

Chanonry Sailing Club Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 15th October 2013

Present: David Pocock, Mike Wilson, Donnie Macleod, George Hogg, Steve Bramwell, David Bell, Richard Evans (website business)

Item 1 Apologies Joanne Johnson, Richard Jenner, Helen Jenner, Diarmid Hogan.

Item 2 Minutes of meeting of June 2013 and extraordinary meeting of 6 August 2013 were approved.

Item 3 Update on Action Points and Matters arising

Mike Burns had stood down as Cruiser Liaison and Diarmid Hogan had taken on these duties.

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

AP4 (1/11/11) New Loft hatch. This work approved and is due to commence shortly.

Review of Club Duty Policy. This had been undertaken by Adrian Hodges along with DB, HJ, JJ, and DP and approved by the Main Committee via email prior to the meeting.

Item 4 AGM date, format and agenda

After discussion it was agreed to try to maximise the attendance at the AGM by holding it at **5pm on Sunday 1 December after sailing**. This will be followed by the Annual Prize giving and a social event including a raffle (for which prizes are required to be donated). This to be advertised widely by newsletter well in advance - Action DP.

Agenda and minutes of 2012 AGM to be distributed by email or hard copy (to known non PC users) – Action SPB

Item 5 Draft Club Sailing Programme 2014

DB had circulated a draft prior to the meeting which was approved by Committee.

Discussion related to the need for all active members to contribute to all sailing related duties.

The date of the RNLI Day needs to be fixed now. Action DP

Diarmid had suggested that we consider if the main Cruiser regatta could be combined with the dinghy regatta but with separate starting and finishing areas ie cruisers use the club starting line and not the committee boat. Action DB would investigate.

Item 6 Succession Planning for Committee 2014

Several long serving committee members are due to step down in 2014 and DP proposed the need to recruit some new members to general committee posts now with a view to shadowing and then taking over the main duties of running our club. Some of the main roles including Sailing Secretary

and website management need additional support but understudies are needed to take over in 2015 some main committee duties including Commodore, Training Principal, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Secretary. David Finlayson, Mairi Macleod, Tim Lloyd and Alan Hardie had already volunteered to stand for committee posts at the AGM with a view to understudying.

Action- all committee members

Item 7 Document Management and Website Refresh (Richard Evans in attendance)

After trials and reviews of alternatives RE, DB and DPrecommended the Club uses "Box" for cloud storage and collaborative working on documents. This free service worked well in 2013 with Regatta planning and the Ness Cup and will provide a record/ starting point for 2014- agreed by committee.

Whilst very successful mainly due to the sterling work by Richard Evans, it was accepted that the Club Website needed a thorough review with revision/ updating of some sections and that the Club website diary needs more rigorous management. Assistance with running the website, one or more deputies to Richard E, is also required.

This represents a considerable body of work over the coming winter and will be conducted by a subcommittee chaired by Richard Evans. Action RE, MW, DB, DPGH

Item 8 Rowing Skiff

DM and SB reported that sufficient members and associates had expressed support for CSC to build a St Ayles Rowing Skiff and the Committee agreed that the club should now commit to a build, hopefully in partnership with Avoch Sea Scouts. Initial finance to get the project started will come from the General Fund, and grants will be sought from other relevant bodies.

Donnie (Chair) and Steve agreed to lead the project and Donnie has called a meeting for the 31st October to discuss with all interested parties.

Action DM and SB

Item 9 Harbour Pontoon

The Harbourmaster reported that an extremely generous offer of funds had been made to facilitate the build of a pontoon within the harbour. He was in the process of sourcing a pontoon from Gaelforce and obtaining relevant planning permission.

The Committee asked the Commodore to write to thank the donors for their extremely generous action and hope they would feel free to use the pontoon when they wished. Action DP

Item 10 Club Dinghy Purchase

Because of his absence, RJ provided the the following update

Terra No 5 was delivered on 1st August. It was a subsidised purchase through the Eric Twiname Trust (£967) and was also grant aided by Ross and Cromarty Sports Council (£500). It's a very smart Mk2

boat and came complete with 2 sails, trolley and cover. The full RRP would have been £2485 but the cost to the Club after grants was reduced to £1018 or around 40% RRP. Delivery was FOC as RJ collected the boat from the factory near Newark while on a trip to visit relatives.

