



**WEYMOUTH AND PORTLAND CRUISING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES of the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday 24 April 2018**

Agenda item 1. Those Present and Apologies:

Committee (9): Ernie Rowe, President (Chair), Peter Anderson, Martyn Simmons, Michael Gregory, John Atkinson, Howard Cogan, Roger Edgington, Philip Stringer. Christopher Forrest.

Members Attending (31): Rita Ashman, Martin Ashman, Steven Bowerman, Peter Kane, Jim Long, Lyn Long, Jacquie Crawley, Patrick Crawley, Tess Reid, Chris Reid, Tim Stockley, Clive Jacobs, Barry Gasson, Yvonne Gasson, Sandy Watson, Roger Randall, Marlene Randall, Dick Rutherford, Ian Singleton, Alan Sampson, Mary Sampson, Jeremy Parkinson, Brendan Moore, Jane Atkinson, Alun Harfoot, Liz Harfoot, Maggie Roberts, Paul Roberts, Brian Lincoln, Allan Wells, Winkie Watson.

Apologies for Absence (10): Martin Figg, Kate Harley, Peter Rigby, Stephen Shears, Jacquie Shears, David Lloyd, Sara Lloyd, John Tuckwood, Jane Rowe, Alison Stevens.

Introductory Statement by E Rowe (President)

Before opening the meeting, the President read a letter of condolence that he had sent, on behalf of the WPCOA, to the Commodore of Weymouth Sailing Club following the tragic accident of 16th April 2018.

Agenda Item 2: Minutes of the previous AGM and Matters Arising

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24th April 2017 were taken as read.

Proposed by Michael Gregory and seconded by Sandy Watson that they be accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Matters Arising: none

Agenda Item 3 : Treasurer's report and 2016 accounts

See Treasurer's report in Addendum 1

Proposed by Dick Rutherford and seconded by John Atkinson that the accounts be accepted. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4: Membership Secretary's report

See Membership Secretary's report in Addendum 2

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Peter Kane noted the drop in membership and suggested that, in an attempt to attract younger new members, the club could buy a couple of sailing dinghies to introduce them to sailing. It was agreed that this would be discussed by the committee at the next meeting.

Brendan Moore asked what the club's reaction would be to people who did not respond to a request to allow their data to be stored and used by the club. Peter Anderson replied that the problem would be considered further when necessary.

Mary Sampson asked whether we should consider placing an advertisement in the local press, explaining the objectives of the club to attract members.

Brian Lincoln suggested that few local boat owners would actually know of the existence of the WPCA.

Agenda Item 5: Mooring Officer's report

See Mooring Officer's report in Addendum 3

Jim Long asked the possible cost of clearing the sea bed should the club decide to give up the moorings. Michael Gregory did not know the answer and it was not clear who, locally, could actually carry out the work. Michael Gregory offered to approach Hugh Wiltshire at Quest to ask.

Barry Gasson suggested that it would be cheaper to leave the moorings in place.

Sandy Watson asked whether WPCA members might be allowed to keep tenders at Castle Cove Sailing Club but Michael Gregory explained that requests to do so had been refused on three occasions.

Agenda Item 6: Cruising Officer's report

See Cruising Officer's report in Addendum 4

No issues were raised on this report

Agenda Item 7: Social Secretary's report

See Social Secretary's report in Addendum 5

No issues were raised on this report

Agenda Item 8: President's Address

See President's Address in Addendum 6

Agenda Item 9: Election of Officers and Committee

The following members were elected to the Committee 'en masse'. There were no contended positions.

