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**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
CATTEWATER CRUISING CLUB**

**HELD AT THE MOUNT BATTEN WATERSPORTS AND ACTIVITIES CENTRE, LAWRENCE  
ROAD, PLYMOUTH PL99SJ AT 18:30 HRS ON SATURDAY, 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2018**

**Present:**

Nigel Vaughan- Smith	Commodore
Valerie Ayres	Vice commodore
Alan Eves	Rear Commodore Sail
Colin Ayres	Honorary Secretary
Roger Coleman	Honorary Treasurer
Lynne Shell	Social Secretary
Alan Casey	Club Webmaster
Kevin Whitmill	Committee Member
Bev Whitmill	Committee Member
Celia Coleman	Committee Member
Margaret Eves	Committee Member

Together with 17 other Voting Members.

The Honorary Secretary confirmed that the attendance of 28 voting members established the quorum necessary for business to be conducted.

**Item 1: Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from the following members:

Pip Shell  
Glenda O'Connor  
Paddy O'Connor  
Robert Turner  
Christine Turner  
Frank Francis  
Rick Thorne

The Commodore welcomed everyone to the meeting; thanked them for attending and pointed out that the purpose of the AGM was to get feedback from the membership.

**Item 2: Approval of the Minutes of the Previous AGM held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.**

These Minutes were taken as read, as they had been circulated to members together with the calling notice for the 2018 AGM.

Celia Coleman proposed that they be approved as a true record; this was seconded by Margaret Eves. The proposal was carried unanimously.

**Decision:** The Minutes of the AGM held on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 were approved as a true record of that meeting.

### **Item 3: Matters Arising from the Previous AGM Minutes**

#### **3.1 The Rear Commodore Sail to arrange a joint Maritime Law evening with Plym Yacht Club. (Item 16 of 2017 AGM minutes refers).**

Alan reported that the arrangement had been made but due to the presenter pulling out and lack of interest the event did not take place.

**Action closed.**

#### **3.2 The Honorary Secretary to e mail to members, details of the Chichester 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. (Item 16 of the 2017 AGM minutes refers).**

Honorary Secretary reported that this action had been carried out.

**Action closed.**

### **Item 4: Commodore's Report.**

Nigel reported that it was seeming to become his common opening line, but yet again, 2017 had not been a particularly good sailing season. However, in common with previous years, it had been another very successful year for the Club overall. Those Club cruises which went ahead had been well supported and fully enjoyed by the participants. Also, a number of members had made some very valiant long distance individual cruises.

The Club had held some excellent social functions and the monthly gatherings were still being well supported.

There had been some superb entries in the annual Photographic Competition and last but not least the membership had continued to remain healthy.

Nigel reminded everyone that, as Celia had said in past years, the Club is its members, and success or otherwise will always be down to the level of active participation. He thanked everyone for their involvement across the whole spectrum of Club activities which had enabled the Club to thrive and grow.

He stated that in particular he wished to thank the other Officers and Club Committee Members for their efforts and contributions to the success of the season; some had had bigger roles than others, but all had provided outstanding support to him as Commodore.

He ended his report by wishing everyone fair weather and favourable tides for the forthcoming season

### **Item 5: Rear Commodore Sail's Report.**

Rear Commodore Sail read aloud his report, a copy of which had been circulated with the AGM reminder.

Alan's began his report by informing the meeting that the 2017 cruising season had been a successful one for the Club. There had been 87 entries for the season's cruises and 27 entries had taken part in the cruises which went ahead.

Unseasonal low temperatures and unsettled weather had forced the cancellation of cruises 1-4 but improving weather in May, together with some rescheduling, had seen the departure of cruise 5 to Fowey and Falmouth.

Cruises 6,7,8 and the cruise to Fowey Regatta week had all gone ahead in some form after changes had been made to accommodate the weather.

Sally Ann a boat from Hooe Point Sailing Club had taken part in cruise 6.

