



Record of the January Committee Meeting

Held by Zoom Conference on 6 January 2021

1 Present

David Nixon, Commodore (DN)
Torsten Richter, Vice Commodore (TR)
Linda Richter, Rear Commodore, Social (LR)
Richard Davis, Rear Commodore, Motor Boats and Fishing (RD)
Paul Walker, Rear Commodore, Stores and Moorings (PW)
Chris Kershaw, Secretary (CK)
Mike Harvey, Health & Safety Officer (MH)
David Tebay, (DT)

2 Apologies for Absence

None – though it was noted that David Casson had been unwell recently and may be indisposed.

3 Approval of the Minutes of the previous routine meeting held on 2nd December and the Interim Meeting, held on 11th December

Both were approved by those present without correction, or further observation. DN undertook to post both to the website tomorrow.

4 Members

a New Membership applications

CK explained that he had received an application from a David Johnson – unfortunately, unsponsored. CK said that he would contact Mr Johnson with a view to arranging an initial interview. It was also noted that Les Nash (mentioned as an applicant in the previously minutes) had now been granted membership, RD having conducted the Flag Officer interview and a “round robin” by email conducted subsequently fulfilled the remaining requirement.

b Resignations and non-payers (to date)

Karen Walker had supplied a list of resignations received as at date, which is annexed to these minutes.

A brief discussion of non-payers as at date took place. Karen W has the means to and will issue a single written reminder. TR noted that the deadline is 31st January, at which point the member is deemed in default and may be expelled, although PW

observed that the club has traditionally tried to be helpful towards any member who comes forward to explain difficult circumstances.

c Members – Requests/Observations/Suggestions

An email from Bob Spendley to DN on the subject of club goods was briefly discussed and was dismissed as being unhelpful.

5 Reports

a Treasurer

Prior to the meeting DC had circulated both standard monthly report and the provisional Year End Accounts by email, together with notes.

In particular, he had reminded recipients of his email to which the above reports had been appended that Membership Renewal receipts were posted to January 2021, as had been the payment of Duty Waivers.

A few details were explained as follows: -

£67.51 - materials to modify the quayside handrails for the new linkspan;
£49.30 - renewal of the yard lighting at the entrance to the pontoons;
£77.58 - Acquisition of safety chains and bolts for the pontoon wear pads;
MH noted that the entry of £38.00 income under “Motor Boats and Fishing” was in respect of the bait boxes.

On the Year End Accounts (provisional) DC noted the Surplus of £28,332.10 £25K of which will be transferred to reserves.

He hopes to send the latter to the Accountant/Auditors in the near future and all being well, the Accounts will be certified before the date of the next General Committee meeting.

b Stores

PW stated that he had not been in a position to prepare a formal report, but said that he and DC were in touch on matters as and when they arose; DC, naturally enough, was trying to deal with issues that he felt required his attention through to conclusion.

It was noted that DC will take over the running of the Wednesday Club, which is welcome news, given the departure of Perry Mason, which, as DN commented, leaves a big hole in the practical running of the club.

c Sailing

By email to DN Peter Jackson had reported that he had acquired a VHF radio at a minimal cost for the use of the Racing Team, commenting that it was incumbent on the latter to monitor channels 69 and 12 during racing. DT added that he had been

asked by DC to fabricate an aerial for said VHF radio, which he had agreed to do; he thought the kit “Slim Jim” aerial type would be right for the task. He noted that he had been advised that the mast would not be needed until the beginning of April.

Peter also noted that the Sailing Sub-committee had not met in December and would not meet in January; 10th February is the proposed date for their next meeting.

d Fishing

RD reported that, sadly, fishing was no longer permitted under the government’s latest pandemic regulations.

He noted that the fishing competition in late December had been good fun and said that they had distributed vouchers as prizes, the cost of which had been accrued by previous competition entry fees.

The next competition was provisionally booked for 18th April 2021.

e House

i Covid related matters

LR commented that the Angling Trust had posted their response to the most recent directives promptly; the RYA’s advice was rather obscure. DN observed that we would have to cease yard activities, adding that entering the club to do essential maintenance would be acceptable. TR noted that some sailing clubs had already declared themselves “closed” and wondered whether we should not do the same.

