

Minutes of the 67TH AGM of Saundersfoot Sailing Club
Held on Saturday 19th November 2016 at 11am

Present: Martin Andrews, Jo Musson, Mick Lightwood, Daniel Brady, Maurice Clarke, Simon Turnbull, Tom Owen, Nina and John Mammatt, Steven Cavell, Tony Phillips, David McDermott, John Hollies, Roger and Christine Howells, Alan Lambert, Robert Davies, Finley Harrison (Junior), Malcolm Williams, Keith Jones, Julie Ward, Rolfe John, Paul and Julia Griffiths, Dave Hannam, Dave James, Tom Eyre (junior), Dianne Hodson, Rob Talboys

1. Introduction by our President Mr Rolfe John

President's Report Saturday 19th November 2016

Mr Commodore, Members of Saundersfoot Sailing Club, Good Morning and welcome to the 67th Annual General Meeting today.

Had the meeting been arranged for an earlier start than 11am, then I would have had to set my alarm....

Before I hand over to our Commodore Martin to conduct the matter of the day, I should like to say a few words.

A couple of weeks ago I attended the funeral of Mr Bryn Jones, Bryn has not been a member for a number of years because of ill health.

I remember him setting out with his merry crew each year to warmer climes.

His trusty sailing cruiser named Misty Blue made from steel assembled in his workshop at Brooklands. His crew assembled from members of this club headed to Lands End and then on to Camaret in Brest, Brittany and beyond to Morbihan.

Today I look around at the cruisers laid up for the winter, and wonder what destinies are being dreamt of for 2017..

Lundy, Ilfracombe, Padstow, Solva, Dale, maybe.

What about emulating Bryn and take up the challenge and you can return next year with tales from afar.

Let's wait and see if the postcards arrive!!!!

This year the Denekamp Shield for the longest cruise goes to Ray Smith in Spartacus.. Well done Ray, unfortunately Ray has to be in work today.

Otherwise he might have bought us all a drink!!!

Mr Rob Chambers, tragically lost his battle against illness recently. I should like to extend our condolences to his wife Sue. Sue Groves as she was known before her marriage to Rob was a valuable member of this club, General Secretary and a big helper to OOD's when we had events like Nationals and Coppel Week. I am sure you will all wish Sue the very best for the future.

I understand from our Dinghy Captain Mr Paul Griffiths that this year's Sailing Programme has been very competitive, three different winners for each of the series sailed. ie ; warm up, mid- season, and late season.

Proof indeed how the silverware has been shared around. This is a record for the club to have so many different winners.

The Club Champion was an exceptionally close affair, and only after a count back was the eventual winner declared.

My congratulations to Maurice Clarke for retaining the mantle of Club Champion.

Congratulations to, Rosie Mammatt Lady Helm.

Ben Roberts Junior Champion. Steve and Harry Hinksman winners of the Silver Fleet., and last but not least Terry Cemm Club Person of the Year. Terry lives in the Bosun's Locker rumour has it.

Well done to all the winners, but let us not forget all those who have taken part in the Sailing Season. Taking part means so much.

Bart's bash was again a resounding success with over 30 craft taking part including 4 Celtic Longboats. It was a really fine spectacle. How did we get the aerial photos, was it a drone? I understand that over £600 was raised on the day.

Our entry in the Honda Rib Challenge made it all the way to the finals at Southampton, but alas it was not first place for young Hywel Jackson. Well done Hywel we are all proud of your efforts.

John Mammatt our Membership Secretary deserves a big vote of thanks. John has managed the membership accounts extremely professionally this year.

It is a first time in a long time when all the tenders in the Tender Park are now labelled with their owner's name. No mean feat I can you..

We have in the order of 220 members, 28 Juniors.

Interestingly we have 80 new members this year, and 29 who did not renew.

Remember last year we reduced the cost of membership from £25.00 to £15.00. What effect has this had on our accounts? Maybe our Treasurer Rob Talboys will be able to clarify the position later.

I would like to thank Malcom Williams for his outstanding contribution towards sail training. Malcom has been the club's Principal Training Officer for many years and has now stood down, passing the mantle to Jo Musson. Good luck Jo.

Paul the Dinghy Captain, I understand will be giving a resume of the Sailing Season later.

One activity which is really thriving is the rowing, Wisemans Bridge Rowing Club a vibrant and welcoming club.