Cruises 10 and 11 had been cancelled due the weather.

Alan told the meeting that the Cruising Programme for the 2018 season had been published and would consist of 11 cruises, the first one being to Fowey for the weekend of 21st- 22<sup>nd</sup> April. He stated that he was looking forward to a good season for the coming year and meeting up with old and new friends.

He concluded his report by thanking the Committee and Club members for their support.

Nigel thanked Alan for all of the outstanding work he had put into arranging and running the cruises and the meeting was asked if there were any comments regarding the cruising programme;

the consensus was that the shorter cruises were the best attended due to members other commitments and poor long-term weather forecasts. In an attempt to overcome cancellations caused by the weather it might in future be possible to reschedule cancelled cruises as mid-week cruises.

#### **Item 6: Membership Secretary's Report**

In Pip's absence, Nigel read aloud the Membership Secretary's report, a copy of which had been circulated with the AGM reminder

In his report Pip apologised for not being able to attend the AGM and pointed out that he was, as the report was being read out, sat in the orchestra for the musical production of "Spamalot" playing for his supper, or more precisely playing for to pay to have his boat lifted out.

He reported that the CCC membership for the last year had reached an admirable 82 members; it was currently standing at 66 members for the coming year which included 5 life members. He had been notified of 8 members who would not be renewing for the coming year and the Club had recently gained 2 new members. He also anticipated that the Club's bank statement would show a few latecomers at the beginning of April and possibly a few at the 2018 AGM.

Pip reported that the Club had come into line with the change in data protection regulations and there were only a few outstanding consent/renewal forms to be returned.

Most of the membership cards had either been posted or delivered to members' pigeon holes at Plymouth Yacht Haven or were available for collection from Lynne, the Social Secretary, at the meeting.

Pip reported that he was quite happy to continue in the role of Membership Secretary unless there was any one else out there with a burning desire to take it on.

His report concluded by thanking members for their support and wishing kind weather to the members this year and with the hope to see more members out on the water and cruising together.

Nigel recorded his thanks to Pip for all his great work over the past year.

#### **Item 7: Social Secretary's Report.**

The Social Secretary read aloud her report, a copy of which was circulated with the AGM reminder.

Lynne reported that another year had passed with the Club's usual calendar events taking place:

The "First Thursday in the Month" socials had continued with mixed attendance and always with someone different showing up.

There had been a reasonable turnout for the Laying Up Supper at the Bridge, however, it was felt that the food was not as good as it had been on previous occasions there. She suggested that it might be time to try somewhere else and she would welcome suggestions regarding a fresh venue.

The Prize Giving and Photographic Competition event had been successfully held at the Elfordleigh Hotel and a decision would be made later in the year whether or not to return to that venue. Lynne did not think that the food had been as good as the Kitley House Hotel and she thought that the breakfast had been a bit disorganised for some, but the evening had gone very well with dancing, a raffle and an impromptu auction which had raised a sizeable amount for the RNLI.

Lynne reminded everyone that the next planned event, the Fitting Out Supper, would be held at the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club on 14<sup>th</sup> April; details of the menu had been circulated and there was still time to sign up; to date there had been little interest shown.

Lynne concluded by thanking members for their support and expressing her willingness to continue in the role of Social Secretary.

Nigel thanked Lynne for all of her efforts as Social Secretary over the last year and expressed disappointment at the low turnout for some events and questioned whether new venues or events would increase participation. He stated that due to lack of interest the Fitting Out Supper might not be a viable event.

Comments from the floor were that members generally preferred Kitley House Hotel to Elfordleigh Hotel and that because The Bridge was well located it was an ideal venue, and therefore if the Club was not satisfied with the service provided, we should make it known to the management.

