



Rock Sailing and Water Ski Club

Minutes of the 80th Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 18th August 2018

The Commodore took the chair.

1 Apologies 35 members presented their apologies and their names were read out.

2 Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the previous (79th) meeting were proposed by Richard Oliver, seconded by Gus Guest, and unanimously approved by a show of hands.

3 Hon Treasurer - Keith Snelling

Financial Statements for year ending 30th September 2017

Included below are extracts from the Club Accounts showing the Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2017 and a more detailed Income and Expenditure analysis for the financial year 2016/17

The small increase in Membership Subscription rates more than compensated for membership changes. Bar and Galley sales increased by 15% and the Club proved a popular venue for Functions generating a much higher income than expected. Increased entries for the regattas and hosting the International 14s event resulted in the Sailing and Skiing activities more than recovering their costs. With significant contributions from Bosun's Locker sales, Club 400 and donations overall net income was some 30% higher than the previous year.

The change of electricity supplier issues are ongoing but it is now almost certain that the Club is committed to a 5 year supply contract at a significantly higher rate than previously. It has been agreed with the supply company that when invoices based on actual usage and accepted rates are received the account will be settled. The Balance Sheet fully provisions for the electricity used over the 20 months that the dispute has continued.

Having made the commitment to proceed with replacing the balcony, other maintenance activities and overhead costs were kept to the minimum resulting in a surplus on continuing activities of £28,696. Allowing for the full cost of the balcony the overall deficit for the year was just £4,216.

A depreciation charge of £8,289 with no fixed assets being added in the year provided a positive cash flow that is reflected in the net current assets increasing by £4,074.

In summary the Club has a new balcony and more cash. A very encouraging financial performance for the year.

4 Budget for year ending 30th September 2018

The detailed phased budget for 2017/18 was agreed in November including a provision of £12,000 for significant but at that time unspecified improvement to the Club premises and equipment. Consequently, it shows an operating loss of £5,305. However, with depreciation budgeted at £8,045 and no planned additions to fixed assets the budget shows a small positive cash flow. Key to achieving these figures is maintaining subscription income and sustaining the Bar, Galley and separately budgeted Event Sales at the levels achieved last year. In practise, the figures to the end of July 18 indicate that these are being achieved and the year-end forecast indicates that the budget performance should be achieved.

A continuing "difficult to predict financial issue" is the outcome of Lease negotiations with the Duchy. Following Initial discussions at the end of last year the Duchy has gone very quiet

and the Club sees no value in being pro-active in this matter. A realistic increase in the rent has been included in the budget but to date the invoices have reflected the previously agreed lease figures.

With 2 months of the financial year to go there is always the possibility of some unexpected financial issue but at this time the outlook for this year is promising. It is forecast that the year-end will show a positive cash flow despite the acquisition of 3 new Fusion sailing dinghies and expenditure in excess of the £12,000 provision on refurbishing the clubroom floor, revamping the snug, new chairs, new tills, refurbishing the pontoon and exterior repainting.

4 Approval of the accounts to September 2017

Simon Pain proposed, and Dave Webb seconded that the accounts should be adopted, and the meeting endorsed the approval with a unanimous show of hands.

5 Appointment of the accountants

The appointment of Brookes and Jeal was proposed by Keith Snelling, seconded by Gus Guest, and was passed unanimously by a show of hands.

6 VC Water Skiing – Richard Mattos

Thank you, Keith. This is my first full year as Vice Commodore Waterski and I now have better knowledge of how the club works. You can see all the work that's been, done around the club, but you may not have seen the serviced and new ski equipment in the crew room. The ski kit is there to help members try new things or borrow kit to help a learner progress to the next level. Just a thought, but if you find you are signing out the same items every day, then it may be time to buy your own, so other members can use the club kit.

The ski area is benefiting from regular patrols by the Padstow Harbour Commission and ski committee members. We have to supply a log of patrols to PHC, so please help by playing by the rules, which I'm sure you have all read and absorbed!

