

Chanonry Sailing Club Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 25th June 2013

Present: David Pocock, Diarmid Hogan, Mike Burns, Mike Wilson, Donnie Macleod,
Marisa Astill-Brown, Steve Bramwell, Helen Jenner, Joanne Johnson

Apologies David Bell, George Hogg

Opening remarks

DP welcomed Donnie Macleod to the committee as the new House Member. He is replacing Gavin Campsie who is standing down. The Club is very grateful to Donny for stepping in to this role and also to Gavin for his contribution.

Agenda Item

Action

Minutes of meeting of March 2013

Update on Action Points and Matters arising

All action points were discharged or addressed on the agenda with the exception of the following which were carried forward:

AP16 (18/1/11) To approach Adrian Hodges to help develop a "sign up system" on the web site for recreational sailing and drysuit die-hards events. **This considered to be a winter job and will be taken forward by DP/AH/JJ/DB**

AP4 (1/11/11) There is still a desire to get the loft hatch installed if this can be done sensibly at a reasonable cost. **Donnie will investigate and d/w Alan Hardie**

Health and Safety Audits

There are currently no issues. No accidents recorded.

RNLI Day DP observed that the date chosen due to tidal imperatives in May was probably too early due to a mixture of poor prevailing weather and it being early for the tourist season. The Lifeboats are in demand for similar events and we need to get our bid in early for a summer date. Action DP

DP suggested that for next year CSC should be actively helping the Lifeboat Ladies committee with advanced publicity eg use of "Chatterbox" and MFR

We are looking for a new volunteer from the club to organise the next year's RNLI and Open Day. Anyone interested should speak to DP.

Items for Discussion

1 Finance Report GH

Updated accounts circulated in GH 's absence. No questions arose.

Balance – the club is now expecting a surplus of £5000 for this year which is available for equipment purchases or improvements.

2 Membership Renewals

JJ reported a slight fall in membership at this point in the year but was optimistic that with a good take up of training events, membership numbers are likely to increase during the summer period

3 Sunday Morning Events Sunday am events HJ reported that despite poor weather, one all day event had gone ahead in suitable conditions and attracted over 20 boats. Catering for this had been both delicious and profitable!

4 Sailing Sub-committee DB circulated a report in advance of the meeting

Dinghy activities are running very well and there had been an upsurge in cruiser activity

There remains an issue on the website where Cruiser and Dinghy events are located in different areas. MB suggested that it would be helpful to be able to print out the sailing programme if an easily printable version can be set up on the website. Committee decided to pursue this over the winter with advice from Richard Evans

Ness Cup re-run. The date set for this is now 25/08/13. The Club programme will need to be altered as a Harbour Rosebowl series race is already scheduled for that date. SB suggested that extra races can easily be run on other Sunday Rosebowl dates to make up the required numbers for the series and vacate the date for the Ness Cup. Action DB

Dinghy Regatta Volunteers needed to run the event Action DB/DP

HJ is recruiting volunteers to help with catering and also organising Safety Boat duties.

MB had looked at the preamble to the Sailing Instructions on the club website and was concerned that they were expressed in a negative tone which could be off-putting for potential visitors. It was agreed that the RYA rules of racing conduct should be referred to rather than spelled out in the introduction and further work was needed to develop a more welcoming form of words at least for future years. Action DB

Training/ RYA courses (Marissa A-B)

Due to work commitments, Miriam Fisher is not able to fulfil role of Chief Instructor - Richard Jenner has again agreed to step in from 1st July

Training Courses All RYA courses offered by the Club will be full this year. These are specifically Assistant Instructor, Safety Boat, Power Boat level 2, Junior Stages 1, 2&3, Adult level 2.

Club Coaching (non-RYA) Chanonry Champs, Chanonry Dolphins.

RYA inspection of CSC due 18/07/13

Ross and Cromarty Sports Council At the AGM last month it was expected that CSC would get a grant of between £750 and £1000 again this year.

One of the Club Terras had sustained “terminal” damage to the hull which is to be replaced at a cost of £600- approved by Committee.

Marissa suggested that with suitable grants we should be aiming to purchase 2 further Teras to bring the number up to 6. This was agreed and would be actioned by Richard J in conjunction with George H.

There was a strong feeling that the club should also be aiming to purchase two suitable training double handers which would allow one on one instruction for both handicapped and less confident beginners, but also allow training in spinnaker/ gennaker handling. Laser 2000 looked a good bet. Due to the expense of new boats these would either have to be purchased with grant money or the club should look for second hand examples at a price we could afford. The consensus was to go for second-hand boats as we could afford them. Action RJ and GH

This sets a clear priority for club expenditure and the committee will need to actively explore grant opportunities to effect the strategy.

There was a suggestion (MB) that the club should be looking to buy boats that more directly feed in to competitive streams for youngsters, but it was recognised that these are invariably more expensive and that when members started to become more competitive they were likely to be looking to (and indeed should) purchase their own racing boats.

Cruisers Mike Burns

Cruiser Regatta 20/07/13 This is now organised. Catering will be “ad hoc”, bar facilities are available. Details to be published on the website. Action MB

Mike to contact HJ with detail of water taxi requirements.

Black Isle Challenge Cup SI’s ready soon and will be sent to all CSC cruisers and to other Murray Firth Clubs. Again, details to be published on the website. Action MB

Prize giving will be at CSC but visiting cruisers will need to leave early. We might have a Club social evening tied in to this event. Action MB, DP and HJ

Rowing Skiffs (SB)

An email had been received from David Guthrie who was looking to join a sailing club and who had plans to build a Rowing Skiff. He wished to gauge enthusiasm in CSC for a community based project to build and compete in skiffs. This had been an interesting and often successful venture in many communities the best example being Ullapool where the world skiff rowing Championship is due to take place mid July.

The Committee were interested to hear more from David Guthrie and suggested a preliminary meeting be set up with DP, SB and DM to bring back to the committee and possibly the members for further discussion. The idea of community involvement and the opportunity to reintroduce rowing to the club as well as using such an exercise to build teamwork within the club seemed attractive.

8 AOCB

Marissa is handing over to Richard Jenner now and DP thanked her on behalf of the committee for her very enthusiastic time as Training Principal

Items for the forthcoming newsletter are invited- items to include are the need to lock all exits to the Clubhouse after activities and to ensure electricity is switched off.

MW pointed out that the dinghy park is already full and extra capacity is desirable. It may be possible to extend seawards by inserting deep gabions and this could create up to 20 extra spaces. Possible expense around £5000 limiting costs by using volunteer labour to fill the gabions with rocks. DP pointed out that there was now a fairly expensive list of building work pending including essential repairs to slipway, pontoons in the harbour and it may be best to tie in all the work required to one grant application. MB wondered if there was an option to stack boats, but it was felt that this could pose a danger to youngsters moving boats and should be avoided if possible.

Donnie Macleod suggested exploring energy efficiency measures for the Clubhouse and this was agreed

Action DM

Date of next meeting TBC