

Upton Warren Sailing Club

Annual General Meeting Tuesday 22nd March 2022

Minutes

1 - 15 Members attended.

2 - Apologies for Absence were received from: Martin and Jenny Scrimshaw and Karl Dix, Dave Scrivens, Alan Porter, Mick Quickfall, John Bretherton, John Teuwen, Ella Spain and Penny Vere.

3 - Minutes of the AGM of 30th March 2021 had been circulated prior to the meeting. These were accepted by all.

4 - No Matters arising from these Minutes.

5 - Commodore and Officers' Reports

Ian Chapman- Commodore

Good evening all. It's lovely to be here in person and thanks all for attending. Much prefer these events to be face to face rather than online. Nice not to have to say all the online things "can you hear me?", "you're on mute", or "who's dog's barking?" 😊

As ever, the AGM is a chance to reflect on the year past and look forward to the year to come. The past year has seen us enjoying good sailing on the water and our usual good humoured social times ashore. We call ourselves a small family friendly club, and I'm proud that we live up to this. Even on those sessions we don't make it onto the water, it's always good to see friends. As for the future season, we operate almost on a "if it's not broke, we don't need to fix it", but ideas of other things we can do can be considered.

We've reviewed our fleet of boats this year. We've sold the 2 Lasers and the Pegasus. The Pegasus was donated to the club so the money we got for that we donated to the RNLI. We then have the 3 comets for use. They have simpler kit than a laser, and are in much better order. The lasers would have required more spend to keep them up to a reasonable standard.

Coming back to the RNLI, as a club we've always had the RNLI as our chosen charity. I'm sure like me, whenever down by the sea I love to visit the RNLI boat houses, make a donation, buy something from their shops, etc. The work they do is awe-inspiring, volunteers going out in all weathers to save lives at sea. John Bowen has been our charity champion on this over the years, and we've donated some big cheques over the years, back when we did 24 hour sails, and other such events where we raised money for them. This year we've handed them our regatta entry fees, the boat race donations from the social back in November, and the Pegasus proceeds. We can all be proud that we continue our support for such a worthwhile cause. If anyone has any fund raising ideas that we can look at, it would be great to do more.

Our connections to WYSA continue to develop, we've had good attendance from the juniors who are members of both WYSA and the Sailing Club and it is great to see sailing enjoyed by all whether young or old. WYSA operates with volunteers, most of those volunteers come from our membership. It's a great way to give back to sailing, giving the next generation the chance to sail and improve their sailing. The requirements are mainly for Instructors, but if you ask Viv Brookes if there are any opportunities to assist, I'm sure the offer will be gratefully received. If you have any interest in becoming an instructor, it is a good chance to see what is involved and the sort of sessions that happen. Saturday afternoons from spring to autumn, with a break for the Summer (I think).

It was great to have a presentation evening again at the end of last year. A chance to celebrate the achievements of the season, but the main aim is to get together socially and have a fun night out. Gaynor and Alan's music provided the fantastic entertainment, plenty of chances to join in the sing

along too.

We took the chance at the presentation evening to give thanks to both Mary and Marian for their contributions to the club and the committee over many years. I propose we again show our thanks. To Mary for her dedication to the role of Membership Secretary, for many Mary will have been the first contact met at the sailing club, and she gave that warm welcome with the provision of all the vital info on where things are, how things work, etc. Then the task of maintaining the club's records, GDPR came about during Mary's tenure and Mary took on that task, ensuring we complied with all the requirements. Chasing up members for renewals became a task in itself. Preaching to the converted by me encouraging those who are here tonight as you're all the good ones (I hope!). Mary continues to be our webmaster, running our website.

Marion. If you look at the board in the clubhouse to see how many years Marion has been our Honorary Secretary, its well over a decade. She was membership secretary before that, and has done so much in the background over all these years, from selling club clothing, sorting out social events like the presentation evening, sourcing venues, etc. The secretary role of taking minutes at the committee meetings, maintaining the records of the club, agendas for meetings, following up on committee things. It's all what keeps us pulling together to keep the club running. I personally thank Marion for all her support over my time as Commodore. I now give you the chance to show your thanks.

