

BOUGH BEECH SAILING CLUB

Minutes of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Sunday 12th March 2023 at 14.30hrs

NOTE: Financial information withheld from website posting

1. Introduction

1.1. 39 Members, registered with the Membership Secretary, attended. The meeting was quorate.

1.2. The meeting opened at 14.30 with Martyn Smith (Commodore) in the Chair.

1.3. Apologies for absence were received from the following members: Sue, Steve and Lloyd Roberts, Patricia and Antony David, Rob Bushell, Andrew Jameson, George Eddings, Mark Stones, Don Buckle, Stephen Knowles, Andrew Smith, Rory Moppett, William Chanter, Anna Helsten, Oliver Wildgoose.

Before the meeting started S Winn stated his opinion that the process prior to the AGM did not comply with the Club Rules. The GC members present disagreed. The Commodore asked S Winn if he would prefer the General Meeting to be halted to which he replied, no. The General Meeting proceeded.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of BBSC held on 13th March 2022.

2.1. Martyn Smith, Commodore, (MS) outlined two changes i.e. 'Zoom' should be removed in the heading and under 3.2 it was the EGM not AGM. Simon Winn (SW) was concerned that he did not understand some of the abbreviations and felt that from his perspective there was a lack of clarity. MS explained that they were a fair and complete reflection of the AGM and after some discussion proceeded with a vote to accept the Minutes.

2.2. Brian Gregory proposed and Deborah Maynard seconded.

2.3. Members present voted to approve the Minutes of the 2022 AGM. No votes against.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Minute 14.2 of the 2022 AGM refers to a proposal for a 'members only' section of the Club website that S Winn had put forward. Oliver Wildgoose, Webmaster, had looked at the options and concluded it would be difficult to do and would need to be outsourced and the benefit did not outweigh the cost.

4. Commodore's Report

4.1 The Commodore presented his report for the year. He noted that the usual Club activities had continued around the Club, including in May, a Family and Friends Open Day. He thanked organisers and volunteers who ran the day.

4.2 The mini-Family Sailing Week in August was well received by those who took part. The Thursday Evening Series, running from mid-May to mid-August was well attended, as was the BBQ afterwards.

4.3 Sarah and Simon were thanked for the Racing Rules Quiz, which at times caused some debate around the notice board.

4.4 When the water level dropped in early Summer the Fishermen found what they believed to be some Zebra mussels around the shoreline. The Water Company appointed biologist carried out a survey of the lake, with the Club's help, and confirmed the presence of Zebra mussels. Therefore, for reasons of bio security all boats leaving Bough Beech must follow the protocol of 'Check, Wash and Dry'. This includes boats and sailing wear. The same applies for boats returning from Open Meetings.

4.5 Finally, the passing of HM the Queen was marked by the Club flying a Union Flag at halfmast for the designated period.

5. Vice Commodore's Report

The Vice Commodore's Report presented his report and referred to photographs circulated at the meeting, not included in these Minutes.

5.1 Planning permission for the Training Cabin was granted for 5 years. Two new sea containers were also approved, but not time limited.

5.2 A 5-year Development Plan for the Club, including a new SB boathouse and a personnel lift, is in abeyance whilst the lease renewal terms are finalised.

5.3 SESW's own development proposals for land around the reservoir are under consideration by the Flag Officers.

5.4 The renewal of the lease is being pursued by the Flag Officers, potentially with beneficial terms. Financial provision for legal fees will be renewed for 2023.

5.5 Other aspects include;

- A new shed, in kit form, has arrived, to be installed behind the Clubhouse.
- Mr P, the Electric Workboat, is proposed to move to the smaller shed.
- A poster in the Boathouse gives simple guidance on the use of the electric Tug.
- Tuition on use of the Tug is available on request.
- A general-purpose rowing boat was purchased but delivered later than planned.
- A heavy-duty trailer purchased to haul out the Committee Boat has been well used already.
- The condition of the main wooden flag mast remains a concern.
- A water refill station is proposed to reduce or eliminate use of plastic bottles.
- Working parties will continue to be arranged from time to time.
- A Memorandum of Understanding was introduced for the 5 Affiliates organisations.
- The Nick Prosser Fund exists (since 2008) to financially assist Members attain DI and SI qualifications for the benefit of the Club
- The retiring VC thanked all GC members and members generally for their support.