MH made the point that the need to check boats at this time of year was higher (more wind and rain). TR suggested that, as with the first lockdown, one person should be appointed to keep a watch on boats, rather than to allow individuals to access their boats. If we do permit individual access we should make it clear that visits to the yard should be as infrequent as possible. CK commented that if access is unrestricted the risk of groups forming, in clear contravention of the current regulations, whether inadvertently or otherwise, was greatly increased. Also, we must not lose sight of the fact that, what now seems to be the dominate variant of the virus, is understood to be 50% more transmissible than the original strain; the need to follow the government request that people “stay at home” unless strictly necessary, should be the underlying principle of all current behaviour.

It was suggested that people should be asked to wear face masks while on club premises, but it was felt that this would probably be widely ignored and the efficacy of doing so is not entirely certain.

TR commented, from personal experience, that, unless people have had more or less direct experience of Covid, they simply do not take it seriously.

PW said that it was important to ask the membership to abide by the basic government requirements as to gatherings and physical distancing and we

should ask them politely to wear masks and be mindful of the directives.

DN undertook to write a notice to the membership.

ii SCM System appraisal

TR said that he has looked at the system, and commented that there were no technical manuals available; drilling down in to it has not been easy. He has exchanged emails with representatives of the company, but he is not yet in a position to give a verdict. He has had various costings from David. TR said that he hopes to give a report next month, but it was agreed that there is no point in rushing the exercise.

f Preparation for AGM

PW recommended that we adhere to the normal timeframe as far as we could. We should be in a position to send out the audited Accounts and the Commodore's Report (the *de minimis* requirements) by the date on which we would traditionally aim to hold the AGM, being the third Thursday of February, together with the Commodore's Report.

When it is clear that the Pandemic situation allows, we need to bear in mind that notice of the meeting has to be provided significantly in advance of the proposed date of the meeting. PW stressed the importance of being as open as possible on the outstanding matters. He suggested that if the current situation is prolonged and it is felt that the Committee needs bolstering, we should be prepared to co-opt suitable members until such time as elections can be held.

Sufficient time to enable nominations for Committee places to be made must be given when the opportunity to hold the AGM arises.

DT suggested that we could hold an informal Zoom conference prior to the AGM to give members a chance to ask questions – particularly useful if the AGM is significantly delayed. DN said that the ideal format would be a webinar, but the facility is not cheap and that idea is probably not a good option for the club. In any event, it was suggested and agreed that any such meeting should be carefully structured; questions would have to be submitted in writing (electronically or otherwise) in advance with a suitable cut-off date in order to analyse the questions.

g CHC and Pontoons

DN said that at the last meeting the offer of a letter from the Club to the MMO was discussed and agreed. The Harbourmaster had said that he would post that letter on CHC's website; he has not done so as at date, however, it is on ours.

In addition, the Harbourmaster had promised to provide a costed proposal for the "Inner Basin". DN concluded by saying that he was now committed to letting the membership decide at an EGM.

6 Any Other Business

DN felt that Dave C should be congratulated for the work that he had done (planning and installation) in respect of the linkspan between the pontoon and the edge of the yard (which view was fully endorsed by those present); it is a considerable improvement on the previous structure, albeit there are one or two finishing touches, which David is dealing with.

RD mentioned that the small yacht on the innermost berth was poorly secured and was riding into the linkspan and this needs attention; it may be that it needs new mooring lines, or that additional measures may be needed to stop the movement. PW said that he would look at that as soon as he could.

A brief review of several members whose failure to pay fees and charges was of concern took place. The issue of neglected boats is never far from the agenda and will need to be reviewed again.

7 Time and Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 3rd February 2021

Meeting Closed at 20:11

Annex – List of resignations/deceased members as at 6th January 2021

Title	First Name	Surname	(If deceased)
Mr	Vincent	Bowles	
Mrs	Matilda	Bowles	
Mr	Nick	Emery	
Mrs	Tina	Emery	
Mr	Cole	Emery	
Mstr	Zeb	Emery	
Mr	Peter	Evans	
Mrs	Lorraine	Ganderton	
Mr	Conal	Grier	
Mrs	Elaine	Grier	
Mr	Ken	Harris	Y
Mr	Simon	Harrison	
Mrs	Sarah	Harrison	
Mr	Roy	Holden	
Mrs	Ann	Holden	
Mr	Peter (“Perry”)	Mason	
Mrs	Simonne	Mason	
Mr	Marcus	Niner	
Mr	Marcus	Richter	
Miss	Jenni	Richter	
Ms	Caroline	Rose	
Mrs	Sandra	Rowe	
Mr	Matthew	Ruddock	
Mr	Stephen	Scott	
Mr	Ben	Slater	
Dr	Geoff	Taylor	Y