

Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting of Beer Sailing Club

Held remotely on Zoom at 7.30pm on Monday 9th November 2020

The following members attended the meeting:

Alan Adams	Patricia Adams	Chris Adkin	Heather Adkin
Stewart Aplin	Annie Boalch	David Boalch	Alan Burley
Nichola Burley	Jim Carthy	Gill Carthy	Gilly Chamberlain
Emma Cox	Angie Cromwell	Garth Cromwell	Ian Duncan
Steve Ellis	Mike Entwistle	Barry Follet	Helen Follet
Ali Green	Susan Green	Deb Hancock	Ian Hancock
Henry Jagers	Norah Jagers	Helen Mundy	Kit Mundy
Chris Pickles	Tony Ridewood	Juliette Ridewood	Lesley Smith
Hugh Sutherland	Matt Taylor	Sarah Taylor	Clive Webb
Lesley Webb	Andy Weston-Webb	Lucy Weston-Webb	George Wyatt
Sally Wyatt			(41)

Apologies were received from:

Phil Bastone	Jenny Bastone	Di Trewick	(3)
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Minutes of Beer Sailing Club's Annual General Meeting 2019

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

Joint Commodore and Honorary Secretary's Report (delivered by Matt Taylor)

The Committee has met eight times during the last twelve months, four times in person and four times via Zoom.

2020 has been a challenging year for the club, with lockdown and the subsequent restrictions significantly impacting our activities both on and off the water. Despite these challenges, club membership is broadly in line with last year, with a number of new members offsetting those who chose not to renew their membership. Encouragingly, several of the new members are sailors and it has been good to see several new boats on the beach.

The Committee has attempted to balance trying to deliver some level of activity whilst at the same time maintaining the safety and wellbeing of our members, which has been our top priority. I am pleased to report that we were able to start sailing in July and this has run through to the end of October – more details are in the Sailing Secretary's Report.

We were able to run social events through until March when, unfortunately our planned programme was curtailed due to the government restrictions. However, we were also able to open the bar through the summer months, providing a "safe haven" for our members to meet up and enjoy a drink on the terrace. This has been well supported and hopefully proved beneficial – thanks to the bar volunteers who made this possible. The good news is that we have a programme of events lined up which can be readily initiated as soon as government guidance dictates.

The Committee had planned some upgrades to various pieces of equipment, the majority of which were put on hold due to a combination of the uncertain future through lockdown and reduced activity levels. However, the refurbishment of the wire winch was successfully completed, and this is now fully operational on the beach. The changing rooms have also had a spruce up and will be ready for a resumption of full sailing. Thanks to everyone who got involved in these initiatives but worth stressing that we are always looking for more participation to help share the load. The Committee will meet during the winter to discuss potential improvements for next year, whilst remaining cognisant of the uncertain times in which we live.

Finally, Matt expressed the thanks of everyone to Alan Adams (who is stepping down as Treasurer) and Michael Taylor and Veronica Whittaker (who are stepping down from the Committee) for all their input into the success of the club over many years. And noted that all of them intend to remain involved with the club in the future, which was really positive.

The Committee would like to thank all the current members for their support and understanding in what has been a difficult year for everyone. It was hoped that 2021 will see a return to a full programme of activities, both on and off the water.

Sailing Secretary's Report (delivered by Kit Mundy)

Kit summarised the sailing activities for the year.

“Like many sports, sailing this year has been significantly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic despite being a largely outdoor activity. The club has responded to the challenge of providing a safe environment for some sailing to take place over the summer months after some of the first lockdown restrictions were removed. This involved carrying out a risk assessment, providing suitable PPE for use on the beach and patrol boat and the issuing of guidelines for safe sailing. We were able to re-introduce social sailing for more experienced sailors, with informal racing on both Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings throughout the summer. Uptake has been good, with a number of new sailing members getting involved, of all ages. We have managed to get a few more boats out on the water, weather permitting of course and we hope to continue this trend next year.

There are no cup winners this year as we were not able to run the various race series and competitions, but don't worry, they will be back again next year and more competitive with new members joining to challenge the incumbents.

Many thanks especially go to the volunteers for the patrol boat and those helping on the beach with launching and retrieval – an essential part of making sailing safe for everyone to enjoy. If anyone would like to get more involved and to help out with the patrol boat, please let us know – the more people willing to helm or crew the better.

Now we are in another lockdown for at least until December, there will be no more organised sailing this year and so it is time to pack away the club boats, patrol boat and matting for the coming winter. We will be organising small working parties to do this over the next few days – again any volunteers' welcome.

To be clear, the latest guidelines from the RYA do permit individuals to sail (at your own risk), but only if you are:

- on your own (although we do not recommend this)
- with the people you live with
- with your support bubble, or
- for 1:1 coaching

The guidelines do NOT permit any organised activity (other than 1:1 coaching) Unfortunately, it has not been possible to run the sailing development days this year for beginners and improvers which has been frustrating for many of our members, but it is fully intended to re-commence these next year. We will also be encouraging everyone to join in on Sunday mornings for more casual sailing as well as organised racing. You do not need to have your own boat for this, although we are encouraging members to use their own boats where possible so that the club boats are available for use by new members.”