All ski boats should now have at least one qualified driver in the crew and others in training. There will come a time very soon, when the harbourmaster will want all drivers qualified. In the past couple of months, other harbourmasters have had had accidents on their patch, where kill cords were not used. We do have 'Wear your kill cord' stickers available at the bar, which you can put in the boat as a useful reminder to all your boat drivers, as they take the wheel.

The most common reports on the log are small things, like not pulling in rope early enough and leaving fallen skiers unattended, while recovering equipment. These are the most common pieces of advice we give out, after the 'Where are your ski numbers?' conversation! Please encourage all your friends and family to respect the rules, so we can all stay safe, whilst enjoying the water.

Now for the fun stuff!! We are gearing ourselves up for next weekend's Fly Navy events, which are FREE to enter by the way. Last year's junior winner was Hugo Billington and Pedra Young Ones won the team event.

I'd particularly like to draw all members' attention to our Junior Fly Navy event. Anyone who has taken part will know how exciting this is for your youngsters, up to 15 years old. It doesn't matter if they fall or fail to finish, as it's all about having some fun and taking part. There are prizes for all who enter, with special awards for the top 3 places. In the recent past, we've had a competitor, who was so thrilled to win something, as she had never won anything before. We understand that her more sporty siblings were really envious, when they heard what she'd been doing. It's really easy to enter and all details are on the notice board and website, but if you'd like to sign up your youngsters or team members right now or ask any other questions, please come and find me at the bar straight after this AGM.

And finally, if you know of anyone who would like to join the ski committee then do let us know. We are always happy to hear new ideas for both on and off the water.

That's it. Enjoy getting out on the water.

7 VC Sailing – Mark Stacey:

Firstly, the grant. Thanks particularly to Joe Keohane who has worked long and hard to obtain a Sport England grant to refurb the Men's changing room, showers, and the crew room and race box. The decision for this is being made by 31st August. Hopefully there is the possibility of a follow-on grant to assist in the upgrading of our patrol boats.

Thanks in particular to the generosity of the Shrimper sailors at the Shrimper Week supper we have bought 3 new Fusion dinghies to replace the old collection we had before. These will be available for members to sail on a first come, first served basis. Juniors can use them at no cost, while adults will pay £20 for a half day.

Junior Camel Week numbers held up similar to previous years as did Shrimper Week. Camel Week entries were approaching 100 with over 60 dinghies/multihulls, and over 30 Shrimpers. The Start sequence was changed from 6:3:1:go to 5:4:1:go. A boat tracking scheme was trialled for the first time in a handicap race and while there were teething problems it did provide a new perspective.

Thanks to all Race Officers, Assistants, Patrol boaters, Nick Turner for providing JoJo as the Shrimper Committee boat, and to all our sponsors.

Looking Forward, the Dayboat Nationals will be here next year (this will necessitate a change of Shrimper Week dates). Our relations with PHC are still good. Thanks to Rob Atkinson particularly who tragically died suddenly last month. He was a good friend to the club.

8 Rear Commodore – Post vacant, included in Commodore's report

9 Hon Gen Sec – Richard West

Hopefully you will all be glad to hear that I don't have much to say.

I would like to encourage you all to subscribe to RSWSC news on the website. On all pages there is a space to enter your email address and when we post any news from the site you will automatically receive a copy. It works! A year ago, we had only about 150 followers. Now that number is approaching 1000.

Quay: three things to note.

Firstly, the size of pram dinghies seems to be ever growing and our racks are not built strongly enough to withstand the increased loading. Any tenders exceeding the 8 ft limit can damage the racks in bad weather and make it difficult for others to move their own boats. If necessary, these will be removed.

Secondly there is some evidence of some members using the racks without having paid for the privilege. This is unfair on those who do pay, and any such boats will be removed or locked in.

Lastly please do not "park" or moor your dinghies, ribs, or ski boats on the pontoon. This is for pick up and drop off only.