Highlights of the Annual Safety Report (Onshore) appear as an Annex to these Minutes. The full report is available on the main Notice Board.

6. Rear Commodore's Report

6.1. The annual Endeavour Cup, awarded for a significant contribution to the Club outside of the General Committee membership went to Brian and Diane Gregory in part for the excellent trolley service during the Icicle series.

6.2. Safety Report (Afloat):

- A girl grazed her leg on a bench,
- A sailor was hit in the face by a boom,
- A small group of non-members verbally abused some fishermen
- A Sevenoaks School pupil was taken to hospital following an accident whilst sailing.

6.3. Jim King, Bosun (Sail) is carrying out an audit of club boats ahead of a rationalisation of the fleet, selling off unused items.

6.4. Open Meetings were all a success. Jon Reed was top placed member at the Solo Open, George Smith won the RS600 open, Peter Wolstenholme won the Snipe Open, with club members performing well in the Feva, Finn/D1/Supernova, 2000 and Wayfarer Finale. The Icicle had 21 Asymetrics and 46 Conventionals with 28 visitor boats. Special mention given to Pete Young for winning the Conventional fleet and Edie and Jeremy Carter for sailing consistently throughout.

6.5. Club Sailing: AM handicap racing remains strong. PM attendance is patchy as are Solo and Laser numbers generally.

6.6. Training: Start Racing Regatta was a success thanks to Richard Lambert. The event was run alongside the Emma Nettleship Trophy. This year should see 12 people for the RYA training pathway with Elliot (Training Manager) supported by Richard Meakin and Brian Gregory. There will also be informal PM sailing for youths and adults supported by a RIB and plans to introduce novice racing into the Sunday PM race.

6.7. S Winn was thanked for his revamp of the RO handbook, overseen by Martin Burgess.

6.8. Finally, a thank you was extended to all the Sailing Committee for support and especially to Martin Burgess and Sarah Seddon for stepping up to the challenges.

7. Financial Report and approval and adoption of accounts

7.1. The Treasurer's financial report and accounts were circulated.

7.2 Financial information withheld from website

7.3 INCOME Financial information withheld from website

7.4 EXPENDITURE Financial information withheld from website.

7.5 ASSETS Financial information withheld from website.

7.6. SUMMATION It's been a busier year with an increase in expenditure but the club is still in a very healthy financial position.

Acceptance of the Hon Treasurer's Report was proposed by Philip Moppett and seconded by Jim King. The members voted unanimously in favour of accepting the accounts.

The Treasurer (GS) proposed a fee scale for 2023/24 as follows:

Category	01/05/23	Increase	01/05/22	01/05/21
Family Membership	£ 170.00	3.03%	165.00	124.00
Ordinary Membership	£ 120.00	3.44%	116.00	87.00
19-25 Year Olds Membership	£ 60.00	3.44%	58.00	44.00
Social Membership	£ 20.00	0.00%	20.00	15.00
Standard Boat Fees	£ 145.00	1.39%	143.00	143.00
Youth Boat Fees	£ 60.00	0.00%	60.00	60.00
19-25 year olds Boat Fees	£ 72.00	0.69%	71.50	71.50
Removed boat / board	£ 31.00	0.00%	31.00	31.00
Model (RC) Boat	£ 31.00	0.00%	31.00	
Board stored on rack	£ 72.00	0.00%	72.00	72.00

The Members voted unanimously in favour of accepting the fee proposal.

8. Election of the Honorary Auditor

The Treasurer confirmed that Mr Ian Patrick, the current Hon. Auditor, would be able to continue in this role. A vote of thanks for his work auditing the accounts was made.

The Members present voted unanimously to approve the election of the Honorary Auditor.