Right now with Ukraine in mind, we have hosted a group of Ukrainian children (now I know that Chernobyl isn't part of Russia! Someone needs to remind Putin that!) from a group called "Friends of Chernobyl children", Marion organised these sessions over a good few years, time on the water and a good barbecue for lunch, they really enjoyed themselves. Marion and those who helped out or contributed can be proud of those efforts over the years. Our thoughts go to those families and all those in Ukraine. Makes us thankful for how lucky we are.

I also give thanks to Aztec, we continue to enjoy their support and we look forward to getting back to the Centre Duties, and making ourselves useful to Aztec with working parties, or assisting in sessions.

Look forward to a great 2022-23 sailing season. Here's to a happy and safe one!

John Everard – Vice Commodore's Report

I would like to express my thanks to everyone for covering duties to support the sailing sessions and with a little bit of flexibility the Dutyman system worked well.

With regards to Dutyman we did request a price reduction due to lack of use through lockdowns and they responded by effectively giving us a month free. However they have already advised that although this years subscription, due in May, will remain at £99 but the following year will increase to £112.50 (inclusive of our 15% RYA discount). I personally would not want to revert to the manual methods of duty allocation that the club used some years ago and so would recommend staying with Dutyman unless someone knows and has experience of a similar at a lower price.

This winter is really the first year where we have trialled having two Sunday morning sailing sessions a month combined with a start time for the first race at 10:30. I think that it has worked quite well and generally those that sail have more time on the water than with just one full Sunday per month. I have asked one or two sailors if they prefer the 10:30 start and received positive responses and I have not heard any negative comments. We could consider changing the start time of the summer Sunday races to 10:30 as well not the least because we often have to wait for the wind to fill in.

The Friday disability sailing sessions have not run through the pandemic but we have a discussion with Aztec this coming week about the possibility of restarting this year. These sessions cannot run without the support of club members both in time and fund raising. Aside from introducing disadvantaged people to the sport of sailing the additional benefit is that club members can cruise on a Friday evening with Aztec providing the necessary rescue cover. The volunteer arrangements for

these sessions will have to be more formally structured rather than the adhoc arrangements in the past.

Aztec are introducing a new set of rules for clubs and groups using the site in an attempt to make the centre a welcoming and efficient organisation for all users. While there are still some elements that have to be clarified with regard to our club there are key points that we must take onboard straight away.

Access – We can only access the site during sessions identified in our calendar or other times agreed with Aztec. Should a member wish to come down to work on to move their boat on or off site or to work on it then a courtesy call must be made to the Aztec office.

Health and Safety – The club must provide their own first aid provisions and cover. Aztec staff are not routinely available to provide assistance.

Behaviour - We should not contact or disturb residents of private staff accommodation.

Damage – Any damage caused to the site or Aztec equipment must be reported to Duty Manager or the office. As a sub set of this Aztec have asked that we report any damage or broken equipment that we find on use of boats that we use prior to use so that it can be rectified in good time for normal Aztec use.

Restricted and Prohibited

- We cannot use BBQs or have open fires on the site.
- We can only photograph club activities and not other activities that may be taking place on site.
- We cannot operate drones on the site

Car Parking

- Do not obstruct container doors (need at least 2,5m clearance).
- Do not park on the grass by the lake.
- Parking on the new campsite is from May to September (and is preferred rather than taking up space in the main car park)

It must be stressed that both Ian and I have had conversations with Mark about this and he is very happy with the working and personal relationship with the sailing club but as rules are being introduced, they must be applied to all users of the site.

For the coming season there will be perhaps more pressure on duties especially as the number of qualified members who are happy to perform the DO role diminishes. As normally happens please help out when you can even if not specifically on duty,

Thanks for all the help last season and now looking forward to the warmer weather

After some discussion the following resulted –

The 10.00 am start in the summer will remain, members to judge if it needs to be delayed due to lack of wind. It is not feasible to have two Sunday mornings in the Summer., it will remain as a full day. Disability Sailing – if this activity is to recommence this year, in order that the Centre will know they have assistance from the Club these duties will be on Dutyman for signing up to or to be allocated.

Aztec Guidelines will be sent out to members.

Ian Chapman- Treasurer's Report. – see accounts attached.