And finally, I hope you will be appreciating the improved acoustics in the club room now we have fitted anechoic ceiling tiles. You can all now hear yourselves think.

And with that, back to the Commodore.

10 Commodore – Stuart Robertson

I am delighted to welcome so many of you to this Annual General Meeting in our 80th Birthday year.

Since I became your Commodore last October, I have been totally overwhelmed by the support I have received, both in word and deed, from so many Members of our Club, from near and far. Even over this past month, Members who perhaps only have the opportunity to visit in the summer, have wanted to share with me their positive experiences of our Club.

As you will be aware from my Newsletters during the year, and through your own use of this building, we have started to make changes to the fabric of the premises, with refurbishment of the Clubroom floor, our new chairs, the upgrading of cash registers, new soft furnishings and a coat of paint here and there.

Outside, the quay has been tidied up with some of our old boats having been sold, and in their place, some fantastic new Fusion dinghies have been purchased – which have been used and enjoyed constantly since purchase.

The constant flow of positive comments has been so welcome, and has spurred the Management Committee on, to want to keep making improvements to our facilities, as and when both time and finances allow. Watch this space – we plan in the future to improve the gents changing rooms and the Cabins upstairs, both of which are in much need of attention.

We have listened carefully to comments from Members, and it would seem that one adverse comment is the noise in this room. Only last weekend, the Management Committee, following some investigation, ordered all new special ceiling tiles for this suspended ceiling, which have an extremely high acoustic absorption quality. Once we have put them in, they will hopefully do much to suppress the background noise levels when the Clubroom is busy.

I am most fortunate working with a dedicated Vice Commodore for Sailing in Mark, and Vice Commodore Water-skiing in Richard. Supported by their Committees, they work tirelessly behind the scenes for the Club and its activities.

Mark has been constantly encouraging young people to get on the water, and the wonderful new Fusion dinghies have proved their worth in enabling this to happen. They have been used almost every day since purchase earlier in the season, and our little fleet was enjoyed particularly during Junior Camel Week by young sailors. The Frostbite series and Sub 18's have often been hampered by the weather through the winter but have battled through and sailed wherever possible. Other sailing throughout the season has been successful, and I was fortunate myself to take to the water in Peter Keeling Shrimper week.

Richard never ceases to amaze me when he tells me that our Club has a larger representation and voice in the British Waterski Federation than the whole of Scotland! As well as ensuring our waterskiers enjoy their sport, Richard and his colleagues do much to ensure the overall safety of powerboat users on our estuary. Working very positively with Padstow Harbour, Richard reports back regularly, regarding the correct use of Ski Permits, safe operations such as the wearing of 'kill cords' and is happy to have a 'quiet word' with anyone who might be in breach of correct procedures which ultimately endanger all on the water.

Our House Committee has been responsible for instigating much of the freshening up of the Clubroom, as well as the social activity throughout the year.

We have decided to remove from the House Committee's responsibilities those aspects which involve Building and Premises expertise. When I proposed this to the members of the House Committee, they were unanimously delighted that they would no longer have to talk about sewerage pumps, asbestos management and the like! Much better that the House Committee can run the social side of the Club, and that we leave things like drains to those with such experience and expertise to get their hands dirty!

As part of the House Committee, Gina continues to present new and interesting products to 'Bosun's Locker', and sales continue to do well. Gina investigates different items at the best

possible prices, obtains samples and then presents them to the House Committee for consideration. Looking at the popularity and sales of the RSWSC branded bobble hats, I'm sure they were sported at not only the best ski resorts this winter, but also by those trudging up Rock Road in the snow this winter! My thanks to Gina for her continued great work with Bosun's Locker.

Club 400 is looked after by Sarah, and much excitement ensues at the beginning of the month when the draw takes place at Fish Night. There are cheers of congratulations and groans of disapproval – depending on who is announced as having won one of the three monthly prizes! My thanks to Sarah, and I know she still has some spare winning numbers if you fancy increasing your chances of winning.

