

SUSSEX YACHT CLUB
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE
Held Monday 15th May 2017

DRAFT

The meeting commenced at: 20.00 hours

Summary of Actions

Item No	Item	Who	When	Status
1209.1	Matters Arising/Volunteers Directory	HF/SV	Ongoing	
1209.2	Matters Arising/New Member Support	HF/SV	Ongoing	
1209.3	Matters Arising/Minutes on website	SV	Immediate	
1209.4	Matters Arising/Group Membership	KH	June	
1209.9	Matters Arising/Finance purchasing	LW	June	
1209.10(vi)	Matters Arising/Car parking	TL	Immediate	
1209.15	Matters Arising/HMS Shoreham	SV	Immediate	
1209.18	Matters Arising/Disabled Shower	TK	Immediate	
1211.1	Marketing	TK	June	
1214.1	Staffing	GW/TK	July	
1215.1	Publicity & Membership/New Members	JB	Immediate	
1216.4	Royal Escape Race/Normandy Hotel	JB	Immediate	
1216.5	Royal Escape Race/Markers	TL	Immediate	
1216.6	Royal Escape Race/Markers	SL	Immediate	
1225.2	AOB/Wavelength	SV	Immediate	

Present:

Steve Vyse	SV	Commodore, Chair Publicity & New Members
Terry Kinch	TK	Vice Commodore, Chair M&M & BMC Committees
Giles Weston	GW	Rear Commodore, Chair Bar & Catering Committee
Anne Macey	AM	Director, House Committee
Ian Bush	IB	Director, Chair, House Committee
David Golding	DG	Director, Buildings Maintenance Committee
David Skinner	DS	Director, Moorings & Maintenance Committee
David Terry	DT	Director, Sailability Committee
Kevin Knight	KK	Director, Safety Boat Manager
Sam Lippett	SL	Director, Sailing Section Captain
Tim Leigh	TL	Ex-officio, Secretary
Jenni Bignell	JB	Ex-officio, Assistant Secretary

Apologies:

Helen Foster	HF	Director, House Committee
Neil Prescott	NP	Director, Moorings & Maintenance Committee
Graham Roberts	GR	Director, Moorings & Maintenance Committee
David Nunn	DN	Director, Sailing Section

Absent:

Laurence Woodhams	LW	Rear Commodore, Hon. Treasurer
Kevin Headon	KH	Rear Commodore, Training Principal

Number Item

1208 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

All agreed as a true summary.

Proposed: Commodore; In favour: Unanimous; Against: 0 ; Abstention: 2 (GW & SL)

1209 MATTERS ARISING

1209.1 Volunteers Directory

HF and SV to discuss but this has not happened yet. HF is away until 19th May.

Action: HF/SV

1209.2 New Members Support

HF and SV to discuss, as above.

Action: HF/SV

1209.3 February & March Minutes on Website

The Minutes are not yet on the website. SV will do. Office will be asked to do these in the future.

Action: SV

1209.4 Group Membership/Sailability

KH was to check the question of whether the group could be part of Sailability. KH not present.

Action: KH

1209.5 CASC ideas for recording activities

All Directors were asked to come back with ideas and this is dealt with later in the Agenda.

1209.6 Staffing Report

Staff report is also on the Agenda to be dealt with later.

1209.7 In the Wind

SV was to train NS and delegate the role to others during the month and bring back to Board to discuss what date ITW should be published. SV reported this has happened.

1209.8 E A Tidal Wall

1209.8 (i)

At the previous meeting LW had said that TL should stop the work that had started without permission. TL reported back that he was advised that EA have a legal right to enter our premises and the site would not be closed down. TL is discussing compensation with EA for the loss of the boathouse and an offer was made of £25,000 + £3,000 towards consultant's fees, but this has been rejected. SYC now has to justify a higher offer and TL is awaiting a formal costing from the consultants advising on the Shoreham Clubhouse project.

1209.8 (ii)

A claim will be submitted based on all matters.

1209.8 (iii)

TL confirmed that the boat owners there have impeded access to the shore, but they are coping.

1209.9 Finance

LW was to review with KK about purchasing outside the office and update the office so procedures can be noted. LW was absent and no report was available.

Action: LW

1209.10 Car parking

1209.10 (i)

SV discussed car parking with Ben Coe (BC). A notice went out in In the Wind. SV and BC walked around and identified cars as best as possible and realised how difficult it is to draw a line about who can park and who cannot. DS noted that at 8.00am the car park can be very full with trades people's vehicles.

