



Chanonry Sailing Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

7.00 pm, Friday 25th November 2016

Item 1

Present

Richard Jenner, Helen Jenner, Jack Evans, Richard Evans, Peter Illingworth, David Pocock, Michael Wilson, David Finlayson, Peter Moran, Chrissie Lane, Robin Witheridge, Janet Witheridge, Gregor Fisher, Joan Maxwell, Donnie McLeod, Gavin Campsie, Sandra Hogg, George Hogg, Marissa & Emilia Astill-Brown, Steve Bramwell, Diarmid Hogan, James Dargie, David & Pamela MacIntyre, Peter Smith, Tim McKeggie, Richard & Helen Cherry, Helen Rowson, Mike Wilson (Commodore), Ben Yeats, Jamie Norman, Alan Hardie, Thomas Hardie, Lawrence Gunner, Steve Bramwell

Apologies

Tim Lloyd, Rodney Timson, David Cameron, David Bell, Caireen Gourlay, Helen and Derek Young, Graham & Oliver Bull, David Gibb, Amanda Tickle, Paul & Fin Davidson, Liz Duncan, Jon Bailey.

Item 2

Minutes of the 201 AGM : Approved without amendments. Proposed Diarmid Hogan

Seconded George Hogg

Item 3

Commodore's Report: Mike Wilson

Commodores Report (Summary)

I reminded myself that this report is an opportunity for me to explain to you, the membership how we the club's officers had strived to deliver on the clubs objective, throughout the last year.

The following therefore provides a summary of the activities of the club which have been carried out in pursuance of the said "objective".

- **Sailing Update**

The weather appears to have been kind, affording us our fair share of favourable conditions with most club events being run along with a good number of races within each of the series events. The clubs Open events also proved successful with an increase in the number of visiting boats being hosted.

Social and Improver days were introduced this year with a view to encouraging new recruits and recently trained members, to give them a chance to get more time on the water without the potential intimidation of organised race events. Unfortunately the take up on these events was not as hoped and new format may be in the planning for next year.

Overall, of the 100 race days planned, 80 races were actually run.

Of course none of this activity would have been possible without the volunteers to perform the required duties and huge thanks to them for continuing to support the activities of the club.

As special thanks is due to Richard Evans, who bowed to the pressure and stood in as co-opted Sailing Secretary, his knowledge and cool calm expertise has enabled many of the events to run without hiccup.

On the dinghy scene there has been a busy schedule training and post training activity with 88 sessions being held between Dolphins (48), Champs (32) and Race Team (8). A huge effort by the two Richards (Jenner and Evans) and their two dedicated junior Instructors Thomas Hardie and Magnus Henry.

On the Cruising scene we also managed to hold our two annual events, the Regatta and the Black Isle Challenge Cup. The club hosted both races and enjoyed the company of a number of boats from neighbouring clubs, as part of the Moray Yacht Axis series.

Working in the back ground at all the clubs main events is our Social Secretary, Janet Witheridge and her team of helpers who, in no small way, contribute to the continued success of our events.

- Training

Those of you who have been following the minutes of our meetings will remember the work that has been done to allow the club to continue to deliver training to RYA standard in order that we keep our "Training Centre" status.

This year we delivered a very ambitious and successful programme of training, thanks to a huge effort and enthusiasm from Amanda Tickle and our external instructor Rob Bashford; who have been supported by team of dedicated others namely John Crossley, David Bell, Magnus Henry, Thomas Hardie and Helen and Richard Jenner.

It is important to point out that our training centre status, although a struggle to hold onto, has proved an important asset for the club. It allows us to stand out amongst other clubs in the North and has proved a great way of pulling in vital new membership in past and again this year.

- Rowing Skiff

This is continuing to prove a great success, as it grows from strength to strength, with a very keen following from existing as well as an encouraging number of new members. Chanonry Maid's sister ship build has also been gathering pace, as our dedicated team of amateur builders move her towards the final stages of the build. We look forward to seeing joining the "Maid" out on the firth in the coming months.

