

## GENERAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2019**

**PRESENT:** Curly Morris, Les Burns, Dave Young, David Cooke, Steve Parry, Vanessa Devereux, Graham Knox, David Rowlands, Arthur Logan, Adam Chaplin, Paul Bowmer, Chris Hearn, Charles Saunders, Justin Smith, Leanne Pilkington, Gill Beddow, Andrew Johnston

**APOLOGIES:** Helen Allen, Oliver Shaw, Jon Close, Ann Penny, Michael Collender

Minutes Secretary: Julie Courtney

<b>1.0</b>	<b>President's Welcome</b> Curly Morris welcomed all attendees to the meeting.	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b> As recorded above.	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting (6<sup>th</sup> April 2019)</b>	<b>PB</b>
<b>3.1</b>	The minutes were accepted without amendment. Proposed Paul Bowmer, seconded David Young. Approved unanimously.	
<b>3.2</b>	5.4 Cyber Crime – agreed by committee to purchase the additional insurance. Proposed Paul Bownmer, Seconded Justin Smith. Accepted Unanimously.	
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Matters arising from not considered as part of this agenda elsewhere:</b> None	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>F&amp;G Committee Minutes and matters arising</b> Agreement to all F&G minutes from April to December.	
<b>4.1</b>	<b>To receive the minutes of the F&amp;G Committee meetings held March 2019 to October 2019:</b> <b>To accept those minutes:</b> Proposed David Rowlands, seconded Chris Hearn. Approved unanimously.	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Committee appointments and co-options</b> The Committee co-opted Gill Beddow as Training Chair. Proposed Paul Bowmer, seconded David Young. Agreed by all. The Committee co-opted Ann Penny. Proposed Steve Parry, Seconded Chris Hearn. Agreed by all. The Committee co-opted Izzy Waterfall to Championship Committee. Proposed Vanessa Devereux, seconded Graham Knox. Agreed by all. David Rowlands proposed Jon Close as Chief Measurer and committee is to consist of David Rowlands, John Close, Jim McKee and Steve Parry. Agreed by all.	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Finance</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	<b>Treasurer's report:</b> Paul Bowmer circulated supporting documents prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. Paul reports that the Association's finances are in a healthy position. <b>Income against budget:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The forecasted deficit £7,370 should become an actual deficit of £5.5K</li> <li>● Error on budget not £1500 about £700.</li> <li>● Subscription set at £22K with a declining trend.</li> <li>● Sail labels revenue down this year but is forecasted to return in 2020- the effect of a World Championship year.</li> <li>● Mainsail advertising down this year.</li> </ul>	

	<p><b>Expenditure</b> – Remains at about the same levels. As regards Dinghy Show expenditure, Paul reminded the committee of the importance of a presence at the Dinghy Show for the profile of the GP14 class. Expenditure on this event may lower in the future with the limit now set to one boat per stand.</p> <p>-David Cooke mentioned that web advertising in deficit. Paul Bowmer to check coding on that.</p>	<p><b>PB</b></p>
	<p><b>Budget</b></p> <p><b>Training (UK &amp; Ireland)</b> Paul requested input.</p> <p><b>Promotional</b> Request for projected costs of the Calendar and 70th Anniversary Book.</p> <p>-David Rowlands asked if the book would come under this year’s budget. Paul said he would need a budget for the book.</p> <p><b>Dinghy Show</b> The budget for the Dinghy Show has already been submitted.</p> <p><b>Championship</b> budget will be produced later.</p> <p>The association accounts will be audited now and draft accounts will be ready for January. The subscriptions increase approved at the AGM has been signed off and will be implemented from January 2020.</p> <p>Paul projected a similar deficit of £5K for next year. It was agreed that the Committee were happy to continue with a deficit budget.</p> <p>Paul identified Mainsail as the biggest cost. He does not propose dropping Mainsail. He reminded the commit of it’s value to members who do not race.</p> <p>-Graham Knox commented that print costs may actually increase with lower volume.</p> <p>-David Young agreed that it adds value to Association membership.</p> <p>-Chris Hearn will host a digital version of Mainsail on the members area of the website.</p> <p>Paul proposed that we offer an option to opt-out of receiving Mainsail for those who only want to receive a digital copy.</p> <p>-David Rowlands pointed out the decreased environmental impact of this option alongside the cost saving.</p> <p>-Chris Hearn asked about a relative comparison of subscription costs for the membership of other classes. Paul is to research this.</p> <p>-David Rowlands commented that a large number of members see Mainsail as something they get in return for their subscription. Family and friends may read the magazine.</p> <p>-David Cooke raised the issue of exchange rate volatilities in regards to payment of Worlds entry fees. Paul responded that Skerries requested deposits in sterling and that he was happy to pass the collection of fees over to Skerries.</p> <p>-Curly Morris suggested David Cooke join F&amp;G meeting to discuss. It was suggested that Chris Hearn also be co-opted for that conversation.</p> <p>-Chris Hearn expressed his concerns about taking payments for both euros and sterling. - David Rowlands said the decision should be based on whatever is convenient for the members.</p> <p><b>Membership statistics:</b></p> <p>Paul Bowmer circulated a spreadsheet to the committee prior to the meeting, a copy of which will be filled with these minutes.</p> <p>-Andrew Johnston requested a more regular update on membership.</p> <p><b>New Boat Registrations:</b></p> <p>We have 10 new boat registrations this year. Alistairr Duffin has produced 6 new boats this year. David Winder has produced 4.</p>	<p><b>GB</b> <b>LP AP</b></p> <p><b>CH</b></p> <p><b>PB</b></p> <p><b>CM</b></p> <p><b>JC</b></p>

