



Registered Charity Number 1,160,253



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Otley Sailing Club Held at Westbourne House on Wednesday 27 February 2019 at 7.30 pm

32 Members were present

The Commodore welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting and confirmed that all documents for the meeting had been previously circulated and placed on the website.

Apologies: C Oxlade, E O'Grady, C Dent

Formal Acceptance of the 2018 minutes

These were accepted as a true record of the events.

Proposed M Thomas

Seconded R Espindola

All in Favour

Treasurers Report

Copies of the accounts were circulated to members.

The Treasurer, C Hodgson, commented that it had been a strong year for the club financially and thanked the membership for their support as without it the club would not be in such a healthy position. Currently there is a bank balance of £43k which is a healthy balance for the time of the year.

The Treasurer went on to summarise the accounts. She noted that the overall income was slightly higher than in the previous year and that this was in part due to the increase of membership fees in 2018 and a slight increase in donations. Attention was drawn to one donation of £14k which was specifically to buy two new Access boats; a second laser had also been purchased for adult use.

The Treasurer noted that costs had been lower than in previous years as last year the road improvement had been a big expense. Also the assets of the club had been reviewed last year and had been written down by £20k. During 2018 it was decided to have the club professionally cleaned that this was felt to be a worthwhile expense and that the benefits of less work for the members and reassurance that the public areas were clean outweighed the costs. It was noted that the committee had committed to the upgrading of the floor in the clubhouse at a cost of just under £4k and further funding is being sourced to upgrade the steps and access to the back of the building and replacement of rails. For the club to remain in a healthy position the Treasurer advised that costs need to be constantly monitored to ensure the long term stability of the club.

The Treasurer confirmed that there was no increase to the membership fees for 2019 and provided the membership are willing to assist with the maintenance of the club then costs can be kept down.

The Treasurer formally thanked M Walker, Walker Broadbent Ltd for carrying out the overview of the accounts.

Proposed R Espindola
Seconded P Rawson All in Favour

Membership Report

N Stephens informed the membership that the Membership Secretary, C Oxlade, was unable to attend due to illness and had sent a report to be read out.

Membership Numbers 2017/18

	2018	2017
Single	90 (in 58 bundles)	81 (in 61 bundles)
Couple	14 (in 7 bundles)	18 (in 10 bundles)
Family	138 (in 39 bundles)	133 (in 40 bundles)
Student	3	2
Honorary Life	14	14
Volunteer	21	-
Associate	-	3
Total	280	251

The Membership Secretary stated that numbers had remained fairly stable during 2017 and 2018. The change to the categories was noted and the change to include children up to the age of 21 years in full time education in single and family memberships.

The membership fees for 2019 are remaining unchanged.

The Membership commented on the work being carried out on the dinghy park to make improvements. He also informed the membership that all craft, including kayaks, paddleboards etc must have third party insurance.

It was noted that the club is now compliant with General Data Protection Regulations which came into force in 2018. C Oxlade gave thanks to C Knowles for his help in setting up the membership for compliance with GDPR. He also thanked M McDonald and C Dent for their work in putting together the club Induction Pack.

C Oxlade thanked R Espindola for being willing to take on the Membership Secretarial role and will offer assistance wherever possible.

The Membership Secretary's Report was accepted and he was thanked for his efforts during the year.

Proposed A Yarde
Seconded G Maclay All in Favour

Sailing Secretary's Report.

The Sailing Secretary's report was presented in his absence due to work commitments.

The Sailing Secretary, C Dent, informed the membership that 2018 had been a very successful year for club sailing and that there had been excellent participation in both Wednesday evening and Sunday racing throughout the year. It was noted that there had been some exciting night sailing towards the end of the season. The Barts Bash event in September was a great success and there was also an excellent turnout for the Hangover Cup on 1 January.

The Sailing Secretary informed the membership that the same schedule structure will be used for 2019 and that this is now on the club website with photos of trophies which can be won. He went on to say that with the return of family sailing on a Sunday, he hoped that there will be a wider range of club members participating in racing including youngsters.

Proposed C Moran
Seconded P Karran All in favour

Commodores Report

The Commodore, N Stephens, introduced his report by reminding the membership how much the club had achieved since it started as a small club based at Knotsford Nook. He commented on how the club had developed and expanded becoming an established part of the town's sporting community, taking part in many events such as the River Festival, the Carnival and in recent years at Otley Annual Show. He went on to mention the various awards which the club has been given such as the Queens Award for efforts in voluntary services and that a number of members had been recognised by the RYA for their services to the club and sailing.

The Commodore went on to say how pleased he was that there was new and exceptionally keen nominee for the role of commodore supported by other very enthusiastic and supportive committee members. He went on to say that there is a very committed group ready and willing to take Sailfree forward as he finally steps back.

The Commodore said it was with great satisfaction that he can report that this year there is a full complement of flag officers nominated.

The Commodore thanked the Vice Commodore, the Treasurer and other committee members for their support and finally thanked the membership also for their support to the club.

The Commodore's Report was accepted.

Proposed L Thomas
Seconded I White

All in favour

Amendments to the Constitution

Proposal for the role of Communications Officer

The Commodore introduced the reasons for this proposal and stated that this officer would be responsible for planning and delivering communications to key groups, members, volunteers and the media. This officer will also work with the committee to develop the website and maintain social media accounts.

It is proposed that this role be added as a flag officer of the club and that the constitution be amended accordingly.

Proposed M Thomas
Seconded L Thomas

Proposal to change an officer title

The Commodore summarised the need for this change and clarified the need for an officer to take responsibility for all RYA matters and made it clear that there is a dual responsibility to Otley Sailing Club and to the RYA. I White, Chair of Otley Sailing Club Ltd, confirmed his support for the proposal and commented that often the requirements for training and sailing policies may seem onerous but it is what it has to be and wholeheartedly agrees with the proposal.

It is proposed that the Flag Officer Training will change to RYA Training Principal

Proposed N Stephens
Seconded G Walton

All in favour

Election of Flag Officers for 2019

The Chair informed the membership that a number of the committee were standing down and he wished to thank them for their particular support to the club.

The Flag Officers were appointed and this includes the nomination of Karen McDonald as the Communications Officer.

All in favour

Election of General Committee for 2019

All those nominated were appointed, this included a late nomination for Sam Dean.

All in favour

M McDonald reminded the membership that further members can be coopted onto the committee during the forthcoming season.

Appointment of the Auditors

It was proposed that Malcolm Walker of Walker Broadbent Associates continue to independently examine the accounts, it was noted that he has confirmed he is happy to carry out this work.

Proposed N Stephens

Seconded M McDonald

All in favour

Commodores Closing Remarks

The Chair, Ian White, formally thanked all for attending and contributing to the meeting.

M McDonald thanked the membership for accepting his nomination as Commodore and is very much looking forward to the experience. He went on to say that he feels it is phenomenal the amount of work carried out by many people without a great deal of recognition to support the club. He apologised for the brevity of his speech and wished everyone a good sailing year and finally thanked N Stephens for stepping in to support the club in the last year.

The meeting closed at 8.15