

THORNTON STEWARD SAILING CLUB

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Notes of the meeting held on 14th March, 2018 at the Old Black Swan, Bedale.

PRESENT: Kenneth Gibson, Kay Anstay (in the Chair), Malcolm Cummins, Peter Kearsley, Gillan Gibson, John Pilgrim, Mike Smith, Dave Oldacres, Phil Gamlen & Annabelle Le Page.

Janet Cummins also in attendance.

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Eddie Fearnside & John Knopp.

2.MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17th JANUARY 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2018 (previously circulated) were accepted as a correct record.

3.MATTERS ARISING

In respect of Item 6 on the minutes, Gillan Gibson referred to draft no.6 of the programme for 2018, previously circulated, which now included 2 powerboat courses. The programme was agreed by the meeting. On item 13, John Pilgrim mentioned that he had spoken to Roger Anstay about the larger safety boat taking on water & the proposal was to allow the boat to dry out fully & then inspect its condition at Work Day to establish the cause with a view to remedial action being taken.

4.TREASURER'S REPORT

A written report by the Treasurer was circulated at the meeting & received. In addition, he updated the meeting on the position relating to the recent bills received from Yorkshire for water consumption. They had been queried as excessive & further investigation had established that there was a significant leak at the meter in Moor Lane for which the Club should not be held responsible. After a number of frustrating calls to YW, they had agreed to give us a significant refund, £595, on the amount taken out of our account by direct debit. We are now being charged £24 for the 2 quarters before January & no charge for January. This was a satisfactory outcome.

In response to a question from John Pilgrim, it was agreed that the annual accounts should be made available to the Committee in advance of the AGM in future years .

5. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary reported that the only emails of significance since the last meeting were picked up in other items on the agenda, viz. items 12 &14.

6.MEMBERSHIP REPORT

A written report had been submitted, which was updated verbally. Membership stood at 25 as at 11 March, but renewals were being received daily. Discussion turned to the appropriate deadline for the discount on renewals, currently March 31st. This had the effect of encouraging some members to delay renewing until then, creating difficulties in early season safety crew rostering. Further, if members delayed in this way & because their annual membership expires on 31st December, they were technically ineligible to attend the AGM. One way to address this might be to bring the date for renewals forward to 31st December, with appropriate discount for prompt payment of fees. Agreed to defer consideration until the August meeting.

7.HEALTH & SAFETY STANDING ITEM

Due to the absence of Rob Wyatt & John Knopp, It was agreed that formal discussion on Safety Boat Competence be deferred again . However, there was some discussion about the shortage of Instructors with the appropriate qualifications to run courses for the membership in 2018. Phil Gamlen felt that we should be looking particularly at the ability of members rostered to the safety boat to deal with difficult situations such as rough weather rescue .Whether that required a formal Powerboat course was an issue to be considered . The meeting accepted his offer to put together some bullet points on what we might want to consider in this context, with the Secretary to ask Rob Wyatt & John Knopp if they could do something similar, to inform future debate.

In response to an enquiry from John Pilgrim regarding the shortage of some sizes of buoyancy aids, Kay Anstay indicated that she intended to carry out an audit at Work Day.

8.PREMISES STANDING ITEM

It was confirmed that our arborist was on site at the moment dealing with the trees identified as needing felling/lopping. The site would be tidied later in the week.

9.CHILD PROTECTION STANDING ITEM

There were no items to consider.

10.OPEN DAY/PUSH THE BOAT OUT 2018 & ONWARDS

This matter had been referred to this meeting from the deferred AGM, as the member bringing the item forward, Tim Wilson, had been unable to attend the AGM. He would also not be attending this meeting but a short paper he had prepared was circulated to members at the meeting. Whilst some points were not accepted, there were a number of issues/ suggestions arising. It appeared that there was a feeling that the arrangements for this event would benefit from a greater degree of formality. If direct approaches were made to members in advance to cover certain roles & timeslots, we would be able to have a more formal rota, thus easing the pressure on a limited number of members which had been experienced in previous years . A timetable & specific roles could be drawn up, giving a much more efficient appearance to visitors & helping the volunteers. Phil Gamlen was keen that we approached things from the visitor perspective, for example, giving Ken Gibson support on meeting & greeting & generally helping visitors to find their way around & perhaps providing an information board re what was happening & how they could get involved. This would all benefit from being organised by an identified member & John Pilgrim offered to approach Tim on that aspect, letting us know the outcome by email.

11.WORK DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Kay Anstay had revised the usual list & its contents were discussed. A number of additional suggestions were made.

12.CLUB MEMBERS SATISFACTION SURVEY

The meeting considered an email from the RYA explaining that they had asked a specialist market research company to put together a satisfaction survey designed for clubs & which we have the chance to join for free. After discussion, it was agreed to express our interest in participating, with John Pilgrim offering to get in touch with the RYA.

13.CIRCULATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES TO ALL CLUB MEMBERS

The Committee considered a suggestion that it would enhance member involvement if the minutes of our meetings were to be circulated by email to all members. It was agreed that the minutes, once confirmed, will be put on the Members Area of our website in future & that members would be informed of this initiative.

14.POSSIBLE RYA TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Reference was made to an email from John Knopp of 9th March. After discussion, it was considered that the revised draft programme accommodated what was being suggested.

15.ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The arrangements for the presentation of trophies were discussed. As Laying-up Supper had lost popularity in recent years, a change was seen as necessary, although there were reservations expressed by some about the awards being made at the AGM, as this was too long after the end of the season. An alternative would be for trophies to be presented at the culmination of the racing series in question. Agreed that further consideration is given once we have taken soundings from the racing members in particular.

16.DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Agreed: THURSDAY 19th April 2018 at 7.30 p.m.