**Cash flow and age of debt:**

Paul reports that the Association has very few debtors.

Cash flow remains good so there will be no need to draw on Trustee funds.

**Acceptance of report:**

Proposed David Rowland, Seconded Steve Parry. All in agreement

**7.0 International**

**7.1** Curly Morris reports that international members have made great efforts to attend Worlds events in recent years. Curly emphasised the importance of their participation in retaining our International status.

**Ireland:** David Cooke reports good numbers at recent Irish events with 37 boats at the recent Hot Toddy event at Lough Erne YC. There was much enthusiasm for Skerries 2020 amongst those there . Youth participation is very healthy. The GP14 was the largest dinghy fleet in the recent Volvo Dún Laoghaire Regatta with 34 boats. Andrew Johnston tells us there is a real lack of a double handed boat for youths in Ireland with the fall in popularity of the Mirror class. Few clubs are sailing the 420. The GP fleet has maintained and continues to grow with youth sailors. He believes this is mainly due to good social events, good open events with 7, two day events over the year, run on a monthly basis. This results in better turnouts. The negatives are a reported fall in club racing numbers. Sailors are returning to the GP14 throughout Ireland.

**Sri Lanka:** The reported crocodile problem has abated.

**Australia:** Efforts continue to refresh the Australian fleet.

**North America:** Paul Young at Rondar in Wiltshire frequently ships boats to USA. He would be happy include a GP14 with a Rondar shipment for around £1000. Curly shared these details with Bruce Idleman and he replied with enthusiasm. Sourcing boats in the UK remains difficult. Frp boats in the £3k-£3.5K range are thin on the ground.

	<p>The Committee remains positive about fulfilling Bruce's request.</p> <p><b>Sri Lanka:</b> Curly will try to visit Sri Lanka and meet with the organisers when he visits the region with the Optimist Asian and Oceanian championship. Curly will be pushing the organisers for information for promotion of the event at Skerries 2020. He is strongly of the opinion that Sri Lanka should send a team to Skerries 2020.</p> <p>-Gill Beddow told us that Sri Lanka have asked for 100 boats and that would require around 80 travelling boats.</p> <p>-David Young reported that Sri Lanka benefits from better shipping lanes and improved harbour facilities, etc.</p> <p>-Justin Smith highlighted the need to establish the cost of shipping.</p> <p>Curly Morris has recently represented the GP14 class at the annual World Sailing Conference in Bermuda. The topics covered were broad and varied. Particularly, World Sailing have been looking at "all women" regattas, comprising a female jury and race management to be possibly adopted by 2021 and targeting a different set of sponsors.</p>	<b>CM/DC</b>
<b>7.2</b>	<p><b>Skerries Planning:</b></p> <p>David Cooke gave the committee a report on the preparations for Skerries 2020:</p> <p>Race Officer Jack Roy recently visited Skerries to appraise the sailing area. Gordon Davies has assembled a team of 5 judges. There is an application in to the Sports Council for funding of judges. The council have been approached for use green space near the club for the purposes of boat parking and Camping. The area will be fenced off with lighting and portaloos with a cost of 100 euros for the week. £15m public liability insurance will be in place. We are working with 8 sources of sponsorship. Colman Grimes and Ian Brannigan are selling sponsorship. A detailed plan will follow in Jan 2020. Skerries SC have 6 ribs with access to 4 members ribs.</p> <p>-Chris Hearn requested sponsorship details for the website.</p> <p>There will be a Classic Fleet at the event. Steve Parry is planning to bring No2.</p> <p>-David Rowlands asked what describes a vintage/classic boat. Gill Beddow offered to email Steve Parry a definition.</p> <p>It was agreed that the classic boats should complete a reduced number of laps rather than separate start. Steve Parry mentioned Pat Murphy who might be interested in sailing No.2.</p>	<b>DC</b>  <b>GB</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Training</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<p>Gill Beddow had circulated a written report prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.</p> <p>-Gill made a request for an annual training budget to be set. Steve Parry suggested Gill put together a budget and refer it to the Finance and General Committee for approval.</p> <p>-David Rowlands asked for an exploration of outside funding for provision of training and suggested talking to the RYA's Adam MCGovern.</p> <p>-Graham Knox suggested that the E. Howard-Davies week would benefit from a greater level of promotion.</p> <p>Ann Penny remains as the Association's Safeguarding officer.</p>	<b>PB</b>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Website and Social Media</b>	
<b>9.1</b>	<p>Chris Hearn reported to the committee on technical issues regarding the website. The recycling section has been successfully implemented and the Big Book of Boating is now available via the Member's Library. It was agreed that the Tendrr functionality built into the event listings requires a re-launch to increase engagement.</p> <p>- Justin Smith will write a piece explaining Tendrr to the membership.</p>	<b>JS</b>
<b>9.2</b>		