President – Michael Gregory

Hon. Secretary – Martyn Simmons (for one additional year)

Mooring Officer – Michael Gregory (for one additional year)

Membership Secretary – Peter Anderson (for one additional year)

Social Secretary – Howard Cogan (for one additional year)

Members Representative – Roger Edgington (for one additional year)

Cruising Officer – Peter Rigby

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Assistant Cruising Officer – Chris Reid

The following will serve their second year until the AGM in 2019:

Treasurer – Chris Forrest

Talks Co-ordinator and PR – John Atkinson

The meeting closed at 21:47, followed by the presentation of Trophies

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Addendum 1
Treasurer's Report

I'd like to thank Tim Stockly for again verifying the association's accounts which were compiled up to 31 Dec and were distributed to members via e-mail on the 10 April.

No questions regarding the accounts have been received by myself.

Income from membership, moorings and advertising is down on last year; however this has been balanced by a reduction in expenditure again related mainly to moorings and a few other items.

Interest on Savings continues to be low.

The prepayment was in relation to the web hosting subscription and the current liability was for the Christmas buffet which has been settled.

The association's finances remain in good health with a total net worth of £23,331 up £221 from last year. I am however now anticipating a late invoice from Castle Cove for the use of the clubhouse which will now fall into this year's expenditure. This will effectively mean we broke even last year.

Regarding the use of the CCSC clubhouse, we have received a letter from their commodore advising us that they will need to increase the charge in order to recover more of their overheads. They are proposing a 5 % increase this year and a further 5 % next year.

We will continue to monitor our income and expenditure, but at present I do not recommend any increase in membership fees this year.

Chris Forrest
Treasurer

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Addendum 2
Membership Secretary's Report

At present we have 114 members. That's made up of 72 First Members, and 42 Second members. This compares with 121 members last year, and 123 in the year before that - a decrease of about five percent. We have 59 boats on our Boat List compared with 64 last year.

As always we welcome new members with or without boats. For a whole variety of good reasons some members choose not to renew their subscription each year, and we need new members to continue the vitality of the club.

Look, we all know it's a great club with good company, an excellent talks programme, a comprehensive cruising programme, two dinners, two buffets, a legendary Boat Jumble and of course our Cruiser magazine which is always a good read.

So if you see a new face in the club, please introduce yourself to them and make them welcome. If after a couple of visits they would like to join, there are Application Forms behind the bar, or they can apply online.

Lastly, you are probably aware that new data protection legislation comes into force in May. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). I will be writing to you shortly asking you to confirm that you are happy for the club to use those of your personal details which it holds for club purposes. I would ask you to respond as promptly as you can

Peter Anderson
Membership Secretary

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Addendum 3
Mooring Officer's Report - 2016

Our Moorings – an explanation

Very briefly, we have two heavy-chain trots, which combined give us 14 potential mooring locations. We also have 'spare' space in our allocated area in Portland Harbour to install further individual chain and sinker moorings as we see fit. Our 14 potential moorings on the heavy-chain trots are suitable for vessels up to 36' long with a maximum weight of 8 tons. Vessels exceeding either of these limits would need to use separate chain and sinker moorings. To reiterate what has been said in previous years, all of the tackle (with the exception of the heavy ground chains on the trots) must be paid for and maintained by the boat owner. The club's role is purely to administer the moorings, see that appropriate fees are collected and paid to the Portland Harbour Authority, the Crown Estate Agents and the arranged inspection company.

Last year we expected to have 3 moorings in use, one of which was the Club mooring. The club mooring was made good in early May, but as the season progressed it became apparent that one of the club members' mooring was not going to be used as he had not replaced his damaged boat. The other club member's boat was being repaired and would be ready in May. As it transpired delays caused the May date to slip to September and so that mooring was not used either – although all costs associated with it were paid for by the member.

This year inspections have been done on the club mooring (N7) and the member's mooring (N5) and both have passed inspection. In fact the club mooring, now in its third year has sustained very little wear – primarily because it has been swamped to the seabed every winter, thereby limiting the wear and corrosion. Based on the inspection this year, I believe we will see more life out of the club mooring than was estimated in the costing exercise that I presented at last years AGM.

