

ORWELL YACHT CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7.30 PM
AT OYC CLUBHOUSE

Those present: John Hazelton (JHn): Jim Howard (JGH): Samantha Mills (SM): Julia Norman (JN): Phil Naylor (PNr): Jenny Naylor (JNr): Paul Belton (PB): John Ling (JL): Mark Wilson (MW): Mike Fry (MF): Jamie Carrington (JC): Peter Hibberd (PH): Jill Howard (JHd)

Trustees: Robert Jones (RJ): Alan Bimpson (AB)

- 1 Apologies for absence
Fred Codling (RC): Steve Gilson (SG): Paul Banjo (PBo): Peter Parker (PP): John Owen (JO)
- 2 **Approval of minutes – Management Committee Meeting held Monday 14th October 2024**
All agreed and signed off

3. Matters arising:

AGM

Everything is in hand.

OYC Limited Company proposal

JN had received the draft proposal from Clive Cooksey and is currently working with the sub policy group going through it. She has made one point, that we need to remove the word auditor as we are not a Company. The presentation needs to be updated and then we can circulate to members in the New Year.

JGH mentioned that Clive Cooksey thought the voting system should be open to all including postal votes. There ensued a discussion regarding this as we need a good proportion of members to vote on the Corporation.

Electrical report

JGH has spoken to Mark Woods who has said he hopes to bring the cable and instructions on how he thinks we should lay it to the Club. Once we receive that that we can get on. MW asked if we could do it in one session but JGH replied that we need to clear vegetation and boats along the path before we can even think of starting. JHn said he would speak to Bruce Proctor and see whether he can help as we will need a big disc cutter.

Gig Rowing

We have formed a subcommittee and set a date Monday 18th November for the first meeting.

Richard James from Somerset has been in touch and recommended we contact Sizewell who will often give grants. MW will try and contact Sports England.

We have been offered a gig rowing boat for £1000 but it's in Richmond and we need to see photos of it first before we go any further.

Claire Tripp from the Cornish Gig Association visited the Club and was very impressed with our set up. She can possibly loan us a gig with all the necessary equipment including oars for a year at a cost of £1,000.

A brief discussion ensued on where to advertise to entice new members. PB suggested that we could hold a show case – just have a one-day event whereby others can launch from our slipway.

Abandoned boats – Crazy Hen/ Sylva/Sea Fret

JHd read out a letter she had received from the owner of Crazy Hen. There followed a discussion regarding the way forward with this one as the boat keeps getting moved from one place to another and if PP has to keep towing it around, then questions were asked as to whether the engine actually worked. It was decided that JHd would write back asking for insurance details and a time frame of when the work would be carried out (PNr to draft letter). If not insured etc., then we would use the Abandoned Boat Company to remove it and charge the owner.

Sylva's owner has reported back that he has informed the DVLA (on advice from the Hospital) about his recent heart scare so cannot drive until he is told otherwise. He is hoping to find someone who would be willing to drive him to the Club so he can clean his boat properly and take her out.

Sea Fret has now been jet washed, scrubbed and returned to the mooring with thanks to JL for his assistance. The owner has completed work on the tiller and is undecided whether to keep the boat or sell her. There is an advert on the notice board. He has also arranged for the sailing dinghy to be collected next week.

JHd read out the response from a member regarding his dinghy which has been on the car park for over two years. As he has stated he is now looking to sell it, Committee agreed it could stay where it is and hopefully it will be sold. A deadline was given for its removal.

Charlie Carrington sent in the following email:

“The allocated space on the causeway that was used for dinghy and tender storage last season is no longer available and no alternative has been found so at present dinghies and tenders are scattered along the causeway. This issue is to be raised at the next MCM”

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding this problem with various suggestions discussed including dinghies just left for cheap storage or not used.

JN remarked that if we are going to have work parties to tidy up and make the Club look nice then we need to deal with these abandoned boats, bits and pieces lying around as well as the state of the lockers as they are making the Club look like a scrap yard.

It was reported at the recent Mooring Committee meeting that PNr, JGH and Charlie Carrington would go around the Club to put a tag on any boat that looked abandoned or not used to hopefully initiate a response. Moving forward, come Summertime, then the traditional tag would be used which is the second stage.

