



Flushing Sailing Club CIO Charity No. 1182993

Minutes of Management Committee Meeting

Held on Wednesday 13th September 2023 at 19.00 at FSC

- 1. Present:** Peter Harvey; John Hicks; Melanie Franks, Gaye Slater; Rod Wooton; Paul Evans; Teresa Spear; Chris Bell; Charlie Choak; Derek Hill; David Mitchell; John Fox; Len Cheshire; Dan Tregaskes

Apologies: Geoff Davies; Dave Owens

- 2. Minutes of last meeting:** Approved

- 3. Correspondence:** N/A

4. Falmouth Harbour Revision Order

PH has looked at the available documentation and reported that there are many ways in which the Club may be affected. It will take 12-18 months for the HRO to come into effect, and it is hoped that the new pontoon will be completed before then. The HRO states that FHC will have more control and states that licences/fees will apply to anything on the surface (currently there are six different fundus owners in this area), speed limits will be better policed, and organisations that are not currently abiding by harbour rules will become more accountable. The HRO will consolidate legislation over the last 150 years, but could deprive other fundus owners in the area of their rights and moorings, legal advice is currently being sought (Nick Trefusis holds a document from 1854 which states his rights). The RYA are looking into this for themselves from a legal viewpoint. The consultation is open until 11th October (this has not been publicised by FHC), but unfortunately no response has been received from Miles Carden, CEO of Falmouth Harbour to any correspondence sent by FSC. PH encourages members to write to FHC and would welcome volunteers to form an action group. DM reported that the HMO for St Mawes has had a negative impact since its incorporation two years ago.

Action: DO and PH will keep abreast of any new information and report accordingly.

5. Sailing

JH updated the committee:

- Prize Giving will take place at the Club on 19th September, the top five boats will receive glasses and bottles of wine, hosted by CC and JH.
- Saturday start times will remain as they currently stand. To encourage more entries on Saturdays it there should be just two YTC classes. To consider not having Saturday racing when other village regattas and Falmouth Week are taking place, mainly in June, July and August. Discussions in more detail with PoFSA and other villages are needed. To consider holding a Pursuit Race in the middle of the season and to hold Bay races incorporated with COGS. DM and GS suggested a sub-committee be set up to help promote/reinvigorate Saturday racing and collate a spreadsheet for all the sailing series.

- The purchase of a GPS pin end buoy was raised, this will be inflatable autonomous buoyage that will keep itself in position in up to 30knts of breeze, this could be an asset to race management. Drones could also be used to spot boats in the future. PH will look at this in more detail and report back.
- The safety equipment in the SI's needs to be reviewed and have occasional spot checks of boats. Are flares still required? Does everyone carry an anchor? The RYA website could advise.
- The introduction of a dedicated WhatsApp Group for racing is being considered due to difficulties communicating (e.g. shortened courses) when the boats are out of visual/hearing range. JF suggested having the Committee boat out in the Bay to help communications. Could GPS Trackers be the future for the racing fleet?
- Calendar 2024: The Crews and Young Helms races on Thursdays needs to be entered into the calendar to ensure no clashes with other Club users. All users of the Club (chargeable or not) to please book through Gemma to avoid double-booking.
- GS will be attending Freshers Week to promote FSC to new students, Student Night with free burgers will take place on 25th October, DM will organise the food and bar. On 11th November is Prize-Giving from 6pm, catering will not be available due to the numbers of crews/members expected, Susie and Julie will be invited to present the prizes. Volunteers Night will take place on 18th November, DM will organise the catering for this event. The date for the New Members night is to be confirmed.
- Frank the Boatman has resigned, many thanks for his work, his replacement is Oscar who will take over for the rest of the season.

Action: This will all be discussed at the Wash Up meeting on 28th September.