	<p>Social Media update from Vanessa Devereux: 1708 followers – 2-3 followers per week and receiving only positive feedback. When compared against other classes we are still getting more hits and more events.</p> <p>Andrew Johnston's update on International Helms &amp; Crews: We are proposing changes to Facebook admin roles for the page and will look into ways by which we can share the feed to the website.</p>	
<b>10.0</b>	<b>Promotions</b>	
<b>10.1</b>	<p><b>UK Class Calendar:</b> Leanne Pilkington reports that most dates are in the calendar but she still needs some open meeting dates. The photography is in place and looks impressive. The project needs a dedicated sponsorship focussed person. Julie Courtney is to appeal via the E-newsletter for a person to fill the role. David Cooke suggested targeting local businesses for sponsorship.</p>	<b>JC</b>
<b>10.2</b>	<p><b>Dinghy Show:</b> Steve Parry reports that preparations for the Dinghy show 2020 are on track. The RYA have positioned all class associations in the side hall this year. This represents a marked change to the previous years. As a consequence, space is an issue and class associations are limited to a single boat stand. No.2 will form the centerpiece of the stand. The display shall demonstrate the progression of the boat from No.2 to the modern boat of the present day with an emphasis on the 70th anniversary of the class. The stand is in a peninsular position and is 8m x 3m. The display is to appear at Skerries as part of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.</p>	
<b>10.3</b>	<p><b>2020 Book:</b> Steve Parry has spoken recently to Ann Penny who confirms the book is progressing nicely. David Young tells us that his contribution is complete. Curly Morris will be also contributing.</p>	
<b>11.0</b>	<b>Championship Committee</b>	
<b>11.1</b>	<p>Vanessa Devereux gave her report on Championship matters. Some scheduling clashes in the 2019 programme were as a consequence of the last minute hand over of the position of Championship Chair. 2019 dates were set before the hand over.</p> <p>A new category of "Legend" for competitors over 70 years old was proposed for the Masters events.</p> <p>Vanessa has been approached by Lymington SC to host a championship event. Lymington could be a possibility for the 2022 Nationals.</p> <p>Dovey YC has asked us to supply people for the race team.</p> <p>-David Rowlands had a number of suggestions.</p> <p>Vanessa emphasised the importance of live tweeting from events.</p> <p>Our Social media will continue promoting other events GP14 sailors attend i.e. Sailjuice, Stuart Bithnell going to Olympics.</p> <p>Vanessa noted the lack of post race reports from GP14 events.</p> <p>-Curly Morris said that in Ireland it is considered poor form if you don't complete your report. The third boat to finish writes the report.</p> <p>Julie Courtney is to appeal via the E-Newsletter for volunteers to the Championship Committee.</p> <p><b>Proposals for 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2020</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Present a commemorative burgee to those who enter the Super 7 Series. 150 burgees at a cost of £750. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Gill Beddow could sponsorship be found for this?</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) Dovey SC Welsh Championship (2 weeks before Nationals) – offer free entry and free meal to all entrants. Costs approximately £2,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-CM suggest marking the event another way. Perhaps underwrite the event, rather than free entry.</li> <li>-David Rowlands doesn't support this promotion.</li> <li>-David Young commented that this was a perfect time for Nationals practice.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<b>JC</b>