JGH raised the issue as to whether we should continue to let a member take away the scrap or get it taken away professionally. It was agreed that MW would organise a skip from either Whip St Motors or Sackers to perform this task.

Honorarium

As put in the Budget, the Honorarium was agreed to be paid as voted on by the committee members not in receipt of the payment.

Member misconduct

JHd informed Committee of another email that had been sent to her from one of our members. It was also sent to another member which had a knock-on effect on him. As this email was full of libelous, unsubstantiated comments regarding Committee amongst other things, it was asked whether this person should be allowed to continue with their membership. At this stage, it was stated that this is the action this person wants so to leave it. However, MW suggested that it was minuted the displeasure this email has caused Committee. JGH proposed and JN seconded. All Committee unanimously agreed to this action.

4. Management Action Plan

As there were a few ongoing actions, with one outstanding action regarding getting quotes for Clubhouse heaters, these were not mentioned.

5. Reports:

5.1 Treasurer

The Accounts are still with Emsdens.

5.2 Membership Secretary

RC sent in the following report:

Currently the Membership stands at:

172 Full (Single/HWP/Family)

4 Non-Sailing

8 Cadets

7 Honorary

24 Retired Sailors

5 Young Adults

Making a total of 392 Members including members partners and children.

JGH asked whether it would be a good idea to include member's Insurance Brokers name on renewal forms. It was also suggested to add policy number and expiry date (space permitting). The majority of Committee agreed.

5.3 Bank Master

The Carrier was tested by J D Lifting and certified with a SLW of 8.5 tonnes. Many thanks to all involved. Recommendations included painting the SLW on the carrier, shot blasting and re-painting as soon as reasonably possible.

The lift out and winter storage programme has been able to continue since then and one lifting day remains. All those who requested lifting and storage have been accommodated.

The mooring committee has been consulted regarding the use of the causeway in the summer to move "unused" tenders and dinghies from the carpark, prior to being classed as abandoned.

Recent tyre testing cost £90. Tyre quote £68 Bush Tyres. If the committee agrees we will contact them in the spring.

There have been two incidents of damage on the causeway. Reports have been written for these. There will be further discussions on these at the meeting tonight.

Chapter 2

Bookings for this Saturday and Team members have been informed of the change to Sunday.

The plan was to lift Allure onto the Jacobs cradle first thing and then carry on with the lift out. This assuming that the owner of the cradle has been able to make satisfactory alterations to his cradle in time.

I made enquiries with Jacobs about exchanging the long bases for shorter ones but did not have anything available. They would, however, construct two painted sections for £800 for next day delivery.

Would the club like to invest in a cradle which it could hire to members?

Sunday is the suggested alternative to Saturday, but it has its problems.

The owner of Allure is not able to arrive early, the proposed start time for lifting is 09:30.

Several owners have already made alternative arrangements for Sunday, also some team members. Some are able to attend later in the morning.

Next available Saturday tide is 30th November, 11:00 Start time 08:00 and at some point we have to lift out Dangerous.

Chapter 3

Regarding the concerns which I initially had regarding the use of props for a large boat. The owner has to be very sure about the correct positioning before setting down. The pads should be positioned on strong points.

The setting down part of the operation is finely judged and requires confidence in the props (cradle or otherwise) being close to providing the stability.

The full support cannot be achieved until the joining straps or chains have been attached.

Wide beam modern yachts will flex after the keel has landed, this produces extra downward movement, a further consideration.

Long term use of props on a non-stable base, i.e. not concrete, can result in the feet sinking into the surface, therefore, rendering the vessel unstable.

However, once the boat has been successfully supported, I see no reason why the props should not be used for short term storage until a suitable solution is found.

This is not what I said last night and I would like to withdraw my objection to the short-term use of props in this instance

I may have told the owner that we would sort the props out on the following day with or without his attendance.

There ensued a big discussion regarding some of PH's report with concerns raised about letting down members who have booked to come out on Saturday and now being changed to

Sunday and the carrier being moved with the boat owner not present. PH explained that he has a sinking boat that he needs to get out of the water asap and needs the carrier to do this. It was suggested that perhaps the owner could sign a disclaimer if he was not able to be present when the carrier was being moved.