They have supported this club in so many ways this year. Help with manning the bar and assistance on the water. I understand from our Membership Secretary, John Mammatt that over thirty of their members have joined our Club.

Something of interest to members who wish to keep fit the Rowers use the Club House every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for exercise sessions on their rowing machines at 6-00pm (Friday 6-7 for juniors)

Really looks good, maybe I should have a try.

News from Saundersfoot Harbour Commissioners, next year developments include the fitting of the remaining section of the Decking and a substantial 4 storey building at the rear of the harbour overlooking the back beach.

This building will house a RYA Centre of Excellence, a Chandler for boat bits etc. Harbour Master's Office and stores. Definitely something to keep an eye on.

Now it's that time when I make my annual appeal for Volunteers.

Each Wednesday Morning under Mick Lightwood's guidance the Bosun's Locker is opened at 9.00am by Terry.

I should like to quote you something that Mick has written on the subject

"we all have skills and we also have knees, backs and other bits that don't work as well as they used to and we also have limited availability with busy lives. So in no way think that I am looking in and thinking he or she never helps. As that is not the case at all. The small bit we do is by far more than the majority of club members contribute and if we all turned up each week then it would be a problem to find jobs for all"

Food for thought, tea, coffee and biscuits provided, maybe a few cakes in the future.

Contact Terry asap.

Finally, I should like to congratulate Commodore Martin and the Committee for an excellent year in carrying out the tasks that have befallen them. The Club has run like a well oiled machine, well done Martin and good luck in your Fourth Term as Commodore.

Thank you Ladies and Gentlemen for having me as your President.

Over to you Martin.

Martin Andrews thanked the rowing members for their input into the club this year and noted that by reducing the membership fee to £15 the club has seen a boost in membership numbers.

2. Apologies: Simon Collings, James, Alison and Ben Roberts, Graham Wellman, John Davies, Andrew Williams, Angela Hollies, Bunty Hunt, Emma
3. Minutes of 2015, the minutes of the 2015 AGM had no objections to the content and were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting by Proposal from Nina Mammatt and Seconded by Roger Howells.
4. Commodore's report Marin Andrews (MA) gave thanks to Rolfe John as President and highlighted events of the year from Coppet Week to Barts Bash for the number of people involved and for the social aspect of the events. MA gave special thanks to John and Tonia Griffiths for acting as race officer and for allowing the use of their yacht Elgar as a committee boat. MA noted that the Griffith's had decided to step down from their role but would still maintain a presence in the background. John has decided to stay on in his role on the Advisory Committee and as a club Trustee.

MA gave thanks to Mick Lightwood for his hard work during Coppet Week and to Mark and Sian for manning the Galley and contributing very long hours to make the week a success.

Thanks were given to Keith Jones for running the safety side of the event and ensuring it ran smoothly utilising many of the members on the water.

MA then gave thanks to the Wednesday crew in the Bosun's Locker and asked everyone to help Terry Cemm by ensuring all items from the locker are returned and put away tidily after use. MA also noted that ML has a work-list of jobs that if members feel they could give some time to the club to help out, they should see ML's list and put their name next to a task to take on responsibility for that task.

Special thanks were given to the supporters of the clubs dinghy racing especially Tom and Terry who don't sail but who turn up regularly to help on safety patrol. MA asked if Paul Griffiths would say a few words about this season's racing in his capacity as Dinghy Captain. Paul summarised that it had been a great season with an average of 10 boats regularly racing and 30 races during the season. He gave his thanks to the helpers and noted that it was great to see new sailors coming through from the sail training. He gave extra thanks to Maurice Clarke for keeping the results,

Keith Jones for organising the dinghy park and to Simon Turnbull for ensuring the weather forecast as known to all prior to each weeks racing.

MA made note that the club is part of the wider community and its reputation has improved on past history. He informed the members that the club is a member of the Chamber of Commerce which advertises our Coppet Week Event amounts other roles. He then mentioned the RNLi Race Night which went well this year. These events make money for the club behind the bar and help to get the club known within the community.

Thanks were given to ML and PG for their work as Press Officers this year and MA mentioned that he and several other members looked forward to reading the race reports each week which are found to be very entertaining and a pleasure to read.

Martin extended his thanks to Keith Jones for joining the committee and organising the dinghy park with John Mammatt. He noted that it was hard work moving racking and the tie down points.

