

**THORNTON STEWARD SAILING CLUB  
LIMITED**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 via video conference at 7:00 pm.**

Present: Phil Gamlen (in the Chair), Merrin Froggett, Mike Smith, Robert Wyatt, John Knopp, Trevor Birkbeck, Annabelle Le Page, Dave Sedgewick, Syd Nye, James Proctor, Graham Whittall, Trevor Bradley, Nick Hatch, Kay Anstay, Roger Anstay, Trevor Thurlow, Maureen Ayre, Philip Cossan, Mike Shorten, Alan Lyman (total 20 attendees).

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Eddie Fearnside, Paul Bernard, Kay Marriott, Peter Clarkson, Ken MacArthur, Bob Scorer.

**2. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (previously circulated with the notice of the meeting) were agreed & signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**3. MATTERS ARISING from the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 minutes.**

None.

**4. REPORT ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE**

The report was circulated prior to the meeting. Despite 2021 being another season affected by the pandemic, activity and participation gradually recovered as restrictions were reduced and facilities were fully open by autumn. A reduced racing programme was completed, and dinghy and safety boat training were delivered. The orange Rigiflex safety boats were returned to service, the blue SB will be used mainly by instructors. Membership reached an all time high and with increased interest in kayaking and paddleboarding and three SUP boards were added to the fleet of craft.

The new path from the Robinson Building was completed including a bio-security wash down area for craft being returned from other areas. Negotiation of a new lease from Yorkshire Water is nearing completion which will lead to a final push on the infrastructure project for the changing rooms and training facilities. Meanwhile a significant grant of £6500 from the Army (Lived Experience Innovation Fund) will enable a transformation of the clubroom and purchase of training equipment. The club is putting in some money to renew the kitchen worktops and sink at the same time. Club members will be needed to help with tasks and will be notified of opportunities soon.

A defibrillator has been purchased with assistance from YW and NYCC and has been installed on the outside wall of the building; training in its use will be held early in the 2022 season. Inspection/replacement of the ground tackle and buoys by Army Divers has been delayed but hopefully will progress.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer introduced his Financial Report for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 which had been

circulated before the meeting. This stated that there was a £8,368 surplus (benefitting from strong renewals, increased membership and COVID 19 business grants) and closing bank balances totalled £38,504. Membership fees were raised slightly at the end of the season to build funds for the investments being made in the club.

Major expenditures were £3.6K on architect's drawings for the infrastructure project, £4.6K towards the new pathway's overall cost of £19K and £1.5K for purchase of SUP boards and the defibrillator. This report was accepted by the meeting.

The formal Report of the Accountants, including the Profit & Loss Account & Balance Sheet, are being prepared by the Club's Accountants – Colin Hutson of Northallerton, and will be available by request to members.

## **6. RECOGNITION OF THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE BY RETIRING OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

During 2021 Nick Hatch retired from Company Secretary (Merrin Froggett was co-opted to the role). Jonathan Stephenson has stepped down from the role of Safety and Safeguarding, he made a significant contribution to the management of risk through the exceptional circumstances of Covid19. This position is currently vacant. Both retiring committee members were thanked for their service.

Mike Smith was thanked for setting up the club online records system which will enhance handover and continuity.

## **7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

All existing officers were willing to stand for re-election and no alternates were proposed. The following were duly proposed and elected:

Commodore	Phil Gamlen
Treasurer	Robert Wyatt
Secretary	Merrin Froggett
Sailing Secretary	Annabelle Le Page

No nominations were received for either of the Offices of Vice-Commodore and Rear-Commodore.

## **8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Valid nominations had been received from Graham Whittall and for Philip Cossan and they were duly elected to join the committee.

## **9. APPOINTMENT OF ACCOUNTANTS**

The re-appointment of Colin Hutson Accountants was confirmed by the meeting.

## 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No formal requests for AOB had been received. The committee wished to inform the membership of the following matters:

- a. LEIF Grant – the grant from the Army was £5.5K for refurbishing of the main club room so that wet and dry areas are more obvious, more comfortable and welcoming to families. £1K is for audio visual training equipment. The old furniture will be moved out, the floor prepared and painted, and then new furniture moved in. Any requests which would repurpose the old furniture should be made to the committee.
- b. Safety Boats – duties are a condition of membership. The aim is to progressively move current SB helms to PB2 standard. James Proctor will be contacting these members. SB crew familiarisation training will continue to be offered. Upskilling is part of robust risk management and reassures members that they are in safe hands. James Proctor asked that the committee look at the feasibility of offering low cost or free training to temporary members (as an RYA Affiliate Training Centre we can only train our own members).
- c. Annabel Le Page reported on the plans for 2022 on behalf of the Sail Planning Group:  
  
March - focus on SB and Race Officer training and getting people onto the water with helpers.  
April - introducing beginners to racing with 'kick start' racing from the end of April.  
June - start of weekly formal racing programme with a new format to build participation.
- d. Open Day – to be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022.
- e. Trophies for the 2021 season – these were awarded 'virtually' by Annabel (and will be reported in SailTime).

The meeting closed at 19.57 pm.