



**Record of the December Committee Meeting**

**Held by Zoom Conference on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020**

**1 Present**

David Nixon, Commodore (DN)  
Torsten Richter, Vice Commodore (TR)  
Richard Davis, Rear Commodore, Motor Boats and Fishing (RD)  
David Casson, Hon. Treasurer (DC)  
Chris Kershaw, Hon Secretary (CK)  
Mike Harvey, Health & Safety Officer (MH)  
David Tebay, DT)  
Paul Walker (PW)

**2 Apologies for Absence**

Mike Tennuci; Linda Richter; Peter Mason

**3 Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> and of the Special Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

The Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> November were approved without comment, as were those of the special meeting, held on 10<sup>th</sup> November. (Called to discuss the implications of the newly imposed restrictions by HM Government.)

**4 Members**

**a New Membership applications**

- i. As a matter of formality, Martin Rowsell's membership was confirmed;
- ii. RD confirmed that he will contact Les Nash to arrange an interview;
- iii. CK confirmed that he had two enquiries in hand.

**b Resignations**

Karen Walker had provided a list of resignations received so far. It is understood that twelve members have said that they will not renew their membership and one had died.

**c Members – Requests/Observations/Suggestions - none**

**5 Reports**

**a** Hon. Treasurer (DC)

Commenting on the previously distributed monthly Finance Report, DC drew attention to the negative income showing of £1,125.00, being the transfer of Duty Waiver received this year (and originally in respect of 2020) to next year. He noted that he had paid next year's Harbour Dues (£4,000.42) which does not feature in the current Report. Also allocated to 2021 is membership fees received to date - £3,686.00. DC raised a constitutional issue with regard to the increase in Membership Fees agreed by the Committee last month. No-one has queried the very slight rise, in any event. DN promised to post the updated Membership Application Form on the website (done).

The substantial sum itemised under "Building Maintenance and Repair" was for the painting of the external framework of the clubhouse, also as previously agreed. The work is now complete. The mesh would be put back into place. DC agreed to obtain the necessary hardware.

In response to a question, TR confirmed that he has now heard from the bank and is now a signatory, although this is only in respect of one account to date; DC said he would take this up with the other banks. Unfortunately, because Mike Tennuci is one of those who has resigned his membership, we will need to start the process of appointing another signatory again. It was not decided who we could approach.

**b** Stores (DC)

DC began by asking for a decision as to where we stood now as regards the normal flow of launching and hauling out of boats. It was agreed that, because the IoW has been placed in Tier One of the Government's new post national "lockdown" regional system (effective from today), normal work could be undertaken, with due regard for the previously established and now familiar protocols.

As mentioned in previous Stores reports, DC expressed concern about a number of boats which are clearly not being used. He called for support in undertaking an inspection of all boats which could be described as neglected. From previous and bitter experience, we know that such craft can become a liability in the long run, as well as preventing other, more active members of the club from gaining access to berths currently. RD agreed to help him in this exercise and it was agreed that the club should write to the members concerned after such inspection. CK noted that Conal had undertaken this exercise a couple of years ago.

On the subject of the late Mizzen couple's boats, (*Reports passim*) DC said the two executors of the estate had come to some sort of agreement; it seems that they accept that the boats and other property need to be sold while still on the Island. DC was concerned that if we undertook to advertise the property for them that they had a realistic idea of what was realistic. DC would await the written authority of the executors before taking any action.

DC noted that there were three versions of the mooring and storage conditions on the website. DN agreed to review before the next meeting.

c Sailing Committee

CK said that Peter Jackson had advised that there was nothing to warrant a report this month. However, as CK noted, we are trying to trace the original Radio Licence, although it is felt that we could probably re-print a copy on line. Payment is up to date, in any event.

d Fishing

RD asked if it would be possible for the originally planned December Competition to go ahead and it was confirmed that, as with the movement of boats in the yard, it could, subject to appropriate distancing rules on board. The competition in question is scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> December and is for both heaviest fish and heaviest cod.

MH noted that there would be some modest prizes, for which people had been contributing five pounds at previous competitions. However, since social gatherings should not exceed six, DN asked RD not to publicise a social/prize-giving after the event in any indoor place.

RD went on to say that they had no need of further bait boxes, but money has been collected by MH which, the latter said, amounted to £38.00. DC asked him to pay it in to our Lloyds account, using his WebCollect details, but specifying the purpose of the payment to enable him to pick it up from the bank statement.

e House

- i. Covid restrictions – It was agreed that the clubhouse must remain off limits, notwithstanding the easing of some restrictions on the IoW. Other than in respect of work being undertaken (as discussed above), gatherings are to be strongly discouraged.
- ii. Sailing Club Manager (SCM) – Is a computer based system designed specifically for sailing club management. We have looked at the system in the past as a possible replacement for WebCollect; it was rejected at the time, principally on the grounds of cost. However, since we have recently had concerns over the limitations of WebCollect, mainly with regard to invoicing, DN and TR have revisited the subject recently, including non-committed discussions with the company concerned. TR said that he had had access to a test/trial and said that he needed more time to assess it. He commented that in theory, it could improve our invoicing system, since it is rather more than a simple database, such as WebCollect, but there were other aspects of the system which he had to get to grips with. He agreed to report later, when he had completed his review and assessment.

## 6 Matters Arising

a **AGM - Preparations**

As previously noted, by the time of the next meeting we will have to be in a position

to notify the membership at large as to how we intend to proceed, given that we had previously accepted that if at possible, the meeting should be conducted in the normal way. If we do proceed, it was agreed that we would need a larger venue than our customary venue. DN asked PW to make enquiries with the Town Hall.

#### **b Pontoon Development**

Opinions within the Committee are still divided. DN stated that he was resolute in his view that we should be in a position to present the membership at large with the details of a development deal involving the CHC and give them the choice as to whether to proceed, or not. It appears that the earlier options discussed with CHC and which were pilloried by sections of the membership of the club at the time, are off the table and therefore, the choice will be a binary one between “no deal” and the one which we are still discussing with the Harbourmaster.

In respect of the latter, because we are agreed that to create enough space within the proposed inner basin, it will be necessary for the pontoons to be placed to the north of the existing piles and boats berthed on the north side of that. However, to do so would involve seeking permission from GKN, to whom the subject has been broached. We have been advised that the decision will be at board level and it is likely that that may take some time. Once GKN’s permission is granted, a further scale drawing the Harbourmaster will be sought.

Therefore, the matter is currently in abeyance.

The latest version (v. 6) of the drawing supplied by the Harbourmaster together with a transcript of the last meeting with the Harbourmaster (12<sup>th</sup> November) is available on the website.

- c Christmas Cards – for local clubs** – DN said that he would buy some from the RNLi and add Bembridge Haven Sailing Club to the mailing list. DN would also send an electronic Christmas Card to the membership.

### **7 Ongoing Matters**

Several of the items listed can and should be carried forward. “Bait boxes” – the subject is discussed above and may now be taken off the list. The question of trying to keep the yard free of debris and the proverbial flotsam and jetsam was mentioned by DT, who has been trying to deal with the problem. The boom which he introduced is useful, but is often disconnected for the launching/retrieval of boats and not reconnected. He observed that we have some very high tides in the near future and asked for local help to keep tabs on the situation. DN, DC and CK are all within easy reach of the club and will try to ensure that the boom is in place.

On the subject of the update of our security system after a discussion TR said that he would investigate the current position and report back

### **8 Time and Date of Next Meeting – 19:00 hrs 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Meeting Closed at 20:35 hrs**