Susan McClough had contacted MA this morning seeking permission to use the club as a wet weather alternative for the carol singing proposed to be on the decking shortly. They are raising money for Bone Cancer research and asked if the club would sell raffle tickets. MA noted that the prizes were very good indeed.

On a lesser note, there will be no Christmas function this year as it was poorly supported last year and eventually abandoned at the last minute, he asked that members give their support to Nina Mammatt as Social Secretary with offers to help out behind the bar or in the galley at events. He also highlighted that the role of House Manager was still vacant and asked that a team be formed to take on the role. Martin again thanked Mick Lightwood and Rob Talboys for taking the lead on house repairs.

Sail Training has gone very well this year with new members now involved in club racing and MA asked Jo Musson (JM) to say a few words. JM reported that training had indeed been well supported with 25 trainees split into a Monday adult group, Thursday junior group and a mixed intensive week group of aspiring sailors. She gave special thanks to the team of volunteers that were needed to allow the training to run smoothly citing, Hywel Jackson, Finley Harrison, Ben, Alison and James Roberts, Rosie, Lloyd, John and Nina Mammatt and Rob Davies as being regular helpers and special thanks to Malcolm Williams, without whom none of the training could have taken place. Jo was very pleased to see that some of the trainees have become regular racers in the club and gave special mention to Thomas Beaver who attended the Acorn Regatta at Llangorse representing Saundersfoot Sailing Club in September and who won the Topper 4.2 class after only a few weeks sailing experience. She further mentioned that next year's itinerary is being developed and aims to take this years sailors to the next stage by hosting a level 3 and stage 3 course, a Start to Race course and an Assistant Instructor course. Jo also intends to provide some on water coaching on Friday nights next year to help those who would like some tips for racing.

5. Treasurers report

The financial year for the club has been, very much the curates egg, good and bad in parts...

However let's look at the financial figures. This year we have not printed off masses of sheets as the majority were left after the meeting. So I'm using the big screen this time. Should anyone want a hard copy please see me after the meeting and I'll print one off for you.

Starting with sheet 2, sailing revenue was down by £3 057, this year, this is due to the fact that we held a National last year.. as shown by the event fees. Some of this was offset by the income from sail training this year, but that also had its expenses.

Bar takings were considerably up this year, £2 277, however this was only due to the hard work put in by Mick, Andy, Mark & Sian at Coppet and others. The main revenue during the year coming from our rowing members without them the figures would be significantly down. Due to bottled beer being used, apart from Coppet Week, this resulted in less ullage, and increased the percentage profit to 52% the highest we have had in a number of years. This club cannot survive with its sailing fees at the present level, unless more assistance and participation is undertaken by the sailing section of the club within the club house. We cannot increase tender park fees as the harbour is already providing this at approximately the same price as us. Once again we had small donations from Lloyds.

On sheet 3 the depreciation is up considerably with the acquisition of new boats and outboard motors. With repairs and renewals at £6 405, this is £3 786 higher than last year, the refurbishment of the dory, new trailers and other equipment being a major part of this. I would remind members who use any of the club equipment, be it safety boats, dinghies etc, please treat it as though it were your own, and with respect. We cannot keep on at this rate buying new boats and equipment, with our present income stream. There will be significant costs in winterising the boats and engines to ensure we have reliable boats next year.

Sheet 4. As you will note the current account is down on this point from last year by £1 612 and the end of month figures have again decreased, to lower levels, at today's date, since 2013, we have a combined balance of £16 839.

So finally we have sheet 5, which gives us the fixed assets summary. This gives us the depreciation of our boats, engines and other stock...All pretty straight forward.

At this point I would like to make you all think forward to next year, Coppet is our big money earners, and here in the club house is where the jam is earned. Unless we get someone responsible for this position it will be very difficult to operate the house, that is the bar and other facilities next year. SO the only alternative would be to increase sailing fees drastically. It's your option, but we cannot go on another year running the house, on an ad hoc basis, using the already small number of willing volunteers who do more than their fair share within the club.

As I have said before, club funds are limited and we cannot afford to let any chances we have to improve them slip away.

As a final note I am prepared to carry on as Treasurer for a further year, but I will not be able to carry out duties within the club for possibly the first 6 months of the New Year. Thank You.

- ## 6. Proposals to amend the club rules
- Proposals had been received from Martin Andrews and Roger Howells to make small amendments to the club rules. The first was to rule 2a the objective of the club. The objects of the club shall be: (a) to foster

and support sailing, rowing, kayaking, motor boating and other forms of water sport acceptable to the club.

