

HISC
SOCIAL SAILING FLEET
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at HISC on Friday
3rd November 2017

Present: **Mike Tong (MT)** Fleet Captain, **Paul Young (PY)** Treasurer and 35 other members.

Welcome: **MT** opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, thanking them for attending.

2. Apologies: Apologies for absence have been received from Mike & Elizabeth Abrahams, Mike & Jean, Baker, Mike & Judy Cave, Carolynne Curties, Pat Cutbill, Peter & Barbara Glasby, Jane Hooper, Anthony & Sheila Penfold, Terry & Cathy Shoebridge, Ray & Margaret Stewart, Glenda Tickner and June Tong. .

3. Minutes of AGM held on 4th November 2016: The Minutes were accepted as a true record of proceedings, with no objections and were passed nem. con.

4. There were no matters arising.

5. Election of Officers: **MT** reported that no one had offered themselves for the positions and, therefore, both he and **PY** were willing to stand again. He did, however, point out that he would be standing down at the end of the 2018 season.

6. Fleet Captain's Report:

Here we are at the end of another season and, I hope, looking forward to our events in 2018.

I'm pleased to say that all the old faces are around even if a year older. It's conventional to say we need younger recruits to maintain a viable sailing and sociable group but perhaps with improved longevity we move to more of the "social" and less of the "sailing". We certainly are extremely sociable and great to be around throughout the whole year. By my reckoning, we have had 13 new members, Melvyn and Jo Cooper, Tony and Sheila Button, Richard and Leonie Heal, Roger and Jo Vickers, David Dawkins, John Gauld and Andrew Marshall.

The fact that our membership has apparently reduced from 110 at the end of the 1015/16 year to 94 now, despite the new members, is more to do with not being able to "catch" some of our stalwart members for their subs rather than they actually being "leavers".

In theory, we have 37 boats belonging to members, about half of which are cruising yachts suitable for trips outside the harbour the rest being small or motor boats more suitable for inside the harbour. I've counted 20 yachts which have joined us out of the harbour over the last couple of years, although not all of them last year. There's probably a nucleus of 15 as a maximum which we could expect to participate so when we achieve 12 as we have often done, we have had a very full turnout!

From the above it can be seen that the maximum number of members going down the Solent is probably on about 30 out of a total membership of about 100 – so there's a lot who are joining for a more "social" reason. I'd like to come back to this in a moment.

Turning back to the season's events, I must first refer to our excellent website run by Jane and Barry Blaydes which gives details of upcoming activities and then reports all that we do. I give them our grateful thanks. Also to the various event organisers, not only for their arrangements made before the day, also obviously during the day and afterwards by the literary efforts in writing reports to go on the website. We could not operate without all these people. Thanks again.

I suggest that you all make the Social Sailing website a “favorite” so you can call it up quickly at any time. You should also join the HISC Yahoo newsgroup which circulates our event information in addition to general HISC news. To do this send an e-mail from your e-mail account to HISC_General_News-subscribe@yahoogroups.com See me afterwards if you need more time to write this down.

Dealing with a precis and highlights of the 2017 Events, we started with the usual HISC Friday lunches in January and February plus a very enjoyable visit to Emsworth SC. In the pre-season there were two well supported and informative trips to Boathouse 4 at the Historic Boatyard – well worth a solo visit if you are in the area – no cost for entry.

The three local trips to Dell Quay, Itchenor and CYC followed. The Bembridge/Seaview/Port Solent outing was well supported with the facilities at our newish venue at Port Solent very much appreciated. Haslar only attracted two yachts but a number of others went by car.

20 plus sailors in 9 yachts arrived at the Folly for the “Jaunt” with the usual excellent food. Gins the next day were not so welcoming with berthing difficulties We’ll go to Bucklers Hard next year! Then the new venue at Hythe which was very enjoyable with John and Sue’s organisation and pre-dinner drinks on a perfect supper’s evening.

Blooming June Week was blessed with great weather. What is better than Newtown River on a sunny summer’s evening and BBQs providing the food and plenty of drink! Dan Bran at Lymington followed with another excellent supper at Lymington Town SC – again a smashing view out onto the Solent. Some attended Lymington Saturday market before returning to HISC.

Poole Week was extremely truncated due to wet weather but Picaro and Excalibur do claim they made it to Yarmouth and a good meal in the Blue Crab.

Harbour Week was slightly different this year. 6 boats and about 20 people voyaged to East Head for a picnic in sun and warmth and several swam. Mengham SC on Monday evening and well supported and very enjoyable except that 3 or 4 of our less agile members were stuck in the lift for some time! Dell Quay welcomed around 35 of us with their usual enthusiasm but CYC was not such a success as they were too busy with their own members. My innovation of beach games was a complete flop! Rosemary came on her sailboard and could not find the other 6 of us chatting on a table round the corner. No games were played!

However the BBQ at the very welcoming Danbys was enjoyed by 67 souls in glorious sun. As well as the Danbys and organiser Carol Carter, I must particularly thank John Blake who toiled over a hot stove for what seemed hours to cook our steaks and salmon.

The Mini Medina in August was a great success! Arriving the day after Cowes Week finished found us with the town quite quiet. Starting at the Folly and usual convivial atmosphere and then to Shepards or the Yacht Haven a good sized group had a great time. A last minute change of arrangements from a foodless Anchor pub to a fishey meal at Murrays gave a noisy evening in their back room. Wind was again forecast for the next day so again the event was truncated.

What can one say! The forecast for the Solent Rivers Week was even more dire. There was no question but that it had to be cancelled.

