

Rossendale Valley Sailing Club: Minutes of the meeting held at the clubhouse and via zoom on the 20th of September 2020 at 1930 hours.

Apologies from: Mark Girven and Nora Girven, Eric Davis.

Present via Zoom: Martin Lewis, Marty Casey, Nick Antrobus and Mick green.

Present at the Clubhouse: Bob Glowa, David Hudson (chair), Stephen Booth, Tom Nimmo, Brian Youlden, Joan Forbes.

Minutes of the last meeting: Read and accepted as a true record. Proposed by Steve, seconded by David and passed by the meeting.

Matters Arising: Brian queried whether the rent review had been finished, Steven said that the new rent had been calculated on the RPI and a proposal sent to United Utilities.

Commodore's Report: The Commodore had sent his apologies and there was no report.

Principals Report: The Principal said that he would raise several items in the Council section of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report and the 100 Club Draw. Steve went through the monthly transactions and said that there was little unusual in August's receipts and payments. He commented that the fees for 2023 had already been set out in 2020 but due to the possible increase in running costs he wondered whether we needed to consider increasing the fees beyond the figure already decided. Steve said he was not in agreement with increasing them further as the club has a good reserve in the bank account however he thought that we should make the members aware of the possible increase in running costs.

The winner of the 100 club was Mick Green.

Membership Report: Tom said that he had met with Steve to go through the workings of WebCollect.

He reported that the club has 249 individual members with 160 paid subscriptions. This consists of:

27 family members

30 adult members

1 junior member

27 senior members

1 student member

He wondered if there was a limit on the number of members that could be included in a family membership. There is no limit on such membership if they fall into the category described in the constitution.

He said that there is a lot of interest in SUP and kayak membership's. He queried whether we should be chasing up United Utility's about SUPs being allowed beyond the three month trial and asked whether the latest e-mail from UU had been replied to. Steve said he didn't think it had. It was agreed to ask Mike Morgan for his latest figures on SUP activity, send it to Mark Girven to collate for onward transmission to United Utilities.

Tom asked about members who were paying by monthly direct debits and left mid year. He wondered whether the full amount was due and Steve told him that at least one member had cancelled her direct debit and paid the balance in full but there were others who had left, cancelled the direct debit and not paid anything further.

Tom has received emails about taster sessions and had an e-mail querying whether a social member is entitled to a key. After reading previous minutes where there was a discussion about this issue, Tom revealed that the person who wrote e-mail just wanted to use the car park. A discussion took place about whether we might allow recognised walking groups or similar, who took up a membership, a key. This situation has not arisen yet but may possibly do so.

Tom mentioned a recent incident which left a member upset but doesn't wish to take any further action. It was agreed that Mark Girven and David would have a discussion with the individual concerned.

Tom also queried the Sea Cadet membership amount shown on web collect, Joan said that since the third Quest dinghy had arrived at the club the Cadets didn't owe anything. However the Quests are unable to be used by the club as the Sea Cadets had not changed their insurance to indemnify the club for use of the dinghies. The dinghies are currently insured by the Cadets but only for their own use. Although it might appear that the dinghies are being stored at the club, the club has made use of them earlier in the season prior to the insurance query being raised. It was agreed that the Cadets should have up to the 1st of January 2023 to sort out the insurance.

At the moment a member has two dinghies at the club but he's only paying one boat park fee, he has acquired a new boat and his old one is for sale. It was agreed that he could keep the old dinghy there till it is sold.

Tom is looking at tidying up the boat park and its paperwork. David wondered whether that could be put down as a work party weekend.

Secretary's Report: Joan said that she had not received any correspondence.

Council: Steve has had a letter from Ofcom detailing the type of licence held by the club. Everything seems to be in order.

Nick has postponed the Scout's visit to the club due to lack of water. Pendle Community High School has postponed their first session, due this Thursday the 22nd, due to paperwork from LCC not yet completed.

Nick said that he is preparing for the RYA inspection which is due to take place on the 12th of October around midday. The inspector will be Adam McGovern. Bob said that he would be around then and will be happy to assist. Nick wondered what happened at an inspection and whether anyone had any experience of it. Joan said that she'd been present many a time when an inspection took place and had accompanied Doug more than once. She said basically they go through all the paperwork regarding instructors and the operating manual etc. They inspect all the boats that will be used for courses and powerboats and look around the clubhouse and its facilities including the classroom. Nick said that he will be stressing that the club is building up for a more active year in 2023 as it is taking time to recover from Covid and the lack of water.

He said he has a long list of people for taster sessions which are now impossible as the water is off the end of the slipway. He would e-mail the tasters and tell them that the conditions are not good at the moment.

It is getting very difficult to launch and recover a power boat and although there might be a race on the 21st (the last race of the series) there might not be a power boat on the water.

It was decided that an e-mail should be sent out advising members that there would be no power boat on the water until the water level rises and it was safe to launch one.

Steve said that the mechanism for testers was easy to manage with Mike Morgan organising tasters which come through the website.

A.O.B Rowing boat: Nick said questions have been raised about the use of the rowing boat whether it is safe and what guidance that is for its use. The boat was donated to the club via Eric Davis, unfortunately it was not suitable for use as a committee boat as it needs a better outboard motor which the club does not possess. After unsuccessfully trying to sell it as a fishing boat (its original purpose) it remained unused. Recently it has been used by a member as a rowing boat. Tom proposed that we manage the rowing boat as a club boat ie. the boat can only be used when a safety boat is on the water, it is included in the club's insurance schedule and a hire fee of £2 is paid for its use. Seconded by Bob, passed.

Martin brought up the availability of a grant for £10,000 for community use wondered if this would be appropriate to bring the outside loo back into use. The money could be used to redecorate and cover the upkeep including paying the club cleaner to keep it clean. If it was to be reopened then it would only be available on Wednesday evening, Saturday's and Sundays when the club was in use. Martin said that he would investigate the grant further.

Steve proposed that Mark and Nora Girven be awarded life membership at the AGM. He detailed the years of service that they have both given to the club and added that he thought life membership would be an appropriate appreciation. Steve's proposal was seconded by David and passed by the meeting.

Marty had indicated that he would be interested in joining the Council. David proposed that Marty be co-opted, Tom seconded the proposal and it was passed by the meeting.

David thought that we needed some work parties: one to clear the bushes and small trees growing round the reservoir in its banks and foreshore, and one to finish the bars in the centre of the boat park. They could be one weekend each.

Steve said that he would ring UU and ask about removing the small trees and bushes.

There could also be a work party to clean the front of the clubhouse and to repair the overgrown stone paths.

Bob said that one access boat was now ready for land drills for Pendle Community High School.

There was a short debate about the club trimmer, it was thought that it wasn't up to the task with its current head which could be replaced with a bigger head or use a brush cutter instead.

Meeting closed at 8:45 PM next meeting 18th of October at 7:30 PM.