6. Club Management

DM reported to the committee:

- A Bar Sub-committee will be created to run the bar, lock up and set the alarms. There is a good bar team remaining after Lena's resignation who can help with the supply of extra staff for events, the bar vacancy will be filled over the winter.
- There will be Winter Talks on Tuesday evenings with food continuing to be served on Friday evenings until 8th December. The Christmas Party with entertainment by a Frank Sinatra cover artist and will take place on 12th December, food will be served and priority booking will be given to members, there is a maximum of 67 covers for this event.
- JH suggested setting up a new Club Community WhatsApp Group to publicise non-sailing events, this will be an open group and allow members to upload photos and information, this was agreed by the Committee.
- GS and MF have met with the new Penryn-based website provider, the migration of the new website will take place between the 6th and 14th October, it will be down for up to 48 hours while the update occurs. Members will receive an email with full instructions requesting them to re-register on the new website when the migration is complete.
- PH has suggested the reintroduction of membership cards, this could enable local business to offer discounts to Club members and could help to perpetuate the financial support the members currently offer. The consideration of Under 30's (at £25) and Student Memberships (at £10) could encourage young persons to join FSC. This will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

- The kitchen usage of electricity needs to be assessed to ensure costs are covered, the Club is currently paying £140 PCM, but meter readings are due, discuss at next meeting.
- Club hire rates are being investigated and will be revisited at the next meeting.

7. Treasurer's Report

JF presented the accounts for 2022/2023. He reported that the Club was in good financial health with a surplus of £23.5k.

There has been a slight increase in membership due to a later renewal date. Bar income has significantly increased due to a rise in prices and greater attendance on Race Nights, the bar and catering are thriving financially even though wages have been raised in line with current legislation.

The current electricity contract with EDF Energy is fixed with an unknown end date, EDF Energy must give FSC three months' notice to increase prices, FSC will await communication from EDF regarding this as FSC is currently paying the same in energy charges as two years ago.

There is a large outgoing for the website, although a new provider is being sought which may lower costs in the future. The professional fees for the new pontoon project have not yet been received, this will be included in next years' accounts.

One of the Charitable Donations was to sponsor a sailor on The Tall Ships Race through the Roseland Trust, he will be doing an evening talk at FSC in the winter. The other was £250 to Flushing Village Regatta.

DH and JH are considering proposing a merge of the Catering and General Accounts and to put most of the funds into a savings account to be drawn down into the Development Fund, they would like this to be discussed at the next meeting.

8. Club Development:

Reported by PH

- Solar and Bar Store

The addition of solar panels and a battery bank will improve the sustainability and carbon offset for the club. A club member is advising on the solar panels which will fit flushly on the roof, they will blend in well and only be visible from the hill on Trefusis Road. The new bar (beer) store extension will be situated outside the clubhouse freeing up much needed space inside. DM has requested that the Planning Application for the solar and bar store be expedited to ensure it is in place before the start of the next sailing season.

- Pontoon Project

On 4th September the final meeting with DO and the consultants took place and informal discussions have begun with the Parish Council. Sustainable travel is still a problem and with the support of the Parish Council it is hoped that Beryl Bikes may be extended to Flushing. The Biodiversity net gain when the moorings are removed will be up to 65% less impact on the sea bed. Applications will be submitted in October and there will be a Public Surgery Consultation 2-3 weeks prior to submission, it will take 56 days from submission date for the decision to be decided.

Although the Club has capital available there will be a funding gap, Sport England, Shared Prosperity Fund and Carbon Charities will be approached for funding.

Action: Tenders to be submitted to Funding organisations.

9. Newsletter: GS volunteered to gather contribution and has requested photos from members. PH will offer editorial.

10. Club Events – listed in item 6.

11. PoFSA

JH updated the Committee that PoFSA is busy and running well. The Vice-Chairman has stepped down after five years and a replacement is being sought.

12. AOB

- DM confirmed the broken lock on the safe has been repaired.
- DT has suggested the replacement of the racing horns in the Race Office as they are nearing the end of their useful life.
- DT has supplied a link to the A&P Weather Station which could be added as a link to the website.
- JF has requested the soundproofing in the Clubhouse be improved, the engineer will be contacted to offer advice.
- The Seven Stars Saturday Series sponsorship has not been paid for by the Harbour House as originally anticipated, TS will approach the Royal Standard to see if they will step in.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 11th October 2023 at 19:00