



**Draft**

## **CHANONRY SAILING CLUB**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**

**Friday 25 November 2011**

**Present:** George & Sandra Hogg, Richard & Helen Jenner, Pam Hogan, Mairi Macleod, Helen Morgan, David Pocock, Caireen Gourlay, David Bell, Gavin Campsie, Bill Lee, Joan Maxwell, Mike Burns, Bill Burgon, Sam MacMillan, George Taylor, Martin Ball, Mike Wilson, Richard Evans, Doug Stuart, David Gibb, Roxby Robson, James Burns, Bill Anderson, Peter Illingworth, Janice Illingworth, Marissa and Jeremy Astill-Brown, Ken Ferguson, Kevin Holliday, Alan Munro, Adrian Hodges, Helen Robinson, Claire Holliday, Gill Pilling, Helen Robinson, Helen Rowson, Tim McKeggie

### **Agenda Item**

#### **1. Welcome & Apologies**

Apologies have been received from: Miles Mack, Rodney Timpson, Eddie Ralston, Helen and Derek Young, Alec Mann, Shane Rankin, Iain Leighton, Laurence Gunner, Joe Duncan.

#### **2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting of 26 November 2010**

The minutes were proposed for agreement by Richard Evans, seconded by David Bell and approved by those present. There were no matters arising.

#### **3. Commodore's Report**

Helen's report this year includes extracts from fuller reports from committee members responsible for various areas of the club. Their full reports will be available together with the minutes of this meeting, both on the club website and as a printout on the club notice board in the clubroom.

As usual 2011 has seen mixed sailing conditions and participation, but in particular Helen Morgan's innovation of holding 4 "one-off" dinghy racing days with senior and junior trophies awarded on the day has proved a success.

The Ness cup had a small entry of 7 dinghies and 4 cruisers, but given the conditions the safety crews were kept fully occupied.

The regatta was also held in testing conditions, with a strong turnout of nearly 30 dinghies with visiting competitors from as far away as Loch Tummel, although unfortunately only 3 cruisers competed.

The Black Isle Challenge Cup proved successful this year, with a great turnout of 11

boats, the highest for a number of years.

Chanonry sailors have also competed “away” – congratulations in particular to Ben Yeats and Richard Evans who won the Fast and Slow handicap classes at the North of Scotland Dinghy Championships and a Chanonry team consisting of James Burns, Richard Evans, Ben Yeats, Tom Jones and Iain Leighton who won the keelboat match racing event hosted by Banff Sailing Club.

In the MYA Cruisers Race Regatta Series, Mike Burns in Fram finished a very creditable 2nd overall, 1 point behind John Prentice of Invergordon Boating Club. 23 Boats competed over the 8 regattas.

Chanonry junior sailors have also been active, with 3 being selected for the RYA Scotland North Squad. In particular, 4 Chanonry juniors, Claire Holliday, Jack Beasley, Ross Slater and Niall Ferguson competed at the RYA Scotland Zone Championships at Largs. Niall, competing for his last year in a Topper, had the most successful event of the four, finishing a creditable 6<sup>th</sup> out of 27 in his class.

In and around the harbour work has been carried out on the fabric of the harbour itself and the ladder replacement and improvement programme is now completed. The west harbour wall has also been cleared of much gravel and turf and a new tie-down line has been installed, somewhat easing the problems of space in the dinghy park.

The trot moorings continue to prove safe and economical to use and ongoing maintenance is being carried out by club volunteers using the Sea Scout Pioneer workboat.

In the dinghy park this year there was some re-arrangement and although it was very full, members have generally been flexible and considerate in their use of space and most boats have been clearly labelled with their owner’s names. Unfortunately we still have a few dinghies which remain unlabelled and apparently unused. We would be glad of any help in identifying and contacting the owners of these boats.

On the Social and catering side, the galley has been painted and a new freezer installed and there are plans for further improvements next year.

There has been a change to licensing laws which means that we can now have 12 bar licences each year, suggestions are welcome for events. Catering at sailing and social events is much appreciated by participants and also makes money for the Club, however it proves increasingly difficult to find volunteers willing to help.

Helen stated that in this as in other areas of club activity it shouldn’t be necessary for committee members to spend time press-ganging volunteers. If you have some time to spare in helping your club please don’t wait to be asked.

Training has had another strong year, and Helen stated that the full report will be available , so she just mentioned the things which are new. On equipment, the Club now has a 4<sup>th</sup> Tera dinghy complete with a race sail, which is proving popular.

New activities this year have been Chanonry Champs for “improver” junior sailors and a 3-day Junior race coaching event, and also Laser coaching.

Chanonry Sailing Club has achieved Volvo Champion Club status which will bring benefits in extra coaching support for RYA pathway classes.