We now have two other moorings on the trots, which are swamped and have not been inspected this year. Their riser chains should be in excellent condition since they have only had 1 season's wear and they have also been swamped to the seabed since they were fitted. They are available for purchase from the current owners and, subject to an inspection (for insurance purposes), could be used. We could also make use of the free area in our 'patch' for single chain and sinker moorings should anyone want one.

Last year we had lengthy discussion as to the viability of the club mooring. I know it was used by several members last year and I hope it will be used even more this coming season. As stated originally, the availability of a club mooring will be reviewed every year, but indications from members is that we should continue until such time as we are burdened with additional expenditure over and above the annual maintenance needs. Thank you

Michael Gregory
Mooring Officer

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Addendum 4
Cruising Officer's Report

There is very little to report on last year's cruising programme. The weather was most unkind to us, which took out most of the planned cruises. I only had three emails about cruises that could have gone ahead during the whole season. The Treasure Hunt attracted four or five boats and I understand that, whilst I was on holiday, three or four boats did go to Warbarrow for a barbeque.

It is quite a thankless task, being a Cruising Officer, as I learned back in the early 2000s, when I was Cruising Officer then and I really have no more to say than to wish Peter luck in the forthcoming season.

Thank you.

Phil Stringer
Cruising Officer

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Addendum 5
Social Secretary's Report

We have held the customary three main events , the “Laying Up” and “ Fitting Out” suppers both being held at Weymouth Golf Club and the Christmas Buffet being held at CCSC . Whilst those who attended said how much they enjoyed the suppers, the numbers attending continue to decline, 29 for the Laying Up and 31 for the Fitting Out. The Fitting Out Supper did clash with some other functions but was not significantly different to the following event . This is in contrast to the Christmas Buffet which seems to go from strength to strength , with in excess of 60 attending . Is the attraction the price or the nature of the event I wonder?

The Suppers are priced to cover the cost , which they do with a small surplus , while the buffets are paid for from club funds.

I will continue as Social Secretary for a further year as nobody has come forward to take over.

As I have built up good working relationship with Weymouth Golf Club staff ,I propose to continue with that venue rather than change to an unknown provider and have to start from scratch . Whoever takes over the position can look at continuing or moving , or even seeking the clubs views on whether this is what they require and act accordingly. I will obviously offer any assistance to whoever takes the job on, whatever they decide to do .

Howard Cogan
Social Secretary

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Addendum 5
President's Address

I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work throughout the year in keeping the association running smoothly, particularly those who have volunteered to continue for a further term. I would also like to thank those who are standing down and those who have volunteered to act as replacements. Also I wish to thank those who provide valuable support to the association by their voluntary tasks such as auditing the accounts, editing the magazine, communicating with the press, acting as librarian, and running the bar.

The Constitution allows the President the choice of either serving on the committee or not. Previous Presidents have always chosen to serve on the committee and, by custom, acted as chairman. I have been the first President to not serve on the committee. I have not done this by choice, but by necessity. Our meetings are usually held in a very noisy environment, which I find difficult to cope with. We did consider holding the meetings in a quieter place but this proved too difficult.

I therefore wish to give a brief review of how this has gone as a guide to future Presidents. Firstly, the organization has continued to function smoothly and most of you will not have noticed any difference. I thank Howard Cogan, the Social Secretary for acting as chairman throughout the year. I have remained in touch with things by receiving copies of the minutes and by occasional discussions outside the meeting.

My guide to future Presidents is therefore that you have the choice. Personally, I would have preferred to serve on the committee, as I feel I would have made a better job of being President, had I done so. The experience has been a bit like riding in a driverless car for the first time, where you think it is going to hit a lamp post but it doesn't.

I am stepping down after two years as President as I think the Association would be better served by a President, who is still actively cruising. We have always been a very successful social club and it is our cruising activities which require continued attention.

Our membership numbers continue to cause concern, but this is not causing a financial problem.

Thank you all for your support during my period as President and please continue to give your support to my successor.

E Rowe
President