Wanderer "Lake Tekapo" (Dave Dunton) was inspected and found to be in excellent condition and has been purchased at a very reasonable price. A successful bid was made for a £1600 grant from the Ward Discretionary Fund representing 50% of the purchase price and the boat will be delivered end October.

Wanderer "Minstrel" owned by Alan Munro has been offered to the club for the sum of £1250. She awaits further inspection but would be eminently suitable as a training boat.

The committee agreed to the purchase of Minstrel subject to final inspection, noting that the Club would now have its planned complement of two handed training dinghies, both also suitable for spinnaker training.

A further application via the Eric Twinn Trust to purchase Terra no 6 will be made for 2014 should these offers become available again.

Item 11 Fund Raiser for Malawi

The committee agreed that Gillian Wilson could use the Club premises for this purpose with the proceeds after food and Club expenses going to Fortrose Academy's Malawi charity. The original date suggested of 17th November was not thought to be suitable as a Club event but other dates can be arranged.

Action MW/GW HJ

AOB

Junior Members undertaking Race Officer Duties

Concerns had been expressed about a recent race day when a junior member had (willingly) taken on the role of Race Officer but without supervision as the allocated RO had not turned up. There were no incidents but the safety officer of the day had expressed concern.

The Committee whilst wishing to encourage juniors to be involved in all aspects of the Club activities felt **the role of RO is one which carries exceptional responsibilities in terms of the need to recognise and deal with serious emergency situations and should not be allocated to a juniormember without direct supervision by a competent RO trained adult.** The correct procedure would have been to either abandon the race or for an adult member to act as RO and supervise the junior wishing to get experience.

It was considered that the Safety Boat crew should NOT be in overall charge of a race as they may be engaged in a rescue in one location and be unaware of other emergencies on the course, so the RO does need to retain overall control of the race and to coordinate rescue. If the RO fails to turn up then the safety boat crew would have the responsibility to reallocate duties to allow the event to go ahead.

Action. DB to update RO/SO guidance.

Use of Club Moorings by Charter Company

The committee had previously approved in principle the concept of Peter Illingworth using some of the club moorings and facilities for a yacht charter business. Peter Illingworth had now formally written with a proposal to rent 4 of the vacant Club Moorings for his new small yacht charter business. He had put forward detailed proposals for access to the harbour and Club facilities for changeovers, for a fee, which were to be only at times convenient to the Club.

The Committee agreed that this was a careful and considerate application and would be advantageous to the club, both by bringing in funds and possibly increasing the numbers of cruisers who might wish to sail competitively on chartered yachts.

The application was approved by the committee for a trial year. Action DP

Free Teas and Coffees after sailing?

Mike Wilson pointed out that it was common practice in other clubs to have free hot drinks after sailing and wondered if this might encourage more socialising. It was agreed to discuss this further with the Social Secretary but there was general agreement the suggestion might have merit.

Action HJ.

Choice of Club Dinghies

Mike Wilson representing other parents of aspiring junior racers questioned the choice of training boats for the Club which are not the usual race training boats ie Terras rather than Toppers.

It was explained that considerable thought by Marisa (then TP) and David Bell with substantial input from the club's instructors had gone in to the choice of training boats. There is always an element of compromise when choosing dinghies but the main criterion had been suitability for training total beginners (juniors & adults) rather than developing sailors. Toppers had been considered but the Teras had been chosen as they were easier for the 10 - 13 year old age group beginners to handle while still having some potential for developing sailors with the race rig. There was also a significant price advantage and there were felt to be advantages in having a fleet of 6 identical boats (the club already had 4 Teras). The club remains totally committed to 'Pathway Classes' and provides extensive coaching for developing and improving sailors and those members progressing to more competitive sailing generally need to purchase competitive/ up to date boats and maintain them for racing and travelling.

DONM

12 November 2013 at 7.30pm

