

RATIFIED

SUSSEX YACHT CLUB

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE

HELD MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2011

**Present:**

A Saunders	Commodore, Meeting Chair
D Skinner	Rear Commodore, Chair Moorings & Maintenance Cttee
C West	Rear Commodore, Chair House Cttee
David Ramus	Vice Commodore & Hon. Treasurer
D McSwein	Director
K Phelps	Director, Safety Boat Manager
B Watkins	Director
G Roberts	Director
Di Saunders	Director
K Headon	Director, Training Principal
M Twell	Director
Pat Hill	Director
D Lee	Director, Chair, BSAC
T Leigh	Ex-officio, Secretary
Jacqui Flood	Ex-officio, Minute Secretary

**Apologies:** M Mayall Director, Publicity

**Absent:** L Woodhams Director, Sailing Section Captain  
J Pryke Director, Captain, Dinghy Section

*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*

	WHAT	WHO	WHEN	STATUS
<b>333</b>	<b>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</b>			
	DSki wished it noted that under item 320.2, Payment of Membership Fees by Direct Debit, that this was not discussed at the Flag Officers' meeting nor did it receive his support.			
	CW asked that item 321.3, Funds Release, Computer for Accountant, reflected his question as to why the Club was converting to a mac computer when the accounting programme was not being supported by its manufacturer.			
	Proposed: DSki 2 <sup>nd</sup> : DR For: 10 Ab: 1 (PH not at meeting) Carried			
<b>334</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>			
	<b>334.1 319.1 – Pigeon Cull</b>			
	TL confirmed that a second cull had been actioned and this seemed to do the job at the moment.			Complete
	<b>334.2 319.2 – Sign on Wall</b>			
	TL advised this has been completed.			Complete
	<b>334.3 319.4 – Mooring Extension at Southwick</b>			
	DSki advised that all in hand and that he was having a meeting on Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> July.	DSki	ASAP	Ongoing
	<b>334.4 319.6 – Club Development Plan</b>			
	Commodore confirmed there was still some tweaking to do.	Comm	ASAP	Ongoing
	<b>334.5 319.11 – Rule Book</b>			
	TL confirmed this had been written and was awaiting proof reading. To be distributed in advance on the next Main Meeting.	TL	ASAP	Ongoing

	<b>334.6</b>	<b>320.3 – Quarterly Payment for Mooring Fees</b>			
		TL advised that the necessary changes to the Rules pertaining to mooring contracts had been included in the updated Rule Book.			Complete
	<b>334.7</b>	<b>321.3 – New Computer for Accountant</b>			
		TL advised that he had met with LW and had agreed the way forward.	TL	ASAP	Ongoing
	<b>334.8</b>	<b>324 - Royal Visit</b>			
		Commodore confirmed that he had dealt with the matter and it was now closed.	Comm	ASAP	
	<b>334.9</b>	<b>326 – Facebook/Twitter</b>			
		TL advised that LW would be writing a report on this matter to see whether it would be beneficial for the Club to use these sites as a means of communicating with Members.	LW	ASAP	Ongoing
<b>335</b>	<b>PRS MUSIC LICENSE</b>				
	Confirmed that a report had been distributed regarding the changes in charging structure for the PRS license. Commodore commented that if the proposed charges are agreed, the Club could not afford to pay the increase				
	All agreed that if the proposed increases were to happen, this could dramatically affect the Club's ability to provide music and television in the Club houses. Suggestion made that Tim Loughton, MP be written to. Comm to do so. TL also to contact local Chamber of Commerce.		TL/ COMM	ASAP	Ongoing
<b>336</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP MATTERS</b>				
	<b>336.1</b>	<b>New Members' Listing</b>			
		List of new Members was read through. It was noted that three were as a result of Paddle Round the Pier.			
		Proposed: CW 2 <sup>nd</sup> : DSKi Carried Unanimously			
	<b>336.2</b>	<b>New Members' Evening</b>			
		Commodore commented that it was a very good evening which was enjoyed by all. The format was slightly changed but proved successful.			
		Commodore asked that another evening be arranged, suggested October, for those who could not attend. JF to speak with MM	JF/MM	ASAP	Ongoing
<b>337</b>	<b>FRANCHISE NEGOTIATIONS</b>				
	CW confirmed that Peter was leaving the Club at the end of July. He was currently negotiating with another caterer as a possible replacement. He also confirmed that any new caterer would pay franchise fee from day one.				
	CW advised that Hocine was still to sign his contract and had until 1 <sup>st</sup> August to do so. At a previous meeting between Hocine, CW and DR Hocine had suggested that he would be in a position to make a decision in September but it was felt that this was too long. It was stressed at the meeting that all concerned wished the present franchisee to remain but that it was vital that the contract be signed to formalise his position. A further meeting is scheduled for 21 <sup>st</sup> July. After much discussion, all agreed that if Hocine did not sign his contract the club would be forced into an untenable position. BW commented that no franchisee should be able to "hold the Club to ransom".				
	BW asked if the Club had any contingency plans if Hocine were to leave. PH advised that the Club itself had a license and therefore the Secretary was also a licensee.				
	Commodore advised that Hocine's new contract did not vary greatly from the one he signed in 1992, other than a slight increase in fees and some				

