



East Cowes Sailing Club

Record of the March 2019 Committee Meeting

Held in the Centenary Room on 6th March 2019

V – Final as at 03.04.2019

1. Present

Conal Grier, Commodore and Chair

Mike Tennuci, Rear Commodore, Stores

David Nixon, Vice Commodore

Torsten Richter

Chris Kershaw, Hon. Secretary

Bob Spendley

John Garlick, Rear Commodore, Sailing

Paul Walker, Rear Commodore, Social

Richard Davis, Rear Commodore Fishing/Motor Boating

Peter Mason (Perry)

Peter Evans

Mike Harvey, Health and Safety Officer

2. Apologies for absence

Dave Casson, Hon. Treasurer

3. Approval of the Minutes

With regard to p3 (a) iii. **Centre Store improvements (Conal and others)** Peter Evans said that he wished to clarify that his interest and involvement in the electrical work referred to was not to be construed as taking responsibility for that work.

Dave Casson's email to Conal of 5th inst. Is referred to on a number of occasions throughout the meeting and a copy is annexed for reference. And on the point raised by Peter above, Conal noted that Dave had undertaken to order the appropriate supplies, supervise and direct the installation, noting that such will have to be subsequently certified.

4. New Business

Conal distributed copies of “Commodore’s proposal for the future management of General Committee Business/Club Management Meetings (April 2019 onwards)” for the perusal of each member of the General Committee in due course.

- a) **Toilet Supplies** – the problem of sourcing customarily used equipment and materials was in hand. Conal commented that the purchase of routine supplies of low value was a house matter and did not require any additional controls.

Discussion of Dave’s suggestion that the committee should consider the purchase of electrical hand heaters was considered. Conal commented that since considerable electrical work would be required, the subject would fall under the responsibility of the Rear Commodore, Stores. He observed that, contrary to popular belief, electric hand driers were not hygienic.

Bob commented that the cheaper versions had practical problems in terms of water spillage; the best on the market was the Dyson, but the cost was not insignificant. The committee was in agreement that, for the time being, the club would retain its current facilities.

- b) **Grand Opening of the E.C.S.C. Starting Box** – Discussion took place as to whether inviting a local dignitary (e.g. the mayor) would enhance the occasion. Conal mentioned that he had had a recent, chance discussion with Councillor Karl Love during which the latter conveyed, without overt criticism, some dissatisfaction with the state of our esplanade tennis court. Paul Walker thought that the event might well benefit from being tied in with a social event, such as the Fitting Out Supper. (It was noted that completion of the Box by the date of the first race – 4th April, was unlikely to be achieved.) David thought that the County Press should be invited, but it was agreed that it was too early to issue any invitation. Perry asked whether it was intended to invite other local clubs to attend to which the answer was affirmative. Finally, Conal, in summarising the discussions, suggested that David Nixon, with the Sailing Committee, should consider the options, taking account of the general current opinion that (a) we should not invite the Mayor, or officer of the local council, (b) County Press should be notified and (c) the event should be complemented by a club event.

- c) **Handovers** – discussed under Vice Commodore’s report

5. Currently Pending

- a) **Pontoon Maintenance** – Conal again referred to Dave Casson’s email, as above referred. It was clarified that the “plastic wear material” referred to the sacrificial blocks at the pontoon corners.

Trailing wires connected to boats on the pontoons, if left unattended by the owner, are strictly a breach of the club’s bye-laws and one view expressed was that if an unattended cable connection was found, it should be turned off; however, it was pointed out that there may be some mitigating circumstances, for example, when a battery is being charged. Therefore, as Bob argued, the simple action of disconnecting the lead without question could be deemed unnecessarily harsh. He suggested a note should be left at the scene of the incident warning the owner that a recurrence might result in arbitrary

disconnection. In fact, the incidence of such transgressions seems to be very limited, but members of the committee should be vigilant.

Wear on the bearing material on the hinges of the finger berths – Conal commented that there are a lot of them and the task of refurbishment could involve a lot of work. After some discussion it was decided that a survey to gauge the problem would be needed, which Perry undertook.

On the subject of Dave's report on tools – his recent activities and acquisitions were noted. Bob felt that tools should be inspected annually and certified as such. Torsten did not feel that this should be the case with hand tools, though it was accepted that angle grinders and power tools should only be used with appropriate safety gear. Mike said that appropriate practice and safeguards were covered in work he had done in the past and he felt that, in principle, that should be sufficient, however he said that he would review the subject. If it is desirable to affix warning notices or instructions adjacent to where the tools are kept Bob said that he would be able to laminate them.