Upton Warren Sailing Club Income and Expenditure 12 months to 31st December 2021		
	Current Yr £	2020 Prior Yr £
<u>Income</u>		
Adult Memberships	1,956.00	1,515.00
Junior Memberships	70.00	50.00
Student Memberships	75.00	95.00
Joining Fees	60.00	40.00
Boat Park	2,040.00	2,340.00
Boat Sales	224.00	65.00
Social	304.00	-
Clothing	98.50	173.00
Total Income	4,827.50	4,278.00
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Aztec Usage Fee	1,050.00	1,050.00
Aztec Fuel Charge	150.00	150.00
Aztec Boat Park	2,040.00	2,600.00
Insurance	704.60	564.00
IT Costs	127.80	99.00
RYA Subs	155.00	155.00
Social	247.00	-
Clothing	63.50	171.00
Maintenance	-	-
Refreshments	-	30.00
Sundries	-	-
Total Expenditure	4,537.90	4,819.00
Surplus / (Defecit) for the year	289.60 *	- 541.00

<i>Balance Sheet Extract - Cash Position</i>		
01/01/2021 Opening Balance	3,909.85	
31/12/2021 Closing Balance	7,439.45	
Bank Movement	3,529.60	A
Post year end transactions		
Aztec Payment	- 3,240.00	B
Net Balance Sheet Movement (A+B)	289.60 *	
<i>Cash at Bank 21/03/2022 (for Info)</i>	£8,838.67	

Mary Starkey commented that boat usage fees were not shown on the accounts, Ian explained that they were included in other items such as sale of boats etc. David Crowther suggested that we spend some of the money on advertising the club with a view to attracting some new members.

Dave McGuinness- Membership Secretary.

From the 2021-22 season.

Subs £ 2055

Boat Park fees £ 2015

Adult members 42

Students 3

Juniors 23

I would like to thank Mary for such a good handover of the membership secretary's duties.

John Bowen – Child protection - Safeguarding

Encouragingly, despite a growing level of activity post-COVID, I have no problems to report, I am resubmitting my report from last year. As ever, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns.

To our younger Members and their parents

Our younger Members are very important to the Club – they are our future and we adults must do all we can to encourage them and make them feel welcome and comfortable as Members.

Safeguarding is as important as ever, and as a Club we subscribe to RYA's evolving Safeguarding policy. This is available through their website or will be posted on the Club noticeboard. The RYA has now moved to online DBS application, so this should make applying easier for those who need to do so.

No problems to report again this year, but do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns [I can't guarantee confidentiality [as I am duty bound to report serious matters to the Centre Child Protection Officer or other appropriate person within Worcestershire County Council] but I can offer you the certainty that you will be taken seriously and your concerns will be addressed in a proper manner.] - but please see my closing paragraph below.

Having had responsibility for Child Protection for some years now, and as a consequence of Anno Domini, I have decided that it is now time to pass these responsibilities to a younger person, so the Committee will be seeking a new appointee at the AGM. If you need further information, do not hesitate to contact me – I would add that the RYA has well established procedures and support from Andrea Gates, the RYA expert on child protection. I would be happy to remain on the Committee in the short term to assist in the handover.

7 – Election of Officers – Due to the unusual circumstances of the Pandemic last year's committee agreed to carry on, this was unanimously voted for.

Position	Name	Nominated by	Seconded by	Agreed To stand
Commodore	Ian Chapman	Marian Lines	John Everard	Yes
Vice Commodore (Sailability)	John Everard	Marian Lines	David Crowther	Yes
Hon.Secretary				
Treasurer	Ian Chapman	Marian Lines	John Everard	Yes

Membership Secretary	David McGuinness	John Bowen	Jack Francis	Yes
Sailing Secretary	Mick Quickfall	Ian Chapman	Mary Starkey	Yes
Bo'sun	Pete Webby	Maurice Troman	Tony Vere	Yes
Social Secretary				
Committee Member (Safeguarding)	John Bowen	Ian Chapman	Geoff Briscoe	Yes
Committee Member	Jack Francis	Chris Doran	John Bowen	Yes
Junior Representative				

8 – Election of Auditor – Ian to make the same arrangements as last year.

**9 –There was no report from Aztec and no Motions up for discussion
The Commodore officially thanked Aztec for their support during this past year.**

10- Any Other Business

1. Clubroom Cupboard Report from Geoff Briscoe, He has found that the cupboard was unlocked, in a very untidy and unhealthy state(mice droppings etc). It needs cleaning out, and the books offering to anyone who may wish to read them.

11 – Meeting closed at 21.05

12 – Next Annual General Meeting March 2023.

Signed _____

Commodore

Signed _____

Secretary