	clauses had been added.			
	GR made reference to Frank Kay's report on the RLYC's catering and whether the Club should be looking for a single franchisee. CW agreed that this was a way forward. GR also asked whether the Club would consider employing a Manager? CW commented that this could not happen whilst there were two franchisees.			
	DMcS asked whether Hocine's finances were up to date? DR confirmed they were. (For clarification, Ho is still heavily in arrears but discussions on this debt have been tabled at meetings and potential resolution is in hand).			
	KP asked if the other caterers CW was in negotiations with were going to be accepted without offering lunches? CW stated that the House Committee believed that the franchisee would not make any money catering for the lunch time business. They wished to cater for functions and at weekends. KP believed that it would be a dreadful situation if the Club did not offer catering during the week.			
	BW commented that it would not be a good idea to give the contract without looking elsewhere. All agreed. CW stated that a trial period would be written in to any contract but as the kitchen is not functioning as a business it cannot go on. DSKi believed House Committee should make the decision and all Directors must stand united.			
	CW commented that his hands were tied until such time as Hocine had made a decision regarding his future.			
	TL suggested that the Directors provide CW with their views for guidance regarding the possibilities if Hocine did not sign his contract.			
	KP asked whether the Club, if they employed someone, would go over the VAT threshold? TL stated that if current trend continues, revenue would not exceed the threshold.			
	Commodore stated that a business case was required for any options considered. GR suggested that, if required, an extra Board Meeting be held to discuss this item only, all agreed. CW asked that a vote be taken on action taken if Hocine did not sign his contract.			
	DSKi proposed that the Bar Franchisee be required to sign a contract on or before 1 <sup>st</sup> August, otherwise, with regret, the Franchisee will be given notice to leave.			
	Proposed: DSKi 2 <sup>nd</sup> : CW Carried unanimously.			
<b>338</b>	<b>PADDLE ROUND THE PIER</b>			
	DL reported that it was a very good day and believed it should be an annual event in the Club's calendar. DSKi reminded all that he was rather sceptical about the amount being spent on the event as giving value to the Club. He did attend the day, which he did enjoy, but did have serious misgivings on the Club attending again. The event cost some £2,500, some of which was spent on items that could be reused and DSKi did not believe the event gave a good enough return for the investment. He suggested that perhaps the Club looked at doing a display in the new pedestrian road in Shoreham.			
	DL stated that the success of the event should not be judged by memberships. He believed that more could have been sold, especially training courses, if there had been a means by which to take monies on the day. DMcS commented that he dealt with many queries about training and believed that most of these would result in people joining our training courses.			
	Commodore commented that a longer discussion was required on this item and asked DL when he would need to know if the Club were to attend the	All	Nov	Ongoing

	2012 event by? DL stated Christmas. It was agreed that the item would be brought forward to the November Main Committee meeting. The Commodore also commented that it was disappointing that the Sailing Section had not provided display material for their section on the stand.			
<b>339</b>	<b>BURGLAR ALARM</b>			
	TL stated he did not have anything to add to his report. There were still some people requiring training and therefore the alarm could not be set at present. The Club's insurers were aware of the situation. TL advised that he was speaking to the insurers regarding a possible claim for the damage to the previous alarm system but they considered the lightning an "act of God".			
<b>340</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>			
	<b>340.1 Roger Martel</b>			
	TL advised that Roger, a very gifted amateur model maker, had offered to repair the Club's models for cost of materials only. It was agreed that House Committee should discuss the possibility of displaying the models once repaired. TL had written letter of thanks to Roger for his kind offer.			
<b>341</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>			
	<b>341.1 Dealing with Members' Complaints</b>			
	MT advised the meeting that he had recently spoken to a Member who had received a "not very" sympathetic response from the Office following a theft from his store.			
	KP stated that he was aware of the situation and that the member concerned was disappointed with the service he received regarding cctv.			
	Commodore advised that he and TL had had a discussion about this matter and initially they were given a 36 hour timespan to look at. This was not humanly possible due to the time it would take.			
	TL stated that he was subsequently given a smaller timespan (10 hours) and did review the tape. The member concerned had been advised.			
	<b>341.2 Email Communication</b>			
	DMcS suggested that members are asked for their sailing interests so they could receive specific emails. TL advised this was in hand.			
	<b>341.3 Summer Party</b>			
	CW stated that the evening was a great success with excellent food and music. He also advised that of the 104 people who had booked tickets two Directors cancelled their tickets after the closing date but they would still have to pay. Commodore mentioned that sadly both the Directors concerned were Section Captains. He also commented that it was one of the best evenings he had enjoyed at the Club in a long time.			
	<b>341.4 Family &amp; Cadet Disco</b>			
	DR advised he had tickets for the event, which was being held this coming Friday if anyone would like to support our Cadets.			
	<b>341.5 Cowes Week</b>			
	Commodore wished every success to Kevin and his team who were competing at Cowes.			
<b>342</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>			
	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> September, unless further meeting to discuss franchise is required.			

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2120

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

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