

DRAFT

SUSSEX YACHT CLUB

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE

HELD MONDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2011

Present:

A Saunders	Commodore & Chair
David Ramus	Vice Commodore & Hon. Treasurer
D Skinner	Rear Commodore, Chair Moorings & Maintenance Cttee
C West	Rear Commodore, Chair House Cttee
J Pryke	Director
K Phelps	Director, Safety Boat Manager
L Woodhams	Director, Sailing Section Captain
B Watkins	Director
G Roberts	Director, Health & Safety
M Twell	Director
Pat Hill	Director
K Headon	Director, Training Principal
D Lee	Director
Di Saunders	Director
T Leigh	Ex-officio, Secretary
Jacqui Flood	Ex-officio, Minute Secretary
Terry Kinch	Ex-officio, Director Elect
Tim Cork	Ex-officio, Director Elect
Ian O'Dell	Ex-officio, Director Elect, Captain Dinghy Section
Steve Vyse	Ex-officio, Director Elect
Dave Norwood	Ex-officio, Director Elect, Chair BSAC

Apologies:

M Mayall	Director, Publicity
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The Commodore welcomed the following Directors Elect to the meeting; Terry Kinch, Tim Cork, Ian O'Dell, Steve Vyse and Dave Norwood.

The Commodore welcomed the following Members to the meeting:

Doug Beanlands, Michael Green, Tony Curtis, Michael Northover, Gabrielle Northover, Michael Large, Susan Large, Giles Weston, Tony Boysons, Adele Boysons, Sandra Beanlands, Robert Grierson, Richard Condon

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
374	BAR FRANCHISE			
	The Commodore advised the guests that the Members were always welcome to attend a Main Committee meeting as observers only. The Directors had agreed this time that any of the guests may speak to the Board, via the Chair and also ask questions.			
	Giles Weston presented a petition signed by some 199 members to the Commodore. The Commodore commented that he was upset that none of the signatories came to speak with him prior to a petition being raised to ascertain full facts. He was glad that Giles had agreed to change the wording on the petition to state that any negotiations should be to the			

	benefit of both the Club and the Franchisee.			
	The Commodore asked CW how far the actual contract negotiations went. CW advised that Hocine was given the new contract, which he took away with him. At the following meeting scheduled to discuss the contract, Hocine advised it was intention to leave and negotiations necessarily ceased.			
	LW asked whether Hocine had rescinded his intention to leave. Giles Weston advised that he would if the Board were in agreement to restart negotiations. Giles read Hocine's letter to the meeting.			
	Tony Boysons commented that he believed Hocine should not have to work within a contract and that he should be trusted to run the bar as he always had. Tony stated that the contract offered to Hocine should not have been "non-negotiable". Commodore stated that that was not true. PH who drew up the contract also advised that was not the case.			
	Tony Boysons suggested that the Club should employ an independent valuer to assess the cost of cleaning/rates/utilities etc that would be apportioned to the Bar and possibly use this figure as an appropriate fee (this figure has been calculated previously at £22,700 per annum).			
	PH advised the meeting that her company drew up the new contract and she totally denies that it was "non-negotiable". The Commodore stated he had a copy which proved the accusation false.			
	Michael Large asked why a new contract was required. PH advised that the new contract was broadly the same as the old one but was brought up to date in light of changes to opening hours and other factors.			
	Michael Large suggested that there be a "settling period" before negotiations are restarted and goodwill restored. The Commodore did not believe there was any ill feeling on either side.			
	Giles Weston commented that there was nothing productive in going over the past. Should be looking forward and starting the process again.			
	DL advised the meeting that Hocine was in fact in breach of his contract by not paying his franchise fee and the Board would be in dereliction of its duty to Members by not dealing with this matter.			
	Susan Large asked if anyone had spoken with Hocine as to why his			