- 1209.10 (ii) DG suggested that a disc could be used that has a mobile phone number on it.
- 1209.10(iii) TK stated that the parking was created two years ago for events and at that time few people parked overnight. It is necessary to establish if the cars currently staying overnight are member's cars. It was asked what the penalty would be for overnight parking, but none was agreed. An automatic barrier was considered and rejected.
- 1209.10 (iv) GW confirmed that parking in the car park is with officer's permission, and anyone with a boat in the yard should park there instead. GW considered the habitual perpetrators are the ones to target.
- 1209.10 (v) DS felt that Sunday lunches are now suffering due to the lack of parking. TK wishes to identify the cars that treat the car park as a permanent parking place, and then address those individuals. In the morning Richie Edlin (RE) could go round and record all numbers over a period of a month. It is necessary to identify how big the problem is, ie how many cars are actually causing problems.
- 1209.10 (vi) It was agreed to ask RE to keep stats for a month to identify habitual perpetrators.
Action TL
- 1209.10 (vii) Car parking cards are to be reissued to ensure members display them in the windscreen to aid easy identification.
Action TL
- 1209.11 Epos Funds Release
This item is dealt with later in the Agenda.
- 1209.12 SDP Committee
SV confirmed that an update was put into In the Wind.
- 1209.13 House Bar Price consideration
IB was going to see if the prices were detrimental to the bar. This is dealt with later in the Agenda.
- 1209.14 Lobster Campaign
The Lobster Campaign has suffered a setback because of the dissolution of parliament and the whole process will be re-started after the general election.
- 1209.15 HMS Shoreham – to consider what invitations could be offered.
TL said that we are unlikely to hear anything until mid-June about defined dates and plans.

SV suggested that a poster be made with a welcome to the officers and crew of HMS Shoreham. Also details of their visit will be added to In the Wind.
Action SV.
- 1209.16 Tom Smith's letter
A draft letter of response was seen by SV. Mr Smith was noted to have been very active on Facebook about slipways but does not appear to be getting a lot of support from the community.
- 1209.17 Service of Rededication.
Karen Vyse is going on behalf of the Club.

1209.18 Disabled shower
TK will look into the addition of handholds etc.
Action: TK

1210 FINANCE

1210.1 Budget Preparation
LW not present. Finance meeting will now be held before next board meeting.

1210.2 CASC recording (all sections)
LW not present. SV had previously felt that the collection of data and defining of data should be an item for the Board to consider. TL will see LW before Finance meeting and considered this would be brought into the Finance meeting which is due to be held before the next Board meeting.

1210.3 BSAC request re Compressor

1210.3 (i) SV stated that Tom Voice has asked about the BSAC compressor and any potential new building. It is old fashioned and installation is an involved process. SV explained that space or room would be allocated in the boat park/block. If anything fails however on the old compressor they may not get spare parts. It is working now but the practicalities/economics of moving it into a new space is questionable.

1210.3 (ii) The question of a new compressor was discussed which would cost around £15,000, and BSAC asked whether the Board would loan the money to put a new compressor in a similar arrangement to that used when BSAC purchased their RIB.

1210.3 (iii) TK said the Board voted to support a diving section, but BSAC are not a diving section, they are tenants. Previously BSAC and all diving members were asked to bring a workable model to the Board of how to go forward, and this has not been achieved. He felt that at the time of demolition they should rather be served with notice and then start again from there.

1210.3 (iv) A diving section that integrates with SYC is the ideal. TK feels that the Board has not made a decision about which dive section to support and therefore it would be wrong to financially favour one or other.

1210.3 (v) It was recognised that the two sections would never work together. TK suggested that BSAC remain tenants of the club but that the club creates a separate diving section rather than support one over the other.

1210.3 (vi) It was thought that this could add weight to encourage the two sides to find a way forward to work together and to become one section. The ultimatum would be that they have as long now until the new building starts to sort things out.

1210.3 (vii) TK felt that BSAC need to be encouraged to bring an integrated package to the Board, and if they cannot do that then there is no point in asking for funds. They could remain as tenants, but we will not be helping their finances. Their choice is that they are either a tenant or an integrated section.

1210.3 (viii) TK reminded the Board that it has previously been considered that the new SDP project will effectively negate all former agreements and new ones will need to be negotiated.

1210.3 (ix) TL mentioned some price comparison research, undertaken by a few members, indicated a new compressor that would serve BSAC could be obtained for half the stated cost. It was also noted that Chris West (President) has previously offered his diving compressor to BSAC on favourable terms.

1210.3 (iix). The board felt that a disproportionate amount of time had already been spent discussing diving at SYC without any success and it was the responsibility of the divers to come to the board with a workable solution rather than using the board to mediate between dive groups. SV understood the overall feeling of the board was that the status of BSAC and diving at SYC would have to be settled before any arrangement could be considered and would communicate this to Tom Voice.

