

Rossendale Valley Sailing Club: Minutes of the meeting held at the clubhouse and via zoom on the 15th of May 2023

Apologies from: Mark Barrowcliffe, Nick Antrobus and Eric Davis.

Present: Mike Morgan, Julie Morgan (visitor), Tom Nimmo, Joan Forbes, Bob Glowa, Steve Booth David Hudson, Louise Haworth, Bryan Youlden and Mick Green via zoom

Minutes of the last meeting 18th of April: Read and accepted as a true record, proposed by Steve seconded by Mick and passed.

Matters Arising: Masthead floats, one has been bought to one assess its performance.

Shower curtains and phones: There were mixed opinions about shower curtains with the possibility of children becoming trapped in them and also enclosing the showers. It was agreed to put signs up stating no photography in cubicles, changing rooms or showers.

Shower screens: The provision of shower screens might reduce the shower availability to three in the gents changing rooms. Mike said he would look into the viability of cubicles.

The new dishwasher has been purchased and installed and runs very well.

The new document, guidelines about visitors to the club, Nick said he wanted to contribute to this but was unavailable this evening. Bryan said that the key policies would be the member takes responsibility for any guests, access to toilets for casual users not to be encouraged and any casual visitor should be accompanied to the toilets. Visitors should be signed into a guestbook and brews should be paid for.

The meeting was reminded that there is a dogs policy in existence at the club

Social membership for partners and volunteers: There was a discussion about charging a nominal fee however other clubs charge £40 plus.

At present the new volunteer dinghy instructor is not quite old enough to take out adult membership however she has joined as a Junior with a Social Membership taken out by a parent.

Commodores Report: David queried again whether anyone from the membership would like to take on the role of Commodore. Tom said he would send out an e-mail to members asking for candidates.

Treasurers Report: Expenses this month: Steve said the rent has been paid, the IT equipment for the classroom has been paid for, the RYA fees had been paid and the gas bill has increased. Membership fees, the monthly income is now taken over from the annual payments.

The recently purchased IT equipment is working well for courses.

The 100 club winner for May was Sue Allen.

Membership Secretary's Report: Tom said he was still getting inquiries about SUPs and kayaks, he was replying with the stock answers. David thought that SUP sailing should be put into the operating manual. There also needs to be guidelines about windspeeds and on the water activity included.

There was a discussion about the provision of a separate SUP membership who could have no voting rights and restricted sailing. He thought we should monitor SUP membership.

Mike Morgan said he would arrange a meeting to discuss the operating manual matters, it was proposed but this should take place on Monday they 22nd at 6:00 PM.

Mick Green said he will talk to Nick about the responsibilities of Chief Instructors.

It was agreed for the mean time that SUP membership would stay as normal membership and we would monitor the interest.

There was a discussion about where to store the SUP boards whether they could be stored in the windsurfing container. Bob suggested storing them on scaffolding poles in the launch store. Bryan said that he would look at what other clubs charge to hire SUP boards out to their members.

Training Principals Report: Nick away.

Secretary's Report: Joan said that she hadn't had any correspondence however she mentioned that Louise had attended the meeting and volunteered to take over as Treasurer from the AGM in November. Steve proposed Louise be co-opted as a Council member, seconded by David. Passed by the meeting.

Council: Steve said he would like to discuss the organisation of taster sessions and had sent a detailed e-mail on the 8th of May, he said that lots of people had expressed an interest since 2020 and recently he had sent emails to those who inquired in 2022, out of 24 emails he got three responses and out of 25 who'd enquired in 2023 he had received two responses. He said he'd set up links to fill the form in and detailed what now happens when the form is sent into the website. The cost of a taster session is £20, the session can be arranged through the website not through Web Collect. A contact form is sent via the website, Steve contacts Mike Morgan who contacts the person. The taster session should be paid for prior to the session. Mike wondered if a separate category could be created on WebCollect. Steve said he would look at that.

David said that there seemed to be confusion and misunderstanding about what we can and cannot do he thought that the club needs a 'live' operating manual and the current manual needs updating to include racing, social sailing, taster sessions, On Board, all waterborne activities and things like the ratio of power boats to craft on the water.

He also mentioned the Wednesday Social Sailing. After seeing some WhatsApp messages he thought that there could be an element of tuition taking place. Joan said that she would have a word with Nigel but he was well aware that there shouldn't be coaching on Wednesdays and if a member takes a guest out in their own dinghy, the guest should be informed that no tuition will be taking place.

It was agreed that the wording on WebCollect be altered in respect of Junior Membership and Social Membership for a responsible adult was proposed by David, seconded by Mike and passed.

PCHS: Mike was told that the school would be self-sufficient and had reservations about the use of club powerboats as any incident would make the club liable and also Mike as Chief Instructor for Power. If an extra powerboat is needed, for safety reasons, then a club boat can be launched, driven by a club member and not used for taking children out for rides. Ideally the school needs more staff trained as powerboat drivers. The school powerboat should be manned by a Safety Boat driver. There are also reservations about instructor's qualifications.

Bob asked Mick if he had the Firefly certificates, Mick said he would look for them.

Tom said that the Resmix has been repositioned in a place that is not easily visible.

Bob said that Terry Warburton had been unable to contact anyone via the number on the website. He needs a contact number and maybe the number needs removing from the site.

Bryan was worried that there were no numbers available for Council members. Joan said that she would email Council members for details and would produce a list of Council members who wished to be included. She also told Bob to tell Terry Warburton the contact her via the Secretary's email.

Meeting Closed 2130.

Next Meeting Monday 19th June 2023.

