

**AQUARIUS SAILING CLUB
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE CLUBHOUSE ON
SATURDAY 2nd December 2017.**

The meeting was chaired by the President, Rodger Wheeler, and opened at 7:40 pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:- Jean Maracchi, Arthur Sykes, Joan, Eric Bridgewater, Anne and Leo bond, Trudi Hilton, Michael Chipps.

About 35 members were present.

2. MINUTES OF THE A.G.M. HELD NOVEMBER 2016

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 26th November 2016 were approved by the members and signed by the Chairman.

3. COMMODORES'S REPORT

A report was prepared and presented by the Commodore John Botterill, with regrettably faint photographs.

A steady year this year, I would call it.

SAILING

Starting with sailing - our core activity at Aquarius (two photo examples shown). We did introduce an automated system for reminding duties (and it did include we bar staff Wednesdays and Sundays I might add) which took a lot of workload off Richard. The patrol boat is sometimes called upon (photo of Joan's spectacular capsized). Richard got back into keeping the results but does have help from Graham – they have the classic checking system – getting 2 computers to come up with the same answers !

Pat has kept us fed every lunchtime, and kept us supplied with ice creams.

And our 2 patrol boats need frequent input – photo shown of Gordon our resident diesel fuel bleeding expert.

First of the month talks on sailing topics have continued again this year.

We were disappointed with the very poor outcome from Chestnut Sunday exhibition in Bushy Park, our display is great for very young children, but families with very young children aren't perhaps in a good position to come down sailing with us.

PREMISES

Bryan does an unstinting job, despite his increasing years – having reached eight – oh this year.

Bodgit arranged a huge supply of paving slabs for the trailer park, which avoid wheels sinking into the soft earth, and keep the weeds down.

The Environment Agency has been picking on soft targets to increase their finances, so the unused ramp was removed at the upstream jetty, and nearly all of our handrail poles and rubbing piles were also removed.

SOCIAL

At socials we simply excel. Co-ordinated by our wonderful social secretary but ably assisted by many contributions from our social ladies and some men.

We started early in the year with Burns night. Then Valentines Night at the Ritz. Commodore's cruise. Jazz evening and barbecue. Tramps supper (PC perhaps to not mention the associates). [Photos of each shown].

Lovely Oktoberfest by Jean and Mike. Last but by no means last the annual dinner with its welcome aperitifs (photo), and absolutely wonderful food by our caterers, with the cooks having been sussed.

RIGHT TO THE END

November our intrepid sailors were still out, including one rare appearance (Gordon), that day 6 boats were out.

I would like to thank the vice commodores for their continued input, and to you all - the members. We are as always keen to hear your views [WWW and EBI - what went well, and even better if], and Cath has kindly arranged to receive your input.

Cath then highlighted the questionnaire issued to all, and encouraged members to submit them to her.

4. TREASURERS REPORT

Presented by Graham Thompson

We had just under £1,200 surplus for the year. Cash in hand equates to a little over double the expenditure (which is generally the case apart from last year).

The Environment Agency have been round enforcing their charges for items within the river bed – jetty, vertical poles (£35 pa each), totalling about £1,500 pa. The committee agreed to Bodgit removing the unused ramp of the jetty (£150 pa saving), and some of the vertical poles (£200 pa). Items related to the wet berths (£530 pa) would have been assigned to the berth owners, they were consulted and in fact accepted the offer to remove them.

Profit & Loss For Period Covering 01 Oct 16 to 30 Sep 17

Revenues	Expenses
<i>Membership income</i> £0.00	<i>Premises expenditure</i> £1,954.05
<i>Annual subscriptions</i> £2,754.50	<i>Premises depreciation</i> £0.00
<i>Family subscriptions</i> £241.00	<i>Boat and racing costs</i> £829.81
<i>Berth fees</i> £2,675.00	<i>Boat depreciation</i> £1,055.00
<i>Donations</i> £177.00	<i>Subscriptions paid</i> £150.00
<i>Sailing income</i> £0.00	<i>Insurance</i> £1,518.00
<i>Boat hire</i> £0.00	<i>Telephone</i> £10.00
<i>Sailing event fees</i> £0.00	<i>Printing, postage and stationery</i> £221.53
<i>Locker fees</i> £75.00	<i>Miscellaneous expense</i> £0.00
<i>Boat sales</i> £0.00	Total Expenses £5,738.39

<i>Club clothing</i> £3.56 <i>Bar and food sales</i> £2,671.48 <i>Bar and food expenses</i> -£1,621.58 <i>Net social events</i> -£46.71 (half of which were free events – full listing on the printed sheet) <i>Other income</i> £0.00 <i>Deposit interest</i> £4.56 <i>Sundry income</i> £0.00 Total Revenue £6,933.81 (2016 was £6,791)	(2016 was £8,687 - inc ceiling and kitchen hobs and ovens)
Net income for Period £1,195.42 (2016 was £1,896 deficit)	

Balance Sheet 30 Sep 17

Assets

Premises at written down value £0.00
Boats at written down value £2,665.11
Bar stock £837.01
Clothing stock £67.33

