

DRAFT

**SUSSEX YACHT CLUB  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE  
HELD MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MAY 2015**

**Present:**

S Vyse	Vice Commodore, Chair Publicity & New Members
Pat Hill	Rear Commodore, Chair, House Committee
L Woodhams	Rear Commodore, Hon. Treasurer
T Cork	Director, Sailing Section Captain
N Fraser-Betts	Director, House Committee
D Golding	Director, Buildings Maintenance Committee
K Headon	Director, Training Principal
G Roberts	Director, Moorings & Maintenance Committee
D Skinner	Director, Moorings & Maintenance Committee
A Weber	Director, Safety Boat Manager
G Weston	Director, House Committee
T Leigh	Ex-officio, Secretary
Jacqui Flood	Ex-officio, Minute Secretary

**Apologies:**

T Kinch	Rear Commodore, Chair Moorings & Maintenance Cttee
N Prescott	Director
D Ramus	Commodore
M Rummery	Director, Moorings & Maintenance Committee

**Absent:**

What: Action to be completed  
Who: Person assigned to complete the Action  
When: Deadline; date by which the Action is to be completed by assignee  
Status: Ongoing, On Hold, Over Due, Complete

**WHO      WHEN      STATUS**

**871      MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

There were no comments. TC, GR and GW abstained from voting as not present at the previous meeting. LW abstained as he did not believe the minutes comprehensively reflected the meeting.

Proposed: SV    Ab: TC, GR, GW, LW      Carried

**872      MATTERS ARISING**

**872.1    853.1 – Sailing Rule Revision**

TL advised that there was a full revision of the Club Rules due this year and to that effect, TK had asked Dski if he could look at the current Sailing Rule and make any recommendations to him and TL. It was his intention to work on the revisions after the Summer.

SV asked if all present could also look at the Rule Book and email TL with any comments/amendments they would be co-ordinated by the office and presented to the Board.

**All                      Ongoing**

## 872.2 853.2 - Wavelength

SV advised that it is his intention for Wavelength to be ready after the Royal Escape Race. SV also advised that he would be much busier next year and in light of that he had found a commercial supplier for the next and following editions. This will not increase the cost to the Club. TL asked whether this company would deal with the advertising. SV stated they would deal with layout, Club would provide advertisers. SV also confirmed that Dave Lee would still edit and co-ordinate the editions.

Dski commented that an article he had provided on the West Entrance was now very out of date. He was willing to update the article and supply newer photos. SV thanked him.

## 872.3 853.7 – West Entrance Refurb Update

Dski advised that he had ordered a finger plate for the new door. SV commented that the new closer is very strong and he believed it may shorten the life of the door. He wondered whether it could be adjusted. DG advised that he had adjusted it and he believed it was not an appropriate closer for that type of door. DG stated he would investigate other possibilities.

DG      Asap      Ongoing

## 873 HOUSE COMMITTEE

### 873.1 General Report

PH advised that she did not have much to report this month, as she was holding a large House Committee Meeting very soon where it was hoped decisions would be made regarding staff/uniforms/planning/salaries for the remainder of the year plus other items now that Jon had settled in. PH confirmed that the new Bar furniture would be ordered following that meeting.

### 873.2 Comments Book

*In the Bar area, there is a Comments Book and Members are encouraged to write any concerns/praise or queries they may have in the book. Each month the Chair of House presents the items to the Board and the most appropriate person deals with the item.*

Anonymous: "Bar looking good"

Anita Sharp: "Bar looks good but can't get Rum Shrub"

Anonymous: "Flag logos behind Bar look fuzzy"

Member asked that the barometer be placed where it could easily be seen. House to investigate.

Dick Condon: "Fridge too noisy". PH advised that common problem in Bars but more noticeable at the moment as we do not have any background music.

PH advised that she has been asked many times when the hooks would go back on the bar for handbags/jackets. House to investigate further.

PH to update Comments Book with responses to all items raised.

PH Asap

### **873.3 Bar Furniture Funds Release - Vote**

TL advised that the recent email vote in respect of release of funds up to £6500 for bar furniture had been approved. There were three abstentions; TC/GR/DG. TC commented that the timing of the vote was too short for those sailing to consider and respond. TL advised that he was under a tight deadline for placing the order and the timing was dictated by that.

LW stated to the meeting that the ideal forum for funds release was the actual Board meeting. He understood, however, that occasionally, due to time constraints, approval needed to be sought outside of the meetings. LW suggested that the board whenever possible should be given 7 days and not less than 3 to review and vote on matters outside of meetings.

## **874 MOORINGS & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

### **874.1 General Report**

TL advised that in TK's absence he did not have anything to report.

### **874.2 Barrier Sign Replacement**

TL advised that a new sign for the barrier, advising users of the yard that the barriers are locked when the Bar is closed, was on order.