Slipway Cleaning – substantially covered by Dave's report, though it was noted that if any major re-wiring of the system for the pump is considered necessary, or desirable, this will be another fairly major undertaking.

Centre Stores Improvements – It was noted that funds will be required to fit out the new Starting Box, but, as Conal observed, not all aspects of the project have been resolved. It was agreed that, in line with Dave Casson's suggestion, a discretionary fund, with a limit of £500.00, should be allocated, to be controlled by Dave Casson and John Garlick, which was agreed. Richard asked if there were any plans to do anything with the roof in the central store; if we intended to use the space for cookery we would need ventilation. Conal stated that there were no such plans at present. As regards the Central Store, he said that he had had dealings with a company regarding the flooring and the matter was nearing completion.

Solicitor's Advice – Conal said that he had had no response from the solicitors and he is very unhappy with the situation. We have been hit by costs purely the consequence of the solicitor's delay. He said that he would have to pursue this again.

6) Reports

Treasurer's Report ((Dave Casson having submitted by email) – Conal expressed the view that for the moment, at least, the Club is in a good position. The report was accepted.

Richard told the committee that he has some significant work to do in the near future – some involving excavations, drainage and gas work. He would probably need some help when it came to making good – mixing cement, for example and suggested that it would be helpful if the work could be done on a Wednesday to take advantage of the additional hands that were likely to be available. Bob and Richard will liaise in the organisation of the work, which will involve the hire of a petrol grinder and/or breaker. Conal said that he would order ballast and cement (a quarter ton of the former). Richard said that he would deal with the gas work before the drainage.

Vice Commodore – nothing significant to report. He felt that handover (in particular – the Secretary's work) was substantially complete, but offered to retain the job of administering the website for the time being.

Hon. Secretary – reported that he was monitoring incoming emails, with a view to differentiating that which required a response from that which can be safely set to one side. One subject which came up, on which John G expanded, was an email from Gillian Burnett of the Ocean Youth Trust South. John explained that the Trust commits to the use of a substantial yacht and is on occasions, hard put to fill the crewing places. The places are designed for children aged between 12 and 18. It was agreed that the Secretary should forward details to parents of the only three qualifying young members.

Rear Commodore, Stores – Mike reported that a couple of boats had gone back into the water recently; others were scheduled. Money was coming in – the cut off date of 31st March would be the significant moment and he would be keeping an eye out for potential defaulters as the date approached. To be reviewed at the next meeting.

Rear Commodore, Sailing – John said that he had only two entries for racing at this point, but that this was par for the course; otherwise, nothing to report on racing. On Cruising, David said that he was hoping for a good turnout for the Shakedown Cruise on 27th April, but made the point that a very low tide would coincide with the start of the cruise.

Rear Commodore, Social - Conal noted that we had a clear programme of racing, cruising and fishing events, but no published social programme; he was keen to see such events given appropriate publicity. Paul countered by saying that there were matters that needed to be resolved before the social programme could be finalised. These matters – mainly pertaining to the final three events of the year – were discussed.

Bob asked whether events should be publicised on Facebook – he has access to our F/B page. It was agreed if it increased exposure, this should be done.

The subject of the Prize Giving function arose – deemed to be a Sailing event, rather than a social one. John was in favour of retaining Osborne House Golf Club. Both Torsten and Paul felt that a change was desirable; we have used the golf club for the last three years. A discussion of the pros and cons of that and the relatively limited number of realistic alternatives ensued and the matter was left unresolved – as Paul said, it would be impossible to please everyone on this subject!

The next question was as to whether we wanted to combine the Laying-Up Supper with prize giving. Conal asked the committee – do we want two, or three social events? The Laying -Up Supper was suitable for our own facilities in the Centenary Room; it was relatively cheap and people good bring their own drink. For the prize-giving John suggested that he should speak with the Golf Club to see if we could persuade them to waive the surcharge – the cost having been one of the objection points and Paul said that he would speak to the Lifeboat management. It was agreed that each should make their own enquiries and then confer. Eventually, it was agreed that we would keep three separate social events - (Laying-Up, Prize Giving and the Christmas event).

Rear Commodore, Motor Boats and Fishing – Richard said that he and Mike had the competitions and bbq scheduled for the year and that he was happy with things as they stood.

Health and Safety – Mike had nothing to report.