9. Election of Officers

Nominations had been received for the following positions

Honorary Secretary – Philip Moppett

Honorary Treasurer - Georgina Shrubsole

Rear Commodore - Martin Burgess

Sailing Secretary/Safeguarding - Sarah Seddon

All other members of the General Committee had confirmed to the Honorary Secretary that they were happy to continue in their existing role.

The Members present voted unanimously to approve the roles and personnel as set out and for the other members of the General Committee to be re-appointed, with no votes against.

10. Approval of Honoraria for GC Members and ex-Commodores

The Chairman proposed the re-approval of the Honorarium to reduce the fees of General Committee Members, who had served at least one year, and ex-Commodores by the equivalent amount of the current annual membership fee of an Ordinary Member in recognition of the service provided to the Club.

The Members present voted unanimously to approve the Honorarium.

11. Supply of Intoxicating Liquor

The Chairman proposed that Jim King, Martyn Smith and Les Aldous be re-appointed to the Committee for the supply of Intoxicating Liquor.

The Members present voted unanimously to re-appoint the individuals named above to the Committee for the supply of intoxicating liquor.

12. Proposed Rule Changes (S Winn).

S Winn explained his proposal for formal communication from the Club. However, it was noted that not all Club communication can or should be made public i.e. on the Club website and/or Facebook, and discretion was required.

Proposer was S Winn, seconded by the Commodore, members voted unanimously in favour.

S Winn presented his proposal relating to Dissolution of the Club (i.e. winding up). The proposal was amended by the Commodore, with S Winn's approval, Therefore Rule 29 will be replaced by Rule 37 under the heading DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB.

The proposer was S Winn and was seconded by Alastair Moppett. Members voted in favour.

13. Any Other Business

13.1. Jeremy Carter expressed his thanks to the Club for the support he and his daughter Edie had received.

13.2. S Winn explained his opposition to the membership age categories, specifically Youth and Student Memberships. The Commodore confirmed that the GC would consider the wording.

14. Thanks;

14.1. The Commodore thanked outgoing members of the General Committee and Pauline for her work in the Galley. Pauline was presented with a bouquet of flowers and chocolates by Elizabeth Moppett on behalf of the Club.

There being no further business the General Meeting closed at 15.25hrs.

Signed: Martyn Smith, Commodore

ANNEX 1: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL SAFETY REPORT (ONSHORE)

- Full 16 page report is on the noticeboard, with plenty of NFA's
- Maintenance in 2022 cleared a lot of brambles (trip hazard)
- Liferings continue to cause concern but are SES W responsibility
[N.B. Club recommended new liferings inc for small pond & dam wall. SES W ordered them but so far failed to install any !]
- Club members should continue to challenge people with dogs and trespassers generally, especially on the dam wall, but only intervene if safety issue.
- Report any abuse from trespassers to the OOD
- Litter and junk remains low but please pick up litter when seen
- Recycling of glass, plastic and metal cans is working well – thank you
- In 2023 Members may be asked to 'adopt' a plastic trolley wheel to dispose of at home – the large surplus at the Club is very costly to go in Club bin.
- Jetty structure appears OK but broken wheel on seaward corner.
- Replacement wheels (10no.) have been sourced but modifications are needed
- Tug – notice added "disconnect charger before moving" (avoids charger damage)
- Wall chart of do's and don'ts with the Tug
- Green metal fuel cans should be returned to the Fuel Shed, even if empty
- Decontamination Shed has been cleared of junk and is now a usable storage space
- Roof repairs are needed to the Decontamination Shed
- Topper boat park is due a clear out (Bosun-Sail + Working Party)
- Gates & fencing to Club compound must be replaced (in hand)
- New AED battery purchased and First Aid refills done
- New Committee Boat First Aid kit & fire extinguisher purchased
- Also took the opportunity to re-stock the Fishermen's First Aid kits
- Control Room clutter must be cleared out – probably to new shed
- Railings on the balcony are wobbly & surfacing is leaking & reaching end of life, which is another job for SES W