It was suggested that when functions are being held at the Club, the Bar advise the host of this fact in order that they may advise their guests.

### **874.3 Tarmount Hard**

Background *Tarmount Hard is the strip of land between SYC and the old Parcel Force Depot, which is owned by the Club. The Developers of Parcel Force, and as previously advised in past Board minutes, have negotiated with the Club for their use of a strip of this land with the club using the remainder for their purposes. The filling in to Tarmount Hard was part of the redevelopment of the old Parcel Force depot.*

TL advised that work on the old Parcel Force depot had stopped as the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) had not granted a license for the infill of Surry Hard. This permission has now been given and the development will now be recommenced.

The Club applied for a license to fill in Tarmount Hard and were awaiting the decision on Surry Hard. The Environment Agency had objections over the natural habitat that live in the hard. The Club commissioned an Ecology Survey, which identified an area immediate south of the Hard that was more suitable as a habitat. The Environment

Agency did not accept this and so Planning at West Sussex were going to speak with them.

Until the EA's objection is removed, Planning will not grant a licence but it is hoped that this will shortly be resolved.

## **875 BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

### **875.1 General Report**

TL advised, the in Commodore's absence, that there was nothing in particular to report.

### **875.2 Bar Installation Update**

TL advised that the carpet had been laid. All other items pertaining to the Bar were covered under "House".

GW asked whether the door to the store room was to be changed? TL confirmed that it was. It was also noted that the hatch to the PA system now looks shabby. The meeting was advised that this had not been part of the original design of the bar but would be looked at by House.

SV asked if the chart could be rehung at the top of the stairs before the Royal Escape Briefing.

TL Asap

### **875.3 Restaurant Floor Update**

TL advised that the Boatswain was working on a centre punch to push down the nails in the floor in order that it may be sanded and varnished. The flooring company will be here week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> June and the Restaurant will be out of action all week. SV asked that confirmation be given by the company that they will remove the absolute minimum. TL confirmed he would get this.

TL Asap Ongoing

### **875.4 Theft of Flares and Consequences**

It had been reported that new flares had been swapped with out of date ones in the dinghy store. The consequences of this action was not needed to be pointed out but all agreed it was irresponsible and dangerous.

As a result of this, regrettably, the door to the dinghy store will be added to the fob system. Comment was made that any Member who conducted such actions would be taken to task under the Club's disciplinary procedures.

### **875.5 Southwick Heritage Lottery Fund Presentation**

Following the presentation made to the Board last month by ABIR Architects and the support it received from the Board, the architects made an appointment with the Conservation Officer and Planning Officer and they met last Tuesday at Southwick. The four main changes; altering of third bay, rebuilding of kiln and dormer skylight, and lowering of floor had all been agreed in principle. The next stage for the

Club would be to apply for round one funding.

### **875.6 Funds Release – Southwick Development**

In order to make application for funding for the development of Southwick, it was agreed that the services of a professional fundraiser be sought. £2,000 had already been granted for such work but this was when only one organisation was to be approached for funding. It transpires that the Club should be looking to at least three organisations for funding and therefore a request for an additional £2,000 was being sought for this purpose.

Initially, when the Club was investigating the possibility of getting funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, what was on offer was hopefully the Club would provide c10% and the HLF would, if a bid were successful, provide the rest. The HLF have altered their criteria for successful bids and will now usually only award a grant up to the maximum of the difference between the cost of provision of the project on green space and the cost of alteration of a heritage building. Also in the past year, budget constraints have for the first time seen good eligible applications refused/postponed due to HLF funding shortages

In order to, hopefully, secure all the money the Club requires, it has been advised to seek smaller grants from other sources in addition such as Sport England and the Big Lottery Fund. SV advised the meeting that there were no guarantees that the Club would be lucky in obtaining the money but he believed it was worth the time and funds of an application. LW assured the meeting measures would be put in place to minimise the risk of club funds being leeched away on this project if the prospects of success were becoming disproportionate.

Proposed: SV 2<sup>nd</sup>: LW Carried Unanimously

## **876 FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **876.1 Pre-Budget Report**

LW reported that there was no change in the budget procedure from last year and reminded all that due diligence was required.

## **877 SAILING COMMITTEE**

### **877.1 General Report**

TC stated that everything was going well. For future meetings he will advise results of recent races/rallies

### **877.2 Funds Release – Race Bag Refurbishment**

TC advised that he was asking for £450 for the replacement of a number of flags and a large burgee for the race bag.

It was agreed that these items were necessary for racing in the Club.

Proposed: TC 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dski Carried Unanimously

TL advised the Board that the Commodore had requested his burgee be kept in the race bag and it was now there.

