

**ORWELL YACHT CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025 at 7.30 PM**  
**OYC CLUBHOUSE**

**Those present:** John Hazelton (JHn): Jim Howard (JGH): Samantha Mills (SM):  
Fred Codling (RC): Phil Naylor (PNr): Jenny Naylor (JNr): Paul  
Belton (PB): John Ling (JL): Peter Hibberd (PH): Andrew Witherley (AW): Mike  
Fry (MF): Jill Howard (JHd): Terry Mills (TM) Peter Parker (PP)

**Trustees:** Robert Jones (RJ): Steve Gilson (SG): Mark Wilson (MW)

1. **Apologies for absence:** Julia Norman (JN)
2. **Approval of minutes – Management Committee Meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025**  
Agreed and signed off with one objection to wording. Change gig rowing section to “before purchase”

3. **Matters arising:**

**Electrical report/work party**

Nothing further to add from last work party report. Will get hold of Mark Woods (electrician) and discuss next stage. Really good work party, they cleared away the bank by the Causeway. Thanks to PNr for providing bacon butties, tea and coffee.

**OYC Limited Company**

JHn had looked at the new articles and byelaws and didn't have a problem. However, a couple of the Committee had questions regarding some of the terminology. MF asked if we could leave it til March's next MCM as he hadn't read it all. However, as this still has to be sent out to the membership, have an SGM before going live 1<sup>st</sup> May (providing it was accepted) it was decided that JHn would arrange a special meeting for Clive Cooksey to speak to all the Committee and answer questions before proceeding further.

**Gig Rowing (Including upgrading toilet block to include accessible toilet and accessible access to club)**

We are now waiting for a reply back from Sports England to see if our bid for obtaining a grant has been successful or not.

The idea of upgrading toilet block and access to the Club is a move to help bring more members and might possibly lead to obtaining more grants from other agencies if we can cater for members with health conditions. SM noted that it had been on the agenda since December 2023. SM asked to see the plans that Ben Powell had done, PB said if he had them he would send over a copy. PH also looked at a good quality portaloos for outside so there are other options.

One of PH's contacts have asked to come up on the 29<sup>th</sup> June and view the Club, he will get back to them.

**Peter Evans**

No Committee member has heard anything back from him regarding his expulsion and possible appeal. SM was in favour of giving him another 14 days and if by the deadline

he hasn't replied, then the matter will be considered closed. All were in favour of this.

### **TPO tree pruning**

PH wrote to the Development Manager Team at local council planning office and hasn't heard anything back to date. He will follow up.

### **Crazy hen**

As we cannot ascertain who actually owns the boat, it was suggested that JHd write a letter to the member who has been accused of having the boat and ask if he did have any interest in Crazy Hen at all. If not, then we treat her as an abandoned boat. MW suggested asking Andy Seedhouse if he would be interested.

### **Boat Insurance**

It transpired that asking members for the insurance of all their vessels were causing RC a lot of problems especially with the time spent chasing. He doesn't personally agree with this as it is storing members details. JGH reminded Committee that RC is just a volunteer, as we all are, and by creating him extra unnecessary work, it doesn't seem fair. After further discussion, PB proposed that we go back to the tick box version JGH seconded, all were in favour.

### **Walton & Frinton Buoy (SG – HASA)**

SG received communication from John Day who managed Walton buoys as we have sponsored a buoy in the past. Harwich Harbour Authority has now taken this over and are still responsible for buoys up to yacht club and Titch Marsh Mariner. They are still encouraging people to make donations but John Day wasn't sure if Walton and Frinton will send reminders out. It was agreed that SG would get back to them and say we need something more formal before considering a sponsorship.

### **Formulate action plan re unused/abandoned boats – PNr**

PNr suggested getting a small group together to brain storm and take action to support PH regarding the issues he has been having regarding members and their abandoned boats especially when they just put them in the water, take them out continuously with no intention of ever sailing them.

The sub-committee will consist of PNr, PH, RC, SM and MF. First meeting is booked end of February.

It was also agreed that Steve Waldridge should be sent his full invoice as per Bankmaster report.

### **Pressure washer**

RJ presented a presentation regarding the types of pressure washers he had looked at. After a lot of discussion regarding the various pros and cons, MF proposed RJ buys the Kranzle, TM seconded, all were in favour.

### **Storage Heaters (MF)**

A discussion ensued as to whether storage heaters were the best things for the Club. It was decided that MF would look into the costings of replacing our current heaters like for like. JGH said he could connect them.

## **5. Reports:**

### **5.1 Treasurer**

JN reported that the accounts had been sent round showing that she was starting to put much of our funds in notice deposit accounts, so will now have to give 32 working days at least for any withdrawals. This means it makes it more important that we have spending kept under tight control to enable us to carefully manage cashflows.