May I take this opportunity of thanking all of the Members of the Sailing, Waterski and House Committees, as well as the Race Officers and Committee boat & rescue boat teams for their support and work throughout the year. Virtually all of what happens and is done by them goes unnoticed, but without them, we as Members would not enjoy the Sailing, Skiing and Social activity that we are fortunate to do.

Our Club Manager – Richard, I'm sure you will agree, has RSWSC running through the middle of him. Smudge's role has developed and changed over this past year, and I am delighted that he has taken on greater responsibility for the day-to-day running of the Club – not just the Bar, but in supporting the Galley team, staffing, rescue boats teams and equipment and in starting to gradually clear out forgotten parts of the Clubhouse. The Bar and Galley takings illustrate his determination to make the Club succeed all year, as well as his drive this year to encourage new Members to join – with great success.

I hope this year, I, and the other Officers have enabled Smudge to get on with his job one about which he is truly passionate and has done for a long time, whilst being a support to him and his work. Smudge – I thank you most sincerely for what you have achieved this year, for how your personality and confidence has grown, and above all – for your endless patience with all of us, who sometimes think that by just being a Member, we can monopolise your time! Thank you to your fantastic team, whether working in the Clubhouse or on the water, I appreciate all that they do for us.

I must at this stage make a mention of one particular member of Smudge's team. We will be especially sad to soon lose Mercedes when she leaves to have her baby. Mercedes – I wish you well on behalf of us all.

I apologise for not really understanding the scan photographs you so kindly showed me – I wasn't really sure what I was looking at as you pointed bits of him out, but I do know you and Tyler are expecting a baby boy, and we look forward to meeting him soon!

Chris, our Chef, has worked incredibly hard again this year to not only 'feed the hungry' with his lunchtime menu in the season, but with a different and imaginative menu in the evenings. Fish Nights on Friday nights have grown into such a wonderful, buzzing atmosphere in the Club, that in the depths of winter, we locals believe that the Club is the busiest place in the Parish, and certainly the place to be!

A week ago yesterday, 152 meals were served on Friday night, quite close to the all-time record of 170, which is no mean achievement in a kitchen as tiny as our Galley. As well as charity Brunches in the year, the Club Sunday carvery out of the busy season is superb, and I am pleased to say is very well supported by regular, local members as well as those members from away who brave a few days in Rock in the winter!

Chris has answered the call on many occasions this year to cater for 'Special Events' both for the Club and often for Club Members private functions, where he has pulled out all the stops. Special dinners such as the Peter Keeling week dinner are an opportunity for Chris and his team to show us what can be done in a kitchen that was only ever designed to serve a few sandwiches and frothy coffee. Thank you, Chris, and to your team.

Kim, our Secretary in the tiny office downstairs, is a true unsung hero of the team here at the Club. I wish to thank her for her patience in showing me the ropes as far as some of her many tasks are concerned. In dealing with all of the post, calls, cheques, forms etc. that come

through her office, as well as handling the day to day invoicing, payroll and so on, I applaud Kim.

Our President, Dave Parr. Now, there is probably not much I can tell you about this man, except to say Dave works away in the background, often doing the jobs that no one else wants to do, or indeed knows how to do. (You remember I mentioned sewerage pumps earlier?!) Dave is also a very useful 'aid memoire' for me and is pleased to advise me on things when I ask. Thank you, Dave, I appreciate your support, and the benefit of your years of experience.

Jane continues to support by greeting the customers and taking their orders in the Galley on Fish Nights (and other busy times) and has an invaluable memory for names. Thank you, Jane, for your support not only of the Galley, but as part of the House Committee team, and for introducing me to so many Members I didn't otherwise know this year.