## **878 DINGHY SECTION/TRAINING/YOUTH/SAILABILITY**

### **878.1 General Report**

KH advised that Family & Cadets had started and was very well attended. He also advised that a couple of Toppers at Southwick had been run over by cars and were beyond economical repair. OnBoard had started with Steyning Grammar and he was actively seeking new members for the Junior Team. The rest of training was going well. Sailability had started, more helpers were required.

KH advised that although they can safely manage a maximum of 40 cadets on the water, this can actually mean that there are some 120 in the vicinity, and inside, the Southwick clubhouse.

Dski apologised to KH that the pontoon for the rescue boat had not been completed in time and was still unavailable. KH asked if this could be done soon as an accident had already occurred. Dski said he would speak with the Boatswain separately and put more pressure on him to get on with the project.

Dski      Asap

KH advised that the RYA had recently carried out their annual inspection and were very impressed with the Club. They advised KH that SYC was one of the best organised clubs on the coast.

## **879 ROYAL ESCAPE RACE**

### **879.1 General Report**

SV advised that the weather was looking good and all plans were in place. Not a very good turn out from Brighton but Race well supported by Sovereign Harbour and also a good representation from SRF in France. 57 entrants as at this date.

## **880 PUBLICITY & MEMBERS**

### **878.1 General Report**

SV stated he was concerned at the drop of Single Adult/Joint Adult members. He wished to appoint a person with specific responsibility for promoting club membership and working with new members. SV asked if anyone could think of a suitable person to let him know.

### **878.2 Open Day Cancellation**

SV advised that due to the dance/music event being held at the airport on the same day regrettably the decision had been taken to cancel Open Day this year at Shoreham, the Club had been advised, would be gridlocked from extra activity at the airport (>35,000 attendees expected each day).

It was agreed that the Club would be closed/restricted for vehicular access so that no festival goers could camp.

### **878.3 Paddle Round the Pier 2015**

SV reminded all that the Club had in the past had a stall at PaddleRTP but that it had been deemed by the board to have not been a success. In the years following, the Club has through member volunteers effectively provided safety boat cover to the event, with the organisers paying the boat fuel costs. Through David Lee, this year the organisers have offered the Club a pitch and advertising (promoting the fact the Club provides safety boat cover), if the Club was willing to pay for the fuel with an estimate of £600 to £1,000.

KH advised that he had been asked to give talks at PaddleRTP 2015 on how to get into sailing. He was keen to do this and promote the Club. He also believed a Club presence at the event would be beneficial, but he did not believe the Club should be involved by providing the safety cover; the Club is not in control of risk factors and there are clear dangers of litigation and/or adverse publicity if there was to be an incident. In the past, Club Members had individually provided cover but in their own boats, or had gained permission to use Club boats for the event.

PH asked whether Paddle had provided proof that they had comprehensive event insurance to cover all/any of the boats, that provided safety boat cover for them. KH advised that the members had their own insurance but he did not know whether Paddle covered all the boats within an event policy. AW agreed that Club Members should check their own and the organisers insurance cover when attending/helping.

SV asked the Board whether they thought the Club should officially support PaddleRTP this year through provision of safety cover/fuel.

For: 2    Against: 8    Abstained:1 (LW)    Not Carried

### **878.4 New Members' Listings April & May**

Due to the presentation last month, the New Members' Listing for April was put back to May's meeting.

Lists read through.

Proposed: SV Carried Unanimously

GW commented that he sadly noted the passing of Ann Payne, a long time, then subsequently Honorary, Member of the Club. She and her husband were very heavily involved in the dinghy sailing at SYC. It was agreed that the Club would make a donation to the family's chosen charity.

TL Asap Ongoing

#### 878.5 125 Committee

SV advised that more volunteers were sought for this committee. PH to start process.

PH Asap Ongoing

#### 879 CORRESPONDENCE

None

#### 880 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

##### 880.1 Shoreham Adur Flood Defences

TL reminded all that when the work on Tidal Wall project on the south bank of the river commences, this would have an effect on the Club's premises on the south side. The Council and Flood Consultants were to meet with TK, LW and TL. TK would report when required on the discussions.

##### 880.2 Champ

AW confirmed that the Champ was working mechanically and wondered whether a date was available when the cosmetic side might be done. TL advised he would speak with the Boatswain.

TL Asap Ongoing

##### 880.3 Young Carers' Day (Previously PHAB)

TC wished to thank everyone involved with making the Young Carers' Day such a success, especial thanks to Brighton RNLI and Premier Marinas. JF to write letters on behalf of SYC

##### 880.4 Race Results

TL advised that members had not been able to find the results of the Tala Hina nor Solent Race on the website and the Office did not know them either. SV confirmed he was still to put them on the site.

SV Asap

TC said he would ensure the Office is added to the list of people who receive race result emails in order they are kept up to date.

TC Asap

The meeting closed at 2205

#### 881 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2217

I agree the above to be a true summary of the meeting.

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