	account became overdue?			
	KP stated that Tony Boyson's comments regarding the franchise fee made it seem as though the Club was usurious in its charging and in fact Hocine was only being billed at a rate equivalent to £48 per week.			
	CW asked Giles Weston whether he spoken to anyone involved before drawing up the petition? Giles stated that he was asked not to say anything so did not.			
	Commodore asked Giles Weston, who had agreed to speak for and represent Hocine at any future negotiations, what would happen if agreement could not be reached this time. Giles advised that if Hocine and the Club were still unable to agree mutually agreeable terms, Hocine would, regrettably, then leave the Club.			
	LW commented that he believed it would be in the Members' interests if the minutes of the previous and future meetings were made available once agreed by both parties.			
	DL stated that the Club needed to operate an "open book" policy.			
	CW informed the meeting he was more than happy to make the communications available.			
	BW proposed that; "The Board accepts Hocine's letter rescinding his withdrawal of services and start full and open negotiations with Hocine and the Directors of the Club".			
	Proposed: BW 2 nd : JP Carried unanimously.			
	The guests left the meeting at 2105			
375	DOGS ON THE BALCONY			
	The Commodore read the rule pertaining to dogs on Club's premises and advised that some Members have requested that dogs be allowed on the balcony. KH commented that he knew a child who had previously been made upset by a dog on the balcony and did not think it appropriate.			
	DL asked whether anyone had reported a dog attacking anyone or fouling at the Club? TL stated that nothing had been reported to him regarding the balcony. KP commented that the problem was that some dog owners were very self indulgent over the behaviour of their animals and also that			

	food was served on the balcony. DL commented that dogs should be kept on leads.			
	Proposal that dogs be allowed on the balcony, under control and on a lead.			
	Proposed: PH 2 nd : DR For: 9 Ag: 4 CW, DS, KH, KP Carried			
376	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING			
	Commodore asked for any comments regarding accuracy. None received.			
	Proposed: LW 2 nd : CW Carried Unanimously			
377	MATTERS ARISING			
	377.1 361.1 Mooring Extension at Southwick			
	Item still ongoing.	DSki		Ongoing
	377.2 361.2 Club Development Plan			
	To be brought to January's meeting.	Comm		Ongoing
	377.3 361.7 ASR Launch			
	Agenda item.			
	377.4 361.9 Dogs on Balcony			
	Agenda item.			
	377.5 Fixture Card			
	Item still ongoing.	JF		Ongoing
378	NEW MEMBERS' LISTING			
	List read through.			
	Proposed: PH 2 nd : DR Carried Unanimously			
379	PADDLE ROUND THE PIER 2012			
	Commodore reminded all that this item was brought forward from last month's meeting. DL commented that he believed the Club should participate in the event again in 2012 and perhaps have the Youth Team compete in the Musto dinghy sailing. DR stated that a fantastic job was done by the organisers and those present on the day but the Club did not gain anything for it. DL replied that if more time had been available to plan the event, it would have been better.			

	KP stated that it was never the plan that the day should pay for the amount invested in it and believed it was a just exercise in that it advertised the Club to some 40,000 people over the two day event.			
	DSki commented that he helped at the event but did not believe it financially viable to participate again. He believed that a stall locally, East Street, would be more beneficial to the Club at less cost.			
	LW asked what the final cost was. TL advised c.£2.4k. DL advised that a large proportion of the money spent was on items that were reusable and were now in stock. The actual spend was c.£1.4k. GR asked how much would be needed in 2012? DL advised approximately £1.6k, he also confirmed he would be happy to organise.			
	DSki reminded the meeting that the Club's Open Days were run at a fraction of the cost and generated an average of 66 new Members each year. It was also pointed out that the Publicity committee was not proactive in its marketing plan and should be so, looking at participation in boat shows, dinghy shows etc			
	SV commented that if the Club wished to advertise would it not be better to have stand space at a Boat Show rather than at an event with a wide ranging agenda. <i>SV points out that this is not a recommendation, to the contrary until SYC has clear a clear marketing focus, no money on such items should be considered (mm concurred). SV was not offering himself as a volunteer.</i>			
	LW stated that he believed the financial incentive offered on Open Day made it very popular. DSki reminded all that the same incentive was also offered at Paddle Round The Pier.			
	Commodore, proposal that £1,6k be budgeted for Paddle Round The Pier 2012 and by run by DL.			
	Proposed: DL 2 nd : LW For: 3 Ag: 6 Ab: 1 MT Rejected			
380	HONORARY POSITIONS			
	Commodore stated that after the removal of some guidelines in the rules pertaining to the Admiral it had led to a debate between himself, the Admiral and Secretary on the role and latitude given to the Admiral, President and VPs. The Commodore wished it to go on record his interpretation of their role and specifically to that of the Admiral, which he reminded all was a purely honorary position which was now given at the			