### **Item 8: Webmaster's Report.**

The Webmaster read aloud his report, a copy of which was circulated with the AGM reminder. Alan reported that the website continued to run with minimal problems thanks to Tim Greenwood who hosts the website for the Club at a minimal cost. The website, <https://cattewatercruisingclub.org.uk>, had been built using Wordpress by Tim, and Alan reported that his role was to keep the content updated using information received from Committee members or members, together with the sailing reports, the history and forthcoming events etc. He stated that there are links back to other webpages which might be of use to members.

Alan reported that the "items wanted and for sale" page which he had provided following requests at a previous AGM had not seen much take up by members.

He had also created a separate area last year to accommodate Graham Gibbs excellent reports on his sailing trip to Scotland and if members would like links to other areas or topics, if they would let him know, he would try to accommodate.

Some problems with links had arisen early in January but once Tim had become aware of them they were very quickly fixed, and again, Alan pointed out how lucky the Club is to have such a good website and how grateful we should be to Tim for providing such a resource.

Nigel thanked Alan for his report and the way in which he had run the website over the last year and reiterated Alan's remark regarding the value to the Club, of the help received from Tim Greenwood (TG Media)

It was agreed by all present that Nigel should write on behalf of the Club to thank Tim Greenwood for his generosity in hosting the Club's website.

### **Item 9: Presentation of Accounts by the Honorary Treasurer**

Roger stated that a copy of the Honorary Treasurer's Report together with the signed off Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018, and notes to the Income and Expenditure account had been circulated to all Members, by email, prior to the meeting.

He confirmed that the accounts had been examined by the Club Accounts Examiner, Yvonne Traynor, and found to be correct and he then gave a brief elucidation of the income and expenditure account which showed a surplus of £94.87

Membership fees for the financial year 2018- 2019 had been agreed at last year's AGM and would remain at £15.

Roger stated that he had prepared a draft budget for 2019-2020, a copy of which had also been circulated to members prior to the AGM.

He pointed out that most of the payments the Club received from members came via bank transfers but he very often had problems identifying from the bank statements what the payments were for. To overcome the problem, he asked members to inform him by e mail of what all payments were for, they could also help by giving the banks a relevant reference to accompany the transfer.

Nigel thanked Roger for his report and all the diligent work he had done in the past year.

There were no questions about the accounts or the Draft Budget from members present.

It was proposed by Bill Hill and seconded by Ian Foster that the Signed Off Income and Expenditure Account For The Year Ending 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 should be accepted as a true record, and members were unanimous in support of the proposal

**Decision:** The Examined Accounts, a copy of which is attached to these minutes, were accepted as a true and accurate record of the Club's finances for the Financial Year ending 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

### **Item 10: Approval of Amendment 2 to Revision 2 to the Club Constitution.**

Nigel reminded the meeting that a copy of the draft amendment and rationale had been circulated by e mail to members prior to the meeting.

He stated that the changes had become necessary to comply with new General Data Protection Regulations which would come into force this year and that the Clubs management systems had been amended accordingly. Under the new arrangements the Membership Application form had been amended and all members would be required to sign the new form.

It was proposed by Geoff Wheeler and seconded by Celia Coleman that the Amendment 2 to Revision 2 to the Club Constitution should be accepted.

Members were unanimous in support of the proposal.

**Decision:** Amendment 2 to Revision 2 to the Club Constitution be accepted

### **Item 11: Election of Club Officers.**

Nigel referred members to the sheet, which had recently been circulated with the AGM reminder; it concerned the Election of Club Officers and listed the nominations for the 5 positions as follows:

Commodore	Nigel Vaughan-Smith
Vice Commodore	Val Ayres
Rear Commodore Sail	Alan Eves
Honorary Secretary	Colin Ayres
Honorary Treasurer	Roger Coleman

It was proposed by Bill Hill and seconded by Kevin Whitmill that these 5 nominees should be elected to serve in the posts given for the coming year. There was a majority agreement to the proposition.