I finish my thanks, to two Officers of our Club, without whom I certainly would not have been able to carry out my role this year. Our Hon Gen Secretary – Richard West, and our Treasurer – Keith Snelling. Both Richard and Keith are extremely diligent in all they do for the Club. They work an untold number of hours in the very best interest of the Club and its Members. I can tell you, rarely a day goes by, when the three of us do not communicate in some way, on some matter concerning the Club, even when away on holiday. The time stamp on their emails is often testament enough to the strange hours they put in, such is their commitment to our Club.

I am most grateful to Richard and Keith for their honesty and integrity. Grateful too, to be able to pass my ideas and thoughts pass them both (and receive honest and straightforward answers).

I need you to know that both Richard and Keith are invaluable to the successful running of this Club. I thank you both sincerely.

There is one thing which I brought to your attention in one of my Newsletters which, I'm afraid, astounds and disappoints me. Whilst the huge majority of us pay our Club membership properly and then enjoy the facilities with a clear conscience, careful analysis of the Membership has indicated to me that a small number of people are not doing so. We have a positive ethos in our Club which has been developed over eighty years, and which I know most Members hold dear. We have thought long and hard about how to combat this problem.

In your Christmas Renewal Pack, there will be detailed instructions on how to use your new Membership card which we will be rolling out to all from January. This card will be used to activate 'Members Prices' on the till. Any without a card will pay a higher price at the bar. The cards will be strictly issued to those who have paid their Membership fee correctly and will be for the exclusive use of that member. They will NOT be accepted from anyone other than the cardholder.

The two Golf Clubs in the Parishes – St. Enodoc and The Point have operated similar systems for many years to great effect, and I think it is important that we recognise those Members who pay their membership, and that they should benefit properly from what is rightfully theirs. Without going into the fine details of the mechanics of this until later in the year, I think it will be a positive step, and a tool to enable us to have the conversation with regular visitors to the Club about taking out Membership, rather than just enjoying the benefits which are there for the Members.

This is just one of the plans we have for further improvements to our Club in the coming year, together with the application of more paint, more repairs and refurbishment, more clearing and tidying of the building and the quay.

Finally, I wish to thank my wife Tina for her support of me, in the part I play at this Club. Tina is a great leveller of me, when I'm having the occasional rant at home about 'all things Club' if they aren't going well. I'm sure she'll tell me afterwards I've spoken for FAR too long today. Tina, thank you for your patience and support as always.

If I have omitted anyone specifically in my thanks, I apologise. We are a team, and one that is stronger than ever. I am very aware that I am privileged to serve this Club as your Commodore,

and I look forward to another very positive, successful and above all – happy year, at Rock Sailing & Waterski Club in the year to come.

11 Election of officers

The candidates for the **Officers and Committees of the Club** had been posted on the noticeboard according to Rule 17. These were read out and all the individuals had been proposed and seconded. On a show of hands, all were unanimously elected. The list is appended below.

12 Any other business

Simon Pain complimented the Committee on a job well done and proposed a vote of thanks to the Commodore.

The President thanked the Committee and Officers. He then reported on the ongoing fund raising to buy an extra Fusion dinghy. This was well received, and several donations were made subsequently.

There being no other business, the Meeting ended at 18.35

S J Robertson
Commodore

R A West
Hon Gen Sec

List of Officers:

Commodore: Stuart Robertson
Hon Treasurer: Keith Snelling
Hon Gen Sec: Richard West
Vice Commodore Sailing: Mark Stacey
Vice Commodore Water Ski: Richard Mattos
Rear Commodore: Gill West
Sailing Secretary: Peter Pollard
Water Ski Secretary Meg Humphreys

Sailing Committee	Water Ski Committee	House Committee
Chris Creak	Peter Bowden	Lou Hawken
Roger Deane	Sian Hewett	Rod Offer
Jums Greaves	Denis Mattos	Jane Parr
John Wade	Pam Miles	Sarah Pollard
Roger Williams	Charlie Palmer	Gina Snelling
		Jo Turner