	behest of the Commodore.				
	The Admiral recently enquired about a flag but after discussion with the Secretary and Commodore, when he was advised that no flag is associated with the position of Admiral, he decided not to pursue the matter in any official capacity.				
381	SHOREHAM REGNERATION				
	TL advised that West Sussex County Council, Brighton and Hove City Council, Adur District Council and Shoreham Port Authority had formed a partnership for the regeneration of Shoreham Harbour. They have appointed Jane Huntley as Shoreham Harbour Development Manager who would like to consult with the Club to ascertain the Club's views on various items. The Commodore advised he would be happy to meet with her. Terry Kinch and Graham Roberts would also attend the meeting.		AS/GR/TK	Dec	Make contact
382	ASR LAUNCH				
	TL advised that papers were now lodged with the courts and were awaiting notification of a filing of a defence, which would not be known until after December's Main Committee meeting.				
	KP asked whether the Club was still trying to sell the vessel. TL advised that it was being actively marketed and that listing it on Ebay had been delayed in order that interested parties could arrange their tenders. DL asked when that would be. TL advised that interested parties were trying to put funding together. DR commented that the Club must sell to the best purchaser. LW felt that the sale should be left in the hands of the Secretary for as long as it takes to get the best deal overall. Secretary was being monitored in this by DR and DSki.				
383	IOW & RAMPION WINDFARMS				
	All confirmed had received LW's reports and had no comments to add at this time.				
384	CORRESPONDENCE				
	384.1	Email from J Caister			
		TL read an email received from Mr Caister, who had recently resigned his membership. He made comments regarding the New Members Evening he and his wife had attended which were discussed by the Committee.			
		After further discussions it was decided that the Publicity and New Members' Committee would be asked to look in to the			

		structure of the New Members' Evening. If MM was not available, DL expressed interest in heading the initiative. Commodore confirmed he would speak to MM.	Comm	Dec	Ongoing
	384.2	Email from Miles Mayall			
		TL read an email from Miles Mayall who expressed his views regarding the possible future of the bar and restaurant.			
	384.3	Email from Charles Partridge			
		TL read Mr Partridge's email to the meeting.			
	384.4	Email from Andrew Smith			
		TL read Mr Smith's email to the meeting.			
		Commodore confirmed he would personally reply to Mr Partridge's and Mr Smith's communications.	Comm	Dec	Ongoing
	384.5	Letter of Thanks from NCI			
		Letter of thanks received from the NCI for the Club's help in offloading an item of equipment from a lorry for them.			
385	ANY OTHER BUSINESS				
	385.1	Rogues Gallery			
		TL advised all, especially the Directors elect, that the photographer will be in the bar from 1930 hours before December's meeting to take photos for the Rogues Gallery. Those new Directors and those current who wish to update their photo should be dressed, top half, in Cowes Rig.	All	Dec	
	385.2	Minutes of Negotiations with Hocine Zioui			
		CW asked the Board if they would be happy with him making the minutes available to the Members? BW asked that they first be sent to the Directors. It was agreed that all Directors would receive copies of the minutes and Members would also if requested.			
386	DATE OF NEXT MEETING				
	Monday 19 th December 2011, 2000h, RER Shoreham.				

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2204.

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