It was decided that to protect our insurance, we pay for the boat that the tractor damaged (£1,300) as we would have to lose £250 excess anyway. Also, with the threat of two claims going to our Insurance Company, they might refuse to cover us unless we get professionals in to haul/layup thus increasing members fees significantly. SM proposed we pay the first claim with JHn seconding. 8 Committee were for this, 4 against so motion was carried.

5.4 Social Secretary

Thanks to Diz Deacon who organised an open mic night on 23rd October. The event was only attended by 5 OYC members which is very disappointing, although there were a number of musicians participating.

Thanks to Emma Wilson for organising a Hobby Night on 31st October. Also thanks to Richard Harris for continuing with the sewing sessions which are greatly appreciated.

Table Top Sale on 27th October.

There were 5 tables at the Table Top Sale and it was reasonably well attended. Takings for the table top fees and bacon rolls amounted to £51.00.

Neil Marshall's talk on the 9th of November was very well received. All those present had an enjoyable and informative evening. The presentation was enhanced using the new television screen. There were about 25 members present. They also enjoyed a barrel of beer organised by the House Secretary.

There is a presentation for the Sailing Committee on Sunday the 17th November. This will be in the afternoon in the Clubhouse.

There is a Laying -Up Fish & Chip Supper organised for the 23rd with entertainment provided by Nick Weaver. Over 40 people have ordered food so far.

The AGM will be held on Sunday 1st December. A light lunch will be provided for those who attend.

The Hypochondriacs are performing on Saturday 14th December and there is some thought as to laying on a hot meal for a cost of around £5 per head.

Rachel Belton is kindly organising the Children's Christmas Party on Sunday 15th December – Many thanks to Rachel for doing this as in previous years.

The Club House is available on New Year's Eve for a party but the organisation of this will depend on the Social Secretary after the AGM.

5.5 House Secretary

No issues.

5.6 Mooring Master

No report

5.7 Sailing Secretary

All post-season tasks are in hand. One of these is arranging for the engraving of the trophies. The 'Take the Biscuit' award is usually decided by this committee at tonight's meeting, as a reminder it usually goes to an unelected individual who has worked tirelessly behind the scenes with little recognition.

As you'll have seen from the recent email the OYC-branded clothing range has been extended to include a beanie hat, this appears to be popular with members wanting to keep warm through the winter months. We hope to take delivery of all items by the AGM making it easy for members to collect their orders when they attend. Looking ahead to the spring we're planning to introduce a cap to the range. This Sunday we'll be hosting an afternoon tea in the clubhouse to thank members who have helped to run the events that the sailing committee organised this year. The aim is to acknowledge the time and effort the volunteers put in, to show them that they are appreciated and to encourage them and hopefully others to help next season. This will enable us to continue laying on a varied programme of activities which will hopefully attract more new members to join the club.

5.8 Maintenance

PNr has kindly sorted out the full oil tank with a company called Slickers - £75 plus VAT who will remove the oil.

5.9 Correspondence

No correspondence as dealt with above.

6. Membership

New members and applicants

The following were accepted by Committee as new members:

Tony Garstang, Martine Murdoch, Nick Day and Tony Stainer.

Jason Baxter has yet to supply suitable references so it was a yes providing these were given.

Due to Robin Buxton living in Rugby, not having a boat but just wanted to crew for members,

it was decided not to invite him to join.

7. AOB

General rules and byelaws on the members page on website is out of date (Nov 2019) Should we have this updated after each AGM and published on the Club's restricted "members" page? **(Mike Fry)**

Committee agreed that due to changing byelaws that we would no longer print the Club Rulebook as these could be published on the Club's website members page.

RJ thanked Committee for all their hard work during this year. JN also thanked AB for all he has done for the Club as Secretary and a Trustee over these many years.

Appending – Matters arising still ongoing

- Changing combi door into wheelchair friendly access
- Redevelopment of ladies changing facilities (deferred)
- Repairs to Club Wall (deferred)
- Dredging
- Dolphin (deferred)
- RYA affiliated

Date of next meeting: Monday 9th December 2024

Time finished: 22.20