1211 MARKETING

1211.1 TK had not prepared a report on marketing and it will be brought back to the next meeting.
Action: TK to bring back to June meeting

1212 SDP REPORT

1212.1 TK had a meeting of SDP last week to discuss and refine the draft Heads of Terms for the second time. All comments have now been returned to Gerald Eves. A new Heads of Terms will come back for approval and then be sent to Adur for a new round of negotiations. Progress is slow and it was confirmed that there is no expectation that anything will be built this year.

1212.2 TK felt there is still a high likelihood that things will go ahead but SYC requirements were not previously being met.

1212.3 All professional work has been stopped until SYC agree how everything will be structured. No planning application will be submitted until we know what funding SYC will have. The flood wall is however still a requirement.

1212.4 DT stated that all councils are currently in purdah until after the election on 8th June. Nothing therefore can be done until after that date and officers cannot talk during this time.

1213 MMC/BMC

1213.1 TK stated we are maintaining a holding brief, dealing with things as they come. TK stated that MMC are currently waiting for information from Shoreham Port about development of new moorings at Southwick.

1213.2 Policies for lettings of moorings will be discussed and ratified at next MMC.

1213.3 TK, DN and NP went to Littlehampton Harbour Commission to see the Harbour Assist marina/yard management system in a working situation. Staff representatives went to Exeter last month and identified problems with regards to membership issues which the system cannot currently manage. System changes have been agreed to alleviate these. The meeting at Littlehampton was successful and the system was considered by them to be very good with a good technical support.

1213.4 Littlehampton rated the system at 9.5/10 having had three different management systems in the past 7 years.

1213.5 Harbour Assist are currently looking at making the system a club management system rather than just one that deals with harbours. Further discussion will be held before a proposal is put forward.

1213.6 TK stated the cost would be about £10,000 - £11,000 initially with a management fee of £2,000 per year. It would be a bespoke system for SYC. Further questions will be sent to Harbour Assist in the next month and the aim is to bring the proposal to Board in June or July.

1213.7 BC attended the meeting in Exeter and reported that from the yard perspective it was a good system.

1214 STAFFING

1214.1 GW and TK have not yet discussed the issues raised by the staff in February. The next time they can meet will be mid-June and they will bring their considerations back to Board in July.
Action: GW/TK - July

1215 PUBLICITY AND MEMBERS

New Members Listing

1215.1 SV requested the recording of membership numbers be changed in future to show the numbers for the whole year to date on a month by month basis.
Action JB

1215.2 Vote for the proposed new members, resignations and lapsed members be accepted by committee.
Proposed: SV; In favour: unanimous; Against: 0; Abstention: 0.

1216 ROYAL ESCAPE RACE

1216.1 SV said we currently have more than 40 boats entered. Confirmation has been received of sponsorship, the money has arrived, as has the jeroam.

1216.2 SV feels there will be around 50 boats. The race clashes with Fastnet qualifier but another race has been cancelled and it was therefore felt some more participants may sign up. There are also ongoing problems in Brighton with very little water but they are going to do what they can. The race will start at 10.00 which will allow for deeper draft boats to get out.

1216.3 St.Valery participants are arriving in Shoreham for the Ascension Rally with 10 boats coming. This has therefore had an impact on offering moorings.

1216.4 It was confirmed that the Normandy Hotel will be used again and therefore invitations need to now be sent to dignitaries.
Action: JB

1216.5 New markers have arrived to replace the ones that were damaged. TL will arrange for five sets of vinyl SYC lettering.
Action: TL

1216.6 SV stated that they were probably damaged when they last went to Brighton perhaps by towing behind a rib at high speed. SV stated that someone must sign for them in future and any damage is down to them. Five were damaged in total and the value is about £500 each with the gear. SL will draft up a waiver that accepts that any damage is the fault of the user.
Action: SL

1217 BARCO

1217.1 GW said he is a bit out of touch due to having been away and the April figures not available. Unfortunately, because the office was struck down with illness, the monthly figures could not be produced. Preliminary figures from NS do show a good positive contribution, however that does sometimes differ from DN final figures.

1218 SAILING SECTION

- 1218.1 SL stated there was not much to report. The first rally of season to the Solent went well. The spring series has been completed and the results have been finalised. There were two long inshore races. The Royal Escape race will start the offshore series.
- 1218.2 Doug Beanlands has painted a cone for the beach with half black and half yellow. The different colours work better in different conditions.
- 1218.3 It was mentioned that the SYC burgee at the top of mast cannot be seen from water, but if the orange dongle is put at the top it really helps the visibility. So if no objections are received SL will request the Race Officers allow this in future.
- 1218.4 DT said he had received a suggestion that all SYC boats on moorings at Southwick should be issued with a club pennant to advertise the club more visibly. It was confirmed that an SYC pennant is available but it would not be wise to leave one up.
- 1218.5 TK requested that when booking rallies, that both the moorings and venue have to be booked.