**Decision:** The Club Officers for the 2018 – 2019 season were elected as listed above.

### **Item 12: Election of Club Committee Members**

Nigel referred the members to a further sheet which had been sent out with the AGM reminder; this one listed nominations received for Committee Member positions as follows:

Membership Secretary	Pip Shell
Club Webmaster	Alan Casey
Social Secretary	Lynne Shell
Committee Members:	Bev Whitmill, Kev Whitmill, Margaret Eves, Celia Coleman.

It was proposed by Bill Hill and seconded by Ian Foster that the above Members should be elected to serve in the posts as listed for the coming year. The proposal was carried unanimously

**Decision:** The Club Committee Members for the 2018-2019 season were elected as listed above.

Following the election of Officers and Committee members, Nigel pointed out that the Club would welcome new committee members and would be glad to see more members volunteering to help in running the Club

### **Item 13: Appointment of the Club's Accounts Examiner**

Nigel expressed the Club's gratitude to Yvonne Traynor for her efforts over the past few years and particularly for examining the 2017-2018 Club Accounts. Yvonne told the meeting that she would be happy to continue for another year in the role of Examiner of the Club Accounts.

Bill Hill proposed that Yvonne Traynor should be appointed as the Club's Accounts Examiner for the 2018-2019 financial year; this was seconded by Margaret Eves and agreed unanimously.

**Decision:** Yvonne Traynor was appointed as the Club's Accounts Examiner for the 2018-2019 financial year.

### **Item 14: Membership Fees for the Financial Year 2019-2020**

Nigel introduced the item by referring the members to the Draft Budget for the year 2019 – 2020 previously copied to them by e mail. The income for that Draft Budget was calculated on a membership of 70 and an annual subscription of £15 per member.

It was proposed by Geoff Wheeler and seconded by Sandra Lerpiniere that the draft budget be accepted and the rate for the annual subscription for the financial year 2019 – 2020 should be £15 and there was unanimous agreement by members.

**Decision:** The membership fee for the year 2019- 2020 is to be £15.

### **Item 15 Club Affiliations.**

Nigel reported that at present the Club is affiliated to the RYA and the PPSA. The RYA fees are £125 per year and that gives the Club access to all RYA briefings and updates on sailing and legal matters as well as opportunities to attend numerous seminars and courses; this he felt was a necessity and good value and the members present agreed.

It was proposed by Celia Coleman and seconded by Paul Mac that the Club should continue its affiliation to the RYA and there was unanimous agreement by members.

The PPSA annual subscription had just been increased from £60 to £90 per year and Nigel stated that he could not see many advantages in continuing with our affiliation. An open discussion followed where it was pointed out that the PPSA were concerned mainly with racing and their meetings only very seldom contributed to aspects of cruising.

It was suggested that more interaction with the PPSA could perhaps bring benefits to the Club and to that end Alan Eves volunteered to be the Club's representative at future PPSA committee meetings.

It was also pointed out that the PPSA were the only organisation within the Port of Plymouth which was in contact with the Royal Navy to represent the sailing clubs.

A vote was taken by a show of hands as to whether members thought the Club should stay affiliated to the PPSA and the vote was 4 in favour of staying affiliated and 3 against with 21 abstentions.

It was proposed by Geoff Wheeler and seconded by Mark Prue that the Club should remain as a member of the PPSA for the coming year in an attempt to see what extra added value our membership of the PPSA could provide. This was to be reviewed at the next AGM and our affiliation terminated if no real benefits were forthcoming. The motion was carried.

**Decision:** The Club to continue its affiliation to the RYA

**Decision:** The Club to continue its affiliation to the PPSA for one year

**Action:** The Club to review what added value it receives from its affiliation to the PPSA during the 2018 season.

### **Item16: Any other business**

There being no other business, Nigel closed the meeting by thanking the Honorary Secretary for his continued support over the past year.

The meeting closed at 19:26 and was followed by a pleasant meal and drinks.

Colin Ayres

Honorary Secretary,  
Cattewater Cruising Club.