The season ended as usual with trips to CYC and Itchenor and with the first of the winter “first Friday in the month” HISC lunches.

I’d like now to return to my earlier comment about the low proportion on members actually sailing in our group to Solent destinations. It is inevitable with an aging membership that this is likely to be the case. However I welcome comments later whether less sailing is a real problem for the Social Sailing

Section of HISC. We are a group who enjoy meeting together in various guises not just in our boats. It seems to me that there are plenty of people here who just like seeing their friends in a boaty environment. Does anything need to change? There is just one issue in relation to funds. As many do not take part in sailing "away" events, we should not use club funds for these events. However, there should be no bar in at least partially financing local events such as our main BBQ when in theory any member could attend.

Lastly, it's perhaps surprising that I've got this far without mentioning the lack of pontoon through the season and the consequent ferry difficulties. It has been difficult for us and of course for the Marine team who have struggled to provide lifts to our boats. However we seem to have managed and I thank the marine team for their always smiling efforts. We look forward to a proper Selene service in 2018.

Perhaps this is a good point to ask David Dodson, our Rear Commodore Cruising to say a few words on where we are on his responsibilities.

David Dodgson (DD), Rear Commodore cruising. Review: DD brought members up to date with current cruising information as follows:

The pontoon is being constructed and will be in operation for the 2018 season, plus the real Selene. **Lyn Smith (LS)** commented that the crew had done a fantastic job during this year's difficulties.

Mid-Week Ferry services would be run at set times next year, i.e. 9.00, 11.00, 12.00, 2.00 and 4.00, subject to finalisation. This will help the crew plan their work.

Mooring Charges are being increased by 2.5% in line with inflation. The agreement with the Crown Commissioners for the use of the moorings is coming to an end in 2019 and fees may increase with any increase in rent.

Winter Lay-Up has gone smoothly thanks to Simon.

Metal supports have been used for the boats this year instead of wooden ones. **Jane Blaydes (JB)** asked if boat owners would have to pay for these and this was confirmed.

Tenders should all have been removed by now, if not please do so. Access will be greatly improved when the pontoon is completed. Currently the old pontoon is being used as a walkway to the new one, but **Richard Curties (RC)** pointed out that it is only useful at high water. **MT** expressed the view that the walkway will not be wide enough to wheel dinghies down.

Outboard Shed is now tidy and fuel has been removed thanks to **MT** and **June**. **MT** confirmed that there is now space on the higher level, as a few items await removal.

It is hoped there will be a **Cruising Group** for weekenders next season, when a survey or owners has been taken.

7. Treasurer's Report: PY reported on the year to 30th September 2017 as follows:

Subscriptions collected during the 2017 season were **£460.00**

Deposit paid to Lymington Harbour on 17th November 2016 was repaid on 26th June 2017.

BBQ at the **Danby's**: expenses were **£562.25** and **£65.90**. Income collected was **£337.60**. Expenses at **MRSC** were for meals for the organisers.

Gratuities, collections were made at some events and some tips were paid from funds.
Closing bank balance at 30-09-17 was £1,094.21.
Fleet Assets at 30-09-17 cash at bank £1,094.21, petty cash 60p and unsold flags to a value of £222.12,
a total of £1,316.93.

Subscriptions: Although open to discussion I suggest that fees remain at **£5.00 per head** for the 2018 season.

Discussion took place on the use of fees for out of harbour events as a majority of members are unable to participate in these events, but are, in effect, subsidising those who are able to go. **Barry Blaydes (BB)** pointed out that there should not be a hard and fast rule about use of fees, and it was agreed that monies should be available for unexpected contingencies.

Trevor Rose (TR) expressed the view that each event should be financed individually. **John Bailey (JBy)** agreed that participators should pay for events.

Eventually there was agreement by those present that subs would continue at £5.00 per person.

8. Provisional Programme 2018: **MT** went through the provisional programme and the following suggestions were made:

Allowing for tide time it was agreed that the **April** trips to **Itchenor & Chichester** should be reversed.

Ferry times set for 11.00 were changed to **10.00** especially for Chichester and Dell Quay to allow time for loading. This is outside the planned set ferry times but **MT** felt that the group arrangement would be negotiable.

Blooming June week threw up the problem of using **Yarmouth** over a weekend and this will be investigated. **DD** pointed out that he had been moved on when a rally arrived on the weekend last summer.

Local Week brought comments that **Dell Quay S.C.** had been omitted and it was suggested that the suggested trip to **Bembridge** be postponed to take place in the gap before Mini Medina in order to allow for Dell Quay, as it was pointed out by **Toni Durrant (TD)** that Bembridge is hardly "Local". There was also the thought that a meal at **HISC**, suggested by **Belinda Cook (BC)**, could be included, possibly a **BBQ**. On the last occasion the cost was too high to attract members, but **Monica Rose (MT)** pointed out that the Bonfire Night BBQ was only £6.99!

John Cook (JC) commented that **Haslar** had been omitted and **BB** confirmed that previously there had been a number of day trips out of the harbour when cruisers could take guests to the events. **Seaview** was one suggestion and also **Southsea Marina**.

MT thanked **Terry McMahon** for his help with formulating the programme, and **John Ainsworth** too for his offer of any help.

9. Any Other Business 2017:

MT told everyone that **Elizabeth Abrahams** had had a couple of falls and broken her hip. This has resulted in her moving permanently into a nursing home. Flowers have been sent and he asked everyone to sign a card to be sent to them. **Mike** himself hopes and expects to join in the local events next year, after a great holiday at HISC this year.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.40 p.m