Sundry debtors £260.50
Deposit account £10,979.89
Cash at bank £1,040.60
Cash in hand £91.96

Total Assets £15,942.40

Liabilities

Sundry creditors £162.71
Deferred income £0.00
Suspense account £0.00

Total Liabilities £162.71

Equity

General reserve £13,592.04

Retained Earnings £2,187.65

Total Equity £15,779.69

Total Liabilities & Equity £15,942.40

Graham said that, whilst we have quite a large balance at present, in a year or two, annual fees will likely have to rise. For example there will be £800 paving slabs for the trailer park, £1,500 to £2,000 for replacement timber flooring for the quarterdeck, and then the fascia on the front of the clubhouse. A couple of members suggested a small rise before too long may be better than a larger increase later (indeed comments given last year were for a rise linked to inflation). The committee will consider but concerned it might be considered we are sitting on a large amount of money.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The President, Rodger Wheeler then went on to the matter of the election of the Management Committee and Officers of the club.

Current (2017) Officers & Committee

President	Rodger Wheeler
Commodore	John Botterill
Vice Commodores	Graham Thompson Mike Baker Nigel Knowles
Rear Commodore	Eric Bridgewater
Hon Secretary	Jean Maracchi
Sailing Secretary	Richard Cannon
Social Secretary	Diana Carpenter
Bar Manager	Peter Carpenter
Publicity	Pat Halling
Treasurer	Joan Walkden
Bosun	Bryan Clements
Harbourmaster	Jon Larsson
Health & Safety Officer	Michael Gatehouse
Committee members	Diana Howley Deborah Lea Cath Bridger Josh Watson-Evans

ELECTION OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2018

Rodger Wheeler, President, thanked the members of the Management Committee for all their work in 2016-17. Nominations had been collated and published on the notice board.

Rodger advised that Eric Bridgewater was no longer in a position to continue and Pat Halling had been proposed in his place.

The Following AQSC members were elected to the 2018 Management Committee:-

President - Rodger Wheeler (re-election)
Commodore – John Botterill (re-election)
Rear Commodore – External Affairs – Pat Halling
Vice Commodore Admin - Graham Thompson (re-election)
Vice Commodore Premises – Nigel Knowles (re-election)
Vice Commodore Programme – Mike Baker (re-election)

Hon Secretary – Jean Maracchi (re-election)
Treasurer – Joan Walkden (re-election)
Boatswain – Bryan Clements (re-election)
Harbourmaster – Bryan Clements
Sailing Secretary – Richard Cannon (re-election)
Publicity Officer – Kevin Lavery

Bar Manager – Peter Carpenter (re-election)

Social Secretary – Diana Carpenter (re-election)
Health & Safety Officer – Michael Gatehouse (re-election)

Additional Committee Members

Cath Bridger (re-election)
Diana Howley (re-election)
Deborah Lea (re-election)
Josh Watson-Evans (re-election)

6. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

The appointment of Auditor was then put to the assembled AQSC members. Graham Thompson was again appointed.

Auditor – Graham Thompson

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Hendra was invited to give the comments he had put forward in advance for consideration by the meeting.

1. Duties: Attendance and performance at a Working Day are amongst the duties required of members. As such they should be scheduled within Duty Man and notified to each member by the system.

2. Social Membership:

- a. Should be ex-sailing member or family members who no longer sail, only take part in social activities and are not required to perform Club duties. Fees and voting as per full or family member.
- b. Or should no longer be available.

3. Rules: Section 5.3 Business at the AGM: To enable a member to present a notice for discussion at the AGM following the Hon Sec's notice of the meeting, Line 9 [notification by a member of business], 14 days should be changed to 7.

4. From my reading of the Club Rules and By-Laws 2014, excluding members from Management Committee Meetings is not consistent with rules or with the intent of the club founders. "Established Practice" or similar argument should not be used to exclude members who present Suggestions and Complaints to the Honorary Secretary pursuant to Rule 2.16. As well, exclusion is not good human resource management or effective dispute resolution tactics either.

5. Email or post? Email saves the Hon Sec a lot of time and the Club a lot of money. Any objectors?

John advised that a sub-committee under Cath are looking at the whole question of membership categories (especially social), and both the associated, and indeed all the Rules - but better to not rush or we would easily introduce even more anomalies. John highlighted that the committee has so far felt that increasing Social subscription to the Full members amount would lose many such members.

There was one suggestion that family members (family of Full members) get a generous deal. A response was that not really so, bearing in mind that only a few family members take part in boating activities.

We send items out by post only twice a year - especially the start of year which includes a hard copy of the programme - asked whether members would be happy if either or both of these posts be sent by email instead. A consensus indicated that members like to receive the hard copy programme. [There was a subsequent suggestion that the accounts for the year, and the

minutes of previous AGM, could be sent to members by email to save the club printing paper copies for the meeting].

The Commodore said he invites suggestions and complaints (throughout the year) to himself, and assures that he brings every one up at committee.

The meeting concluded at 8:35pm.

Rodger then opened the meeting to Prize Giving.