	<p>3) West Lancs 24 hour race – request for funds to host Saturday afternoon /evening marquee with dinghy show display, No.2 and a 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary theme. Costs for the bar and buffet £2K.</p> <p>Of the three proposals, proposal 1 and 3 were popular with the Committee. Option 2 was considered to represent poorer value for money.</p> <p>The Trustees are to be approached for commemorative items, preferably with a bell theme</p> <p>-Graham Knox suggested 50ml bell shaped bottle of Bells whiskey and provide a sample.</p> <p>-Andrew Johnston asked if the 70 years logo was available for social media use. Vanessa Devereux will make the logo available.</p>	<b>GK</b>
<b>12.0</b>	<b>Area Representatives' Reports</b>	
	<p><b>UK representatives' reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Midlands: The Midland Bell 2019 consisted of 11 events with a total of 137 entries (140 in 2017). There has been an increase in travellers and we have seen fewer home boats competing.</li> <li>○ Northerns: The Northern Bell 2019 saw a similar number of competitors to 2018 with encouraging levels of participation. Most of the numbers are made up of host club's own fleet, suggesting fewer travellers. A requirement for more sea events in the series has been identified. Tim Harper has provided excellent sponsorship of the series.</li> <li>○ Scotland: Participation 2019 Scottish travellers series has been disappointing. The series provided 4 events. Demand has been greater for events held on the sea. Two day events are popular. Social sailing is popular in GP14s and is a good way to bring people into the class. Arthur Logan will document the popular Adopt a Boat initiative and produce a report for the spring edition of Mainsail.</li> <li>○ Southern: Turnout at sea events was very good in 2019. Welsh Harp continue to represent club strongly in Southern Area events.</li> <li>○ Irish representative's report – Another good year in Ireland. The Munster Championship incorporating the Purcell trophy brought in more new GP sailors. The Championship consisted of 7 events and received many visitors from the UK, including Sam Watson and Andy Thompson's win at the Volvo Dún Laoghaire regatta. Further initiatives are being pursued to encourage UK visitors to other Irish events, including the loan of boats. Plans are taking shape to refine the Youth Championships, with the possible inclusion of one adult crew allowed per boat. There 4-5 pre-Christmas coaching events planned. Participants will be drawn from many clubs and trained under the roof of a single club.</li> </ul> <p>-Andrew Johnston asked if there is a definitive logo for the class?</p>	<b>AL</b>
<b>13.0</b>	<b>Cruising / Vintage Section</b>	
<b>13.1</b>	Curly Morris thanked Oliver Shaw on behalf of the committee for all his efforts in delivering the Cruising program in 2019	
<b>14.0</b>	<b>Technical and Rules Committee</b>	
<b>14.1</b>	<p>David Rowlands circulated a written report on the activities of the T&amp;R Committee prior to the meeting, a copy of which will be filed alongside these minutes.</p> <p>-On the point of hull supply chain, Chris Hearn asked what the aim was? David stated that aim was to increase the volume of production of new hulls.</p> <p>-Curly Morris asked if there is any mention in the Rules about grp thickness. David Rowlands replied that Winder specifies a thickness and consistency is measured against the specification using an ultrasonic thickness gauge.</p> <p>-Curly Morris reported that the 2021 rules may require the inclusion of an International Measurer.</p>	
	<b>Rule Change:</b>	

	<p>The rule change will add to Class Rule 14.3 the following:</p> <p><i>“Holes may be cut in the deck to permit the launching and recovery of the spinnaker from under deck bags or bins. The shape of the holes is optional. The rearmost edge of the hole shall be a minimum of 2500mm from the transom, the front edge of the hole shall be a maximum of 2865mm from the transom. The surface area of the hole shall not be greater than 600 sq. cms. The edges of the hole shall not be nearer than 25mm from the gunwale or inner edge of the side deck.”</i></p> <p>Proposed David Young, seconded Steve Parry. Approved by a majority of 12.</p> <p>The rule change passes on for ratification at the next General Committee meeting in January.</p>	
<b>15.0</b>	<b>Workshop session: ideas for developing, growing and promoting the class in the 2020's. Please review the Class Development Summary document on Dropbox as this will be the starting point for the session. Bring your ideas!!</b>	
<b>15.1</b>	The output from this workshop is to be discussed at the next meeting of the Finance and General Committee meeting.	
<b>16.0</b>	<b>Any other business</b>	
<b>16.1</b>	Steve Parry told the Committee that boat no.2 requires dry storage after the restoration is complete. Vanessa Devereux mentioned the possibility of barn for £250 per year. It was suggested that adoption of the boat may be an option.	
<b>16.2</b>	Julie Courtney is make the Fleet Captain book available to Gill Beddow.	<b>JC</b>
<b>17.0</b>	<b>Date of next meeting: Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.</b>	
<b>18.0</b>	<b>Close of meeting: 3.50pm</b>	