



**Final Minutes Annual General Meeting 29 November 2015 at 2.00p.m.**

**Present:**

Simon Lidbetter (SL) - Chair	Jill Marsden (JMa)	Rob Jones (RJ)
Jean Mitchell (JMi)	Neil Champion (NC)	Phip Woodhatch (PW)
Sue Bowen (SB)	Andy Nicoll (AN)	Mark Foster (MF)
Raph Demangeat (RD)	John Turtle (JT)	

Mary Clucas	Jane Howe	Simon Reed
Bernard Clucas	John Howe	Andrew Dark
John Francis	Elsbeth Drew	Sally Wicks
Yvonne Francis	Margaret Ferguson	Maureen Whitcher
Paul Bradstock	Archie Ferguson	Derek Robinson
Ken Taylor	Ian Helmschrott-Bowden	Matthew Brown
Karen Lidbetter	Rachel Conway	Jennie Wood
Audrey Beer	Miles Lidbetter	Mark Hayzelden
John Beer	Peter Hunter	Trevor Jackson
Pat Jackson		

Max Helmschrott-Bowden	Dan Nicoll	Jamie Lewis
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**Apologies:**

Neil Grant	Martin Wicks	Roger Wood
Mike Fulton	Marie Rosa Fulton	Pat Bradstock

**1. Approving the minutes of the previous AGM.**

The draft minutes of 2014 AGM were presented to the AGM for approval. Proposed by Phip Woodhatch, seconded by Jennie Wood, approved without objection.

**2. Matters arising**

The two proposed changes to the Operational Procedures were not discussed at the meeting and the Committee agreed to do more work on the wording prior to updating the manual.

**3. Receiving the Report of the Committee as to the affairs of the Club for the past year  
*Commodore's report – Simon Lidbetter***

Topic	Report
Rob's High Sherriff's Award	Congratulations to Rob on receiving the High Sherriff's award.
New Year's Day Race	Cold but exciting
Winter Social	Dinner at Masoom's was great fun
Work Party	Many jobs were completed
Spring Social	Fish and Chips were excellent, but the quiz was deemed hard!
Open Day	A very successful day with several new members joining on the day, or shortly afterwards.
President's Bowl	The race had 2 starts; one for adults and one for juniors, with a total of 19 boats taking part. Many thanks to Archie and Margaret for providing such a splendid tea.
Summer Party	Despite early rain in the paella the weather held and a good night was had.
Commodore's Cup	A total of 15 boats took part. Thanks to Karen and Simon for the tea.
Thames Challenge	GTSC fielded 3 teams again. The training that the juniors participated



	in during the early season paid off as the girls team won and the boys were third. Our third team of youngsters put in a superb effort too. Thanks again to Rob.
Moulsford Cup	Took place on a Saturday again. A total of 8 participants.
NSSA	Was wet and cold. Five of our juniors were selected for the Oxford squad including Rosie Turtle, Dan Nicoll and Emily. All sailed well.
GTSC Regatta	Another successful day of fun and sailing
Bart's Bash 2	Not as frantic as the first one, but still a good turn out with 29 boats registered and 26 making it the start.
Island Races	We raced at Island and hosted Island at GTSC – we won again!
Saturday Sailing and Kid's Club	Continued using a RYA coach this year following last year's success.
Wallingford Epic	Not sailed for many years and the general consensus was that we could wait another 30 years before sailing it again. Exhausting but fun.
Youth Club	Well attended again in 2015.
Community events	Scouts, Brownies, Guides and Brockhurst school have all participated in sailing evenings and all gave a donation to the club funds.
RYA and PB training	Continued to give RYA dinghy courses and PB courses during 2015.
Trustees	Three new Trustees were added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elspeth