Rule 4d the officers of the club can include

1. Commodore
2. General Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Immediate Past Commodore
5. Dinghy Captain
6. Membership Secretary
7. Bosun
8. Principal Training Officer
9. Press Officer
10. Social Secretary
11. Cruiser Captain
12. House Manager
13. Rowing Representative
14. Kayaking Representative
15. Junior Representative
16. Child Welfare Officer

These Officers, excluding the Immediate Past Commodore, Junior Representative, Child Welfare Officer and Principal Training Officer, shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING when they shall retire, but shall be eligible for re-election. The Principal Training Officer, Junior representative and Child Welfare Officer shall be appointed as necessary by the General Committee and shall remain in post until fresh appointments are made. They shall be members of the General Committee. The Committee may, at any time during the year, appoint from within their number a Vice Commodore.

The only objection to this rule change came from Jo Musson who stated that the word Child should be dropped as the role also covered Vulnerable Adults as well. This was accepted by MA and RH as an amendment to their proposal.

Rule 5b proposed a change from the limit of 2 guests being signed in by anyone person to leave the wording open reading as follows;

Any Adult Member of the Club may introduce guests, normally up to three, provided that none of them has been a candidate for election as a member and refused by the General Committee or having previously been a member of the club, ceased to be so under Rules3(f). Guests may not be introduced by Junior Members

There was some discussion over this rule change as some felt it should have no limit on the number of guests but Rob Talboys pointed out that it was a condition of the Licensing Act that we have some form of control over the number of guests admitted to the club. After

the discussion it was accepted by all that the proposals be accepted and were Proposed by John Mammatt and Seconded by Malcolm Williams

7. Committee Membership Fee After a successful membership increase following the reduction in membership fees last year it was a unanimous decision to leave the rates as set in 2015 for basic membership especially as the Wisemans Bridge Rowers have increased their membership fee for adults to encompass all members as part of SSC. This has not been extended to the junior members who would have to join SSC if they wished to become members. The President then reminded all that fees such as the tender park rates are set by the committee at the first meeting after the AGM for the following year.

8. Election of Officers the following People have agreed to rest and as officers and were accepted by the members.

Commodore Martin Andrews

General Secretary is currently vacant although Jo Musson will continue until the end of the 2016 year

Treasurer Rob Talboys

Dinghy Captain Paul Griffiths

Membership Secretary John Mammatt

Bosun Mick Lightwood

Press Officer vacant

Social Secretary Nina Mammatt

Cruiser Captain vacant

House Manager vacant

Rowing Representative Simon Collings (elected by WBRC at their AGM)

Kayaking Representative vacant

The other officers set by the committee for the 2017 season are proposed to be Principal training Officer Jo Musson, Junior Representative Tom Eyre and Welfare Officer Alison Roberts with the Immediate Past Commodore still being David James.

The Officers were Proposed by Rolfe John and Seconded by David James, there were no objections to the positions.

9. Any Other Business There has been an offer of the use of Twmbarlwm from our President, Rolfe John, as a Committee Boat for events such as Coppet Week or a Nationals should the Club choose to host one. Keith Jones is organising Coppet Week during 2017 and is forming his team at the moment. At present there are no plans to run a Nationals at the Club in 2017 but if a fleet were to approach the club the matter would be considered by the committee.

Steven Cavell asked about the proposed RYA Centre of Excellence and its impact on club training, at present the answer to this is unknown but it is not intended to take sail training away from the club and is hoped that any new sailors from the centre would like to join the club. Rolfe John read out from John Griffith's report from the

Saundersfoot Harbour Advisory Committee regarding future work in the harbour during the 2017 season. Tenders have gone out during October for work for 10-18 months for the Marine Centre, tenders for the Coal office work are to go out during the Spring and the Decking is to be completed this Spring. The Pitchings wall is to have a Lido sea water pool for kids but be large enough (100m long) for triathletes to train in as a Wales International Coastal Centre. The Lido will also act as a breakwater during storms.

The wake zone extended this year was felt to be effective but will be more rigorously enforced and the Sailing Club has been asked to attend a capsized boat at a slower pace during racing. This was met with some concerns by members over the safety aspect of this but felt that racers are usually experienced enough to get themselves up after a capsized boat but that sail trainees would be attended as usual due to their lack of experience and age.

The meeting was closed at 12:40pm