updating the 10 year plan and requested inputs from each sub-committee.

11 Communication report:- There was no comms report, RH sent his apologies, a home emergency had cropped up.

12.0 Membership report

12.1 Subscriptions letters:- RE reported that these had been sent out after Christmas, there were no new member applications.

12.2 Honorary Membership:- AWi informed MC that the RNLI had appointed a new coxswain for Lytham St Annes Lifeboat, Mr Gary Bird. MC confirmed that Gary Bird would be offered Honorary Membership of RCC for the time he was in post, in the normal way. AWi also informed MC that Martin Jaggs had been appointed to a new post in the RNLI, 'Divisional Operations Manager RNLI, England Central Region'. In this post Martin would oversee the work of some 11 Lifeboat stations. AWi proposed that Martin Jaggs be awarded Honorary Membership of RCC, MB in seconding this proposal added that we should award this as a personal honour on this occasion to reward Martin for a life time on Lifeboat & his elevation to Divisional Ops Manager. MC confirmed this honour unanimously & directed MB to write to Martin.

12.3 RE sought direction, re Family members who had lost partners, whether they should automatically become Ordinary members. It was agreed that Hon Membership Secretary would deal with this on a case by case basis, consulting directly with the member so affected.

12.4 RE suggested we review Junior & Student membership for youngsters in full time education. Action Dev Comm.

12.5 There was some private discussion re a potential RCC applicant.

13 Any other business:- There was no other business.

Prepared by M J Briers 16th Jan 2016