SM asked how the budgets are made up with PB offering to spend time with her and anyone else interested at looking at budgets.

### **5.2 Membership Secretary**

Two new members have been signed up – Sarah Watson and Derek Webster from last year.

RC has not heard from three members although one of their boats have gone.

Nine resignation in total – Peter Davies, Tony Veale, Phil Williams, Alexander Smith, Richard Lincoln-Smith, Jeff Ellis, Chris Layle, Jonathan Yates and Robert Day.

Membership number 208 – total now 377.

TM questioned that with all these people leaving, we must now have moorings available. Short discussion ensued regarding this.

RC cited another member who does not appear to converse with RC regarding his intentions. He's had an awful job getting the boat registration money from him. Another member has paid but hasn't sent in the renewal form despite RC chasing. This happened last year as well.

The barrier electrical box is up for renewal at £350. SM proposed, MF proposed and all agreed to leave it as it is.

### **5.3 Bank Master**

PH mentioned the email that Steve Waldridge sent in, asking for a reduction in his fees. This was discussed and decided that he would have to keep to Club's policy, launch on time and would be invoiced for the full amount.

The dates for launching have now been completed.

Stuart Dunnett and JL are tackling piles of wood, some of which is temporarily under the kayaks and other wood will be kept in a separate storage area.

Charlie Carrington would like to meet PH during summer season to use area behind workshop to store abandoned boats and dinghies.

Boats that stayed out over last summer, PH will be sending a letter to them.

A newish member has his boat up for sale at his house. His sailing boat is on the drying pontoon but asked to bring his trailer here. He will be charged half winter storage.

### **5.4 Social Secretary**

Emma Wilson has booked Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February for the next Hobby Night. Thanks to her for organising that.

PNr is still waiting to hear back from Harwich Haven to give some dates for an arranged talk and visit to Harwich.

Quiz night is booked for 15<sup>th</sup> March.

TM asked if we could have a sea shanty night, PNR will look into it.  
MF asked how we price up costs for entertainment. PNR explained that we are not here to make a profit but to encourage members to attend social events.  
Diz Deacon asked if he could hold his music nights on a Thursday or Friday nights.  
Most of Committee felt that these were not good nights to do this.

### **5.5 House Secretary**

The bar has no issues but JL wanted to inform those on Committee who were unaware, that he has taken and passed his DPS exam for the new bar licence. Committee gave him a round of applause.

### **5.6 Mooring Master**

JGH reported that all moorings have been done, now waiting for nicer weather so that Andrew Moore from Felixstowe Ferry can put span ropes on the new trot buoys and we will put cloth webbing strops on the buoys. 40 strops have been ordered from EYE at £3 each plus VAT.

JGH mentioned that there was an administrative error in as much as they did a mooring which should have been left as the owner said Gus from Pin Mill would do it. However the chain was needle thin, would have broken and boat drifted off either resulting in hitting another vessel or becoming a hazard in the shipping lane of the river. He asked for Committee's input on what to do about it. It was agreed (majority in favour – SM proposed) that the owner should be sent a strong letter detailing the damage this could have caused plus we would need to see the paperwork for previous years proving the mooring had been properly maintained and to charge him for the mooring being done. It was mentioned that we need to have all the numbers on the buoys so if FF is doing the moorings next year, it will be easier to identify them especially if they are painted on.

### **5.7 Sailing Secretary**

A group of our volunteers completed a First Aid refresher course at the end of January which should keep them current for another three years. During the course we discovered that the club's defibrillator's batteries were too low for it to work (deliver a shock) and one set of pads had expired in 2024 so these were brought to the Secretary's attention. Whilst a label implied the batteries were good until 2026 the machine said otherwise so perhaps it would be a good idea to turn the machine on and test them electrically whenever it is inspected?

The Sailing Committee continues to meet regularly to develop the programme for this season. They are also drafting the new documentation relating to the Safety Management System required by the RYA for affiliation.

### **5.8 Maintenance**

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### **5.9 Correspondence**

Following PB's report regarding the defibrillator, JHd asked for Committee's approval to purchase these; pads @ £118.80 inc vat and batteries @ £45.60 inc vat. Committee agreed. JHd mentioned that Paul Banjo said he would fit them once purchased so thanked him for doing that.

## **6. Membership**

### **New members and applicants**

NONE

## **7. AOB**

**NONE**

Appending – Matters arising still ongoing

Lockers

Updating Club's heaters

Abandoned boats

Repairs to Club Wall (deferred)

Dredging

Dolphin (deferred)

RYA affiliated

**Date of next MCM: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Time finished: 22.20**