Honorary Treasurer's Report (delivered by Alan Adams)

Alan Adams presented the Financial Report for the year ended 30 September 2020.

“Members will not be surprised to learn that this extraordinary year has produced extraordinary financial results. The cause, the COVID 19 Emergency, either prevented normal Club activities or severely restricted them. Both sporting and social activities failed to produce the income we normally enjoy from these sources.

However, the loyalty of our members was outstanding. Despite the gloomy prospects of the COVID 19 threat at the time subscriptions became due for renewal, they unhesitatingly paid their subscriptions to the extent that this income source contributed £10,149, which was a small amount in excess of the amount received in the previous year. Recognition of this loyalty will be made by adjustment of the subscriptions of those loyal members in the forthcoming year.

Bar and Social income were considerably reduced by the situation, to about one-third of the levels of the previous year. Some limited use of the Bar was possible during Lockdown but we were prevented from holding our very popular Coffee Mornings and Club Suppers.

Some reduction of overheads resulted from our reduced activities but many costs are fixed so the benefit was relatively small.

The result for the year of the Club’s normal activities was a deficit of £2,325. Fortunately, we qualified for the Business Support Scheme Grant, and this extraordinary windfall transformed the final result to a small surplus of £2,472.

We continued to hold a comfortable bank balance at the end of the year, and this resource we hope will enable us to withstand the challenges of the Emergency and see us through until such time as it ends.”

Proposal for the Continuation of Beer Sailing Club for the Year 2021

(Proposed: Phil Bastone Seconded: David Boalch)

Passed unanimously

Election of Officers and Committee Members

Commodore: Matt Taylor *(Proposed: David Boalch, Seconded: Kit Mundy)*

Approved

Vice Commodore: Kit Mundy *(Proposed: Phil Bastone, Seconded: Matt Taylor)*

Approved

Secretary: Gilly Chamberlain *(Proposed: Sarah Taylor, Seconded: Andy Weston-Webb)* **Approved**

Treasurer: David Boalch *(Proposed: Alan Adams, Seconded: Gilly Chamberlain)*

Approved

Committee members: Stewart Aplin, Angie Cromwell (representative of the Social Group), Ali Green, Chris Pickles, Sarah Taylor (Membership), Andy Weston-Webb & Lucy Weston-Webb.
(All proposed by: Matt Taylor Seconded by: Alan Adams) **Approved**

Non-Committee Appointments

Independent Examiner: Alan Adams (*Proposed:* Matt Taylor, *Seconded:* David Boalch) **Approved**

Annual Subscriptions

Proposed Annual Subscriptions 2021

The Committee proposed, following 24 months with no increases, to increase membership fees for 2021. Boat fees will be maintained at 2020 levels as we continue to support and promote boat ownership.

Membership and boat fees will be discounted for those who signed up and supported the club during 2020, thus reflecting the reduced activity due to Covid 19 disruption.

Proposed to make membership free for all children under the age of 18. This effectively simplifies the membership structure such that 'Family' membership will cease to exist – parents/guardians or sponsors should sign up for 'Adult Membership', listing any children for whom they have responsibility. Adults who signed up as "Family Membership" in 2020 can sign up as "Adult Membership" for 2021 at the discounted rate of £15 per adult.

Proposed Membership Fees and Structure 2021

	<u>2020</u>	<u>Proposed 2021</u>	<u>2020 Members (50% Discount)</u>
Single Adult	£25	£30	£15
Family (2 adults plus children under 18)	£50	N/A	N/A
Junior (need to have parent/guardian or sponsor as a member)	£10	£0	£0
Visitor (Family plus 1 dinghy per week)	£30	£35	N/A

Passed unanimously

Proposed Boat Fees 2021 (includes Race Fee, Beach Storage Fee and winch use)

	<u>Proposed 2021</u>	<u>Members who paid boat fees in 2020 (25% Discount)</u>
Standard Dinghy	£105	£79
Any additional Dinghy (NB only if Standard Dinghy already paid)	£40	£30
Junior Dinghy (Dinghy owned by member under the age of 18)	£69	£52
Rowing Boat up to 4m (NB no engine, no fishing gear)	£40	£30
Kayaks and Paddleboards	£25	£19

Passed unanimously

It was noted:

- 1. All boat fees for 2021 maintained at 2020 levels.*
- 2. 25% discount for 2020 members reflecting the three months of lockdown in 2020 when boats could not be used.*

Start and Finish dates for the sailing season 2021

Commence: First Sunday in April. *End:* Last Sunday in December

Approved

Any Other Business

Garth proposed a vote of thanks to the whole Committee for all their hard work over the last year especially during these unusual times.

Passed unanimously

The meeting closed at 8.01 pm – thanks to everyone who attended via Zoom!