It is of course not all about building these beautiful boats and our rowers have enjoyed attending a number of local regattas, with the Chanonry Maid and very much enjoyed the comradery of this developing social and community activity.

- Diamond Jubilee

This year of course marks the clubs 60th Anniversary, which fell on the 29th March. We held a very successful event bringing together member, former member and friends of the club. We felt it was a great opportunity to commemorate the event with the unveiling of two new benches to celebrate the lives of two long serving and very well regarded former members, who are sadly no longer with us; George Taylor and Jack Evans. We were delighted to have Taylor and Evans family members join us for the unveiling and to share with us many happy memories of past times at the club.

- Moorings

The Trott moorings remain one of the clubs biggest assets which have given us good service since they were installed. That is until this year when fatigue allowed no less than four boats to break free.

Our harbour master Peter Illingworth has worked very hard behind the scenes to find an economical solution to the growing Health and Safety and Insurance constraints placed

on the upkeep of such an asset. Fortunately a solution has been found and I extend huge vote of thanks to Peter for his persistence with this matter on the club's behalf.

- **In Memory**

It is with great sadness that I have to report the passing of one of our more recent members, Peter Jones, who sadly passed away after a tragic accident out on the firth while tending his boat. Our sympathies are with his wife and family.

- **Round up**

As this meeting marks the end of my two year in office, I must pass on my sincere thanks to my fellow members on the committee, who have given of their time to help me in my role but more importantly have helped the whole membership by being custodians of the Chanonry Sailing Club.

It is not until you get involved, behind the scenes, can you realise just how much work is actually carried out to make this club the success it is.

I am pleased to report that the built facilities of the club are all in good order, with the race office having recently receiving a welcome facelift thanks to the generosity of Alan Hardie and the kind donation from Howdens in Inverness. My thanks also to Donnie MacLeod in his role as building custodian.

Item 4

Treasurer's Report: David Finlayson (Report included as attachment to the website Minutes)

The Treasurer presented the Accounts and again thanked David Gibb for his skill and help in examining them. It was also confirmed that Rebecca Wilson will continue to book keep.

There have been some financial pressures this year related to moorings and a new outboard motor. The old motor was donated to the Sea Scouts.

Steve Bramwell continues to seek grants that benefit the Club and members, for which he was thanked.

Questions from the floor:

Discussions took place regarding the financial risk to the Club of having work done on the moorings and not enough cruisers being kept on them. DF explained that given the current membership the Committee had agreed to weather the expenditure. Discussion took place on how to mitigate against the financial risk to the Club and whether to reduce the number of moorings being offered but this may have a negative effect on attracting new mooring holders. It was agreed that the moorings be refurbished to a level that may attract new boat owners and get a commitment from members to take middle and outer trots.

Item 5

Election of Officers of the Club and General Members of the Club Committee.

The Commodore gave his thanks to all the members of the Main Committee as well as the club volunteers over the past year. He thanked Tim Lloyd and Mhairi MacLeod for their contribution to the Club committee as they were standing down, although Tim agreed to continue organising the engraving of the Club trophies.

The following Officers of the Club and General Committee Members were elected, having been duly nominated and seconded.

Donnie Mcleod – Commodore
David Finlayson - Treasurer
Chrissie Lane – Club Secretary
Richard Evans – Sailing Secretary
Social Convenor – Janet Witheridge
Training Principal – Helen Jenner
James Dargie – General Member (Cruiser Liaison)
Robin Witheridge – General Member
Roger McMichael – General member (Rowing skiff representative)
Alan Hardie – General Member

Item 6

AOCB

Regarding increasing the financial reserves of the Club, much members discussion occurred ranging from options for charging for hard standing per meter, winter storage fees & the reduced car parking space available for locals car park space. A wide range of opinions were expressed regarding acknowledged lack of space & potential reduction to Club accounts. The option to charge for hard standing was rejected at the AGM. It was agreed that more discussion of options was required by the Committee.

There being no other declared competent business, the Commodore closed the meeting