1219 DINGHY SECTION

- 1219.1 John Pryke and K H were both away.
- 1219.2 DT confirmed that the 125 Cat Challenge will take place in June or July.
- 1219.3 An event is to be held at Southwick on Wednesday, arranged by the youth team as a fund raiser. IB was unaware about the need for a bar.
- 1219.4 Dinghy 1 course was held at Southwick over the weekend with six people on the water.
- 1219.5 Dinghy Section has not had a meeting for a couple of months but there will be one held for the finance budget.
- 1219.6 No negative impact has been noted about Kingston Beach, and KH keeps a good working relationship with the Harbourmaster so he is kept fully notified. The feeling is that so long as we play the game and work with him, then he will be happy.

1220 TRAINING SECTION

KH was away.

1221 SAILABILITY

- 1221.1 DT reported that things are looking a lot more organised. Chris Hodge gets people out and sailing and integrating into sailing activities. There is a stronger emphasis on the route to sailing for disabled people.
- 1221.2 Sailability is looking at the fleet to be used and may look at having a second Drascombe for those who just want a ride, but hoping to make more use of boats where people want to sail.

1222 HOUSE

- 1222.1 IB reported the comments book for the last Sunday in April had very glowing reports from four different people. There were 63 covers despite only 33 booked and IB felt this dispelled the query about the lunches being too expensive.
- 1222.2 A poor attendance for club night at the beginning of May was recorded.
- 1222.3 A meeting will be held on Tuesday morning regarding the Epos till to get proposals and time scales by the end of the week. If the discussion and proposal document promotes a lot of debate then any decision will be delayed to the next meeting, but if it is straight forward it may go ahead.

1222.4 SV noted that Becky has now left and asked what has happened with insurance claim. TL stated it is still with the insurance company and we are awaiting an update.

1222.5 TL stated that the letter of resignation from Becky was inaccurate, was undated, unsigned and failed to state when she was leaving, so technically she is still on the staff. TL has offered to help her write it but Becky has not yet responded. TK suggested that we write and accept her verbal resignation.

1223 SAILING THROUGH HISTORY

1223.1 DS, TL and Andy went to Lottery HQ and spent two hours with case manager. TL has produced minutes. DS and AM will attend the Port Open Meeting on Tuesday regarding any changes to the Southwick waterfront. Once that information is to hand there will be a small committee meeting and a full written report will be provided.

1224 CORRESPONDENCE

1224.1 The closure of Emerald Quay slipway was raised. A member has made us aware that from today until end of summer it will be closed. Some concern was made about whether members of the public will try to use our slipway.

1224.2 Lockable barriers across the top of the slipway were not considered a viable option.

1224.3 It was decided to keep a watchful eye, to identify people and challenge them if necessary. The concern is they may obstruct SYC activities or use the slipway dangerously. If a problem is identified then action will have to be taken.

1224.4 SL felt there is a myth that the SYC slipway is public. GW expressed concern about cars and trailers being left by unauthorised users.

1224.5 It was confirmed that the closure is due to the flood defences and Emerald Quay slipway is currently used as storage by Environment Agency.

1224.6 SV will put something into In the Wind about carrying membership card and be prepared to challenge others and report back.

1224.7 TL confirmed that we cannot remove our duty of care for non members and TK said it is not our problem if they do not implement their own duty of care.

1225 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1225.1 JB identified there is a general apathy noted among members for the Charity Murder Mystery Dinner on Friday night, and that this is general among most events put on at the club house.

1225.2 TL reported on the publication of Wavelength. Anticipated dates for publication are unknown and Spencer Neal is still looking for articles.
Action SV to chase

1225.3 IB said he has been approached by Trustees of Marlipins Museum who are putting on a display of history of shipbuilding in Shoreham and want to borrow from the club archives. It was agreed that to loan the models would be good advertising for the Club and perhaps SYC could sponsor in some way and put up signs there for the time they wish to display things.

1225.4 TL commented that it may be good for Marlipins to house and display the items whilst we move premises.

1225.5 SV requested that the New Member Applications tray outside the office is kept filled and TL confirmed that the office always fill it on a Friday but frequently they are taken over a weekend.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 26th June 2017 2000 RER Shoreham
Monday 17th July 2017 2000 RER Shoreham

There being no further business, the meeting closed at: 21.50

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

Commodore