7. Membership

a) New Membership – One application and one in hand. The new application was from Thomas Sorenson; family membership and his interest is in fishing. The outstanding application is from Nigel Danson, who has been proposed by David Nixon. He is away at the moment and it has been arranged that he will contact me (Chris K) on his return, so that an interview can be arranged.-

8. AOB

a) Ladies' toilets – Conal wanted to know what could be done re the lock on the ladies' toilets. Torsten pointed out that we wanted them to be key operated we would need another key reader; this would cost in the region of £100.00. No further action agreed for the moment.

b) Introduction of prospective new members – It was agreed that the practice of inviting prospective members for a supposedly one to one interview with a Flag Officer on the date of and substantially at the same time as a monthly committee meeting was to be discouraged and avoided if at all possible. David said that he had been trying to encourage people to come on a Wednesday morning, coinciding with a work party when there would almost certainly be a flag officer in attendance. Bob suggested that a Sunday morning would probably be convenient, in terms of finding an officer of the club. It was agreed that it should be the Secretary's responsibility to try to organise at the mutual convenience of both the applicant and flag officer, but to avoid, if at all possible, the evening of the meeting of the General Committee at which the applicant's membership would be ratified.

Meeting Closed at 2030

Time and Date of Next Meeting – 1900 Wednesday, 3rd April 2019

ANNEX

From Dave Casson's note to Conal Grier of 5th March

Some agenda Items I seem to be responsible for or would like to comment on:

c) Toilet Supplies

Please refer to my previous Email on this subject.

We used to get our toilet rolls & cleaning materials etc from a company in the old JS Whites yard before the fire.

Brian Cooper got the last lot inc. the Blue rolls from Lake Cleaning supplies but the rolls didn't fit in the holders we had . So he wanted to get new holders which I rejected and said the rolls should fit our existing holders.

The other supplier of the blue rolls on the island is Betapak at Rookley.

I suggest someone gets the details of the roll holders we have and contact them to see if they can supply refills.

It may be a good idea to set up a credit account with whoever can supply the right ones also for Black bags and toilet rolls etc.

So whoever need them can order them and they deliver I believe.

I was going to suggest we look into electric hand dryers in the toilets as it will save us money long term. As a lot of the blue roll gets used for wiping boats and brushes etc.

It may be a good idea to have a small old sink in the bosuns store or just outside. For washing hands etc.

Grand opening of Race box

Reminds me of a phases of a project funny. " The Praise of the un-involved" phase.

Pontoon Maintenance

I have failed to date to find anyone who can cut up the plastic wear material in the bosuns store and am investigating alternatives.

There are still a few boats permanently connected to the electrical supply with leads trailing on the pontoon.

The bearing material and nylon washers in the finger hinges need to be looked at as I think many are worn out and need replacing.

Tools

I have purchased a new Battery Drill, 5" Angle grinder & cutting discs, Socket set, sets of spanners, hacksaw & blades, files, tape measures & Safety glasses. These are now in the

workshop. I will sort out the shadow boards and mark the tools. The bench grinder is now mounted on the wall but should not be used until the guard has been repaired and the plug refitted.

Slipway Cleaning

I have purchased "O" rings for the jet washer so we can trial the rotary jetting system.

I noticed the other day the pump on the pontoon had tripped. This needs to be looked into. At the moment it is "T"ed off the pontoon supplies. It may be a good idea to install a separate supply in the future.

Centre Store Improvements

I hope to order the electrical parts later this week

New Starting Box

The building is going ahead as per plan. I havnt heard anything from the builders to the contrary.

There was a long discussion at the Dinghy park with regard to various requirements.

As a result I have a drawing showing its position. And Im going to talk to the builders with regard to the shuttering and look at different options for raising /lowering

etc.

Whilst I am happy to manage the purchase of the hut and get it to site, The fit out and other equipment like transit marks and internal structures such as raised platform and counter top need to be done by others. I am happy to do the electrics.

There needs to be an allocation of funds to carry out such work. The internal fit-out / raised area and counter top , Seating for race officers , Electrics such as starting hooter/light substitute, lights for transit marks. Large 12V battery, Solar panel and regulator etc. Also modifications to the fence to allow clear view of the line. Mounting of flagpoles etc. I would suggest £500

Treasurers Report

I have circulated the Monthly report by Email.

On a personal basis I would like to see the meetings return to being more formal with Proposer/seconded and votes recorded in the minutes etc. I would also like to see matters of AOB committee members have returned to the meeting.

