

Bowmoor Sailing Club AGM November 23rd 2020

1. Quorum

The AGM was attended by 42 voting members thus the required quorum was achieved.

Apologies : Karen Cooke, Rachael Jenkins

2. Minutes from 2019 AGM – Posted on the Website

The actions outstanding were:

- External Sinks - now built allowing washing-up without entering clubhouse
- Club Storage Shed - completed, adding members equipment storage capacity.
- Pods -the first Club pod had been bought and has been booked most weekends
- Race Formats – out of necessity, more race formats had been introduced.
- Training support – adult coaching session had been introduced in parallel with the Youth coaching Hour of Power.

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the 2019 meeting.

Proposed - Dave Lynall

Seconded - James Haydon

Votes for 22, no votes against, 2 abstentions.

3. Election of Officials

The executive committee nominations were the only names offered for the posts. The elected officials are;

Commodore	Tom Whittingham
Vice Commodore Sailing	John Banbrook
Rear Commodore Facilities	David Fewings
Treasurer	Geoff Silcock
Membership	Doug Roberts
Training Principal	James Relph
Secretary	Jacqui Thomas
Safeguarding	Karen Cooke

Proposed: Lizzie Fewings

Seconded: Nigel Fletcher.

Vote: Unanimous

4. Reports from Executive Committee

All reports have been posted on the website ahead of the AGM. Additional comments are below

4.1 Commodore

It had been a challenging time during the last 8 months due to the effects of Covid-19 and the changing associated regulation and guidance. The Club objectives had been to maintain near business as usual, and ethos.

Votes of thanks were given to: Charlie Sansom for building the new website, Fabiana Cardezo and the instructors/coaches for re-invigorating the Hour of Power, and Ed van Thiel stepping down as the Powerboat Manager

Our vision is for a staged recovery to normal operation and access and to continue the inward investment as detailed in the 5 Year Plan.

4.2 Treasurer

We managed to finish the Financial Year without loss despite Covid 19 although there was a loss of training revenue that is used to support training boats – but £25k Govt Grant more than made up for this. A further £2k grant has just been added today. The biggest threat was a possible shortfall in renewals; however, this has proved to be a bigger renewal year than recent years, so we are in good financial position. In clarifications, it was confirmed that funds are secured and protected in Saffron Building Society and currently giving the most favourable interest available. Also, the water treatment costs are different for 2020 than 2019 since the 2020 figures included the extra £8000 for weed cutting as well as a further £8000 for dye

Acceptance of Accounts

Proposed - Alistair Stagg

Seconded - Sarah Davies

Vote: 31 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

Appointment of Auditor: Recommendation to retain the current auditor.

Proposed - Mike Otlet

Seconded - Adrian Waghorn

Vote unanimous, no votes against.

4.3 Membership

The key points for 2019/20 membership were 145 new members in 3 weeks at the end of lockdown many were taking advantage of Bowmoor being first local lake to reopen. This meant we had to start a waiting list but from Sept we were able to accept new again members and gave priority to sailing and windsurfers with their own equipment. We finished the year with 570 members and renewals this year have been better than normal after the first month with 80% v 70% normally.

4.4 Facilities

The main activities had been to complete of the equipment storage shed, sail storage in stable block by car park and the outdoor sink with H&C water which has been well received by campers. The Club bought first pod that was delivered just before lockdown. Once able to use it, post lockdown, the pod has been booked for every weekend except two. Most recently, an Oppy/Tera boat rack had been completed.

Plans for the current year include:

- Automatic barrier with fob access control. ANPR is still being considered but fobs appeared a more favourable solution due to camera siting and exit control.
- Wooden Gazebo for outdoor teaching area. It would be 3m x 5m waterside of the play area. The height would be confirmed, and the final design checked to assess impact the view from the clubhouse and the deck across the lake and the boat park.
- Canoe and Kayak rack in boat part to free up more space.

Longer term activity should be a major update to the changing rooms to encompass suggestions submitted prior to the meeting

4.5 Sailing

Covid has had a big impact on Sailing and Racing programme but we made the return to activities as soon as RYA gave the ok within guidelines. The biggest challenge is in providing race duty crew and safety cover from mixed households. Initially we were only able to introduce pursuit racing using single OOD. In October Sailing Committee met to plan winter sailing programme.

Dutyman is only volunteer lead – so we need to encourage volunteers to come forward. If there are insufficient volunteers, we cannot support races. Sailing will be back as soon as possible guided by RYA governing body guidelines

Optimistic outlook for 2021 and we aim to fill the programme as soon as it is possible. Hour of Power has been a big success – definitely on an upcycle on this programme – thanks to Fabiana and team of young coaches

4.6 Training

Activity was severely affected by Covid restrictions although a First Aid course successfully completed in February. Mandia Cran held Day Skipper Theory course last Winter and managed to get the course finished, although some exams were not completed until later in the summer. Finally, a successful RYA Race Coach course was completed in October. The loss of the training income for this season was a significant loss to the club. This winter the training committee will work hard to put together a detailed proposal on how training can be held in 2021.

The club will continue with the rolling plan to replace boats before they become financially unviable. The club purchased 2 RS Neo's this year, both of which were second hand as it was felt it was better value than purchasing new and they having to adapt them for our needs.

5. AOB: As per notified in advance on website

5.1 Use of Clubhouse. There had been proposals to re-open the Clubhouse when Covid restrictions permitted. The rationale to enable reopening was explained (see 2020 AGM Presentation slides No 12-18) in terms of associated risks robust mitigation that would need to be in place, and the need to meticulous compliance. A café service would only be possible if it was viable for Hacketts. We should ensure the Club would not incur penalty fines or expose Club official to legal action if deemed liable. It is not a case of focusing on the negative but focusing on what is possible and would require detailed planning based on a risk assessment. There is a strong body of people who want to open the club house when it is legal to do so and we are able to put in place the correct mitigations and protective measures; the motion was:

That we open the clubhouse as soon as it is allowable by government and Covid-secure measures are in place.

Proposed – Kate Tustin

Seconded - Ian Pickard

Vote for 25, 3 votes against, 8 abstain

5.2 Facilities. The Proposal for an ANPR barrier was covered at Para 4.4. A variety of suggestions had been submitted for changing room improvements including changing and shower cubicles which would be looked at in terms of safeguarding and overall capacity, a heat recovering and improved ventilation. These should be addressed through the Changing Room improvement programme. A swimming suit spinner would also be considered if achievable at a sensible cost.

Solar Power was already covered within the 5YP. Addition matting for swimmers entering/leaving the lake would be investigated. and

5.3 **Sailing/Events.** The Sailing Committee would look at the current race formats (Pursuit followed by Handicap) to ensure boats with high PY rating were not excluded from general club racing. They would also look at the use of racing applications and handicap adjustments. A request for a SUPathon event had been made; this would require a volunteer to propose a plan to run such an event.

J A Thomas

Secretary

Enclosures.

Commodores report

Treasurer report

Membership report

Facilities report

Rear Commodores Sailing report

Training report

AGM Slides