Helen stated that could say much more about what the club is achieving in encouraging sailing through its training programme, but urged Club members to read the full report

instead.

2011 has seen much work done to the clubhouse, in particular we have a new balcony balustrade, replacing the old one which had become unsafe. The clubroom has been painted as has the outside of the clubhouse. There have also of course been ongoing repairs and maintenance as necessary.

Helen then drew the attention of members to the 4 interpretation boards which are part of the Harbours Heritage project, there is also now a history of Fortrose harbour available on the club website and the project is ongoing with plans for a joint exhibition next year with Groam House Museum.

Also new in 2011 has been the move away from a paper handbook. While this has saved both time and money, the Committee is aware that the absence of an easily available list of members contact details together with information about boat ownership has been missed by many members. At the committee meeting on 1 November, therefore, a decision was taken to make as much as possible of this information available in time for the start of the 2012 season although it may take a little longer to get all the information about boat ownership.

Helen went on to state that the Club continues to have a strong and mutually beneficial relationship with Avoch Sea Scouts both on and off the water.

Finally, Helen wanted to thank all Club members and acknowledge the valuable and ongoing sponsorship the club receives from Caley Marina, Ross and Cromarty Sports Council and Coaching Highland.

Helen had special thanks for Miles Mack who has now completed his term as Rear Commodore, Jon Shepherd who is handing over the reins as Membership Secretary and Tim McKeggie who has stood down as Cruiser Captain.

Helen wanted, in particular to thank Club volunteers who give their time and effort to make this Club run. She expressed her thanks and those of their fellow members. Helen hoped that members all remember to express those thanks throughout the year and not only at the AGM.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report and Consideration of Accounts for 2011/12**

George Hogg presented his Treasurer's report to the AGM and commented on the way in which the financial report is presented to the AGM has been revised. One consequence of changing the accounts is that George cannot present an item by item comparison with last year's accounts.

George also outlined the reserves he intends to put aside for various purposes:

- i) General reserve (£6500)
- ii) Safety boat ( £2000 per year with £6000 being set aside this year)
- iii) Moorings reserve

These may be revised in the future. George also thanked David Gibb for examining the accounts.

Additionally, George highlighted the main figures in the accounts, for example, overall budget and various major areas of expenditure like the Clubhouse. Subscriptions were up this year, therefore increasing the Club's income, and Caley Marina and The Ross and Cromarty Sports Council have also given their financial support to the Club.

Roxby congratulated George and Janice for the clear and concise accounts produced this

year.

## **5. Election of Office Bearers for 2010-11 and Committee members for 2010-13**

There being no alternative nominations the following members were elected as office bearers to the Club on the nomination of the Committee:

Commodore – Helen Jenner; Club Secretary – Mairi Macleod; Treasurer – George Hogg; Sailing Secretary - Helen Morgan; Social Convenor - Pam Hogan; and, Training Principal - Richard Jenner.

There being no alternative nominations the following members were elected to the Committee:

Steven Bramwell and Kevin Holliday. In addition, Tim McKeggie was elected as Honorary Rear Commodore of the Club in recognition of his long membership of and service to the Club.

## **6. Other matters for which notice has been given**

### **The Club Handbook**

Mike Burns had suggested that some of the information previously available in the printed handbook was not easily accessible on-line and he wanted to know what would go into the list mentioned by the Commodore and how would this list be made available. Helen stated that contact details, boat details and an events diary would be included and the intention was to make the list available as a PDF in the members' only area of the web-site and to provide a printed copy in the Race Office. Several members commented that they would prefer a printed version of the handbook. While the committee did not believe a return to a full handbook was possible for the reasons given at the 2010 AGM, Helen stated that Club members who would prefer a hard copy of contact details and boat names can request one when they renew their membership in the new year. Mike Burns asked that useful telephone numbers (Coastguard etc) were also included in the new document.

### **Status of the Club Website**

Mike enquired about the various features of the website that still need to be completed. Richard Evans identified several areas of the website that require updated: the results page, Club development plan and the moorings plan. Richard also stated that the website is a product of collaboration and takes time. In time each section could have its own editor to speed up the process. Richard asked that members test the features of the website and give him some feedback.

### **Transparency of Minutes**

Mike requested that committee decisions made by email should be reflected in the minutes. Helen stated that this issue has been previously identified and the committee have agreed that future minutes should report decisions made by email.

### **Use of Club Trophies and Cups**

Mike also raised his concerns about the discrepancies and gaps in the history of some Club trophies, an issue that was also brought up at the committee meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November 2011. There was general agreement that the provenance and histories of all Club trophies should be investigated to prevent confusion and contribute to the production of a Club trophies policy.

Helen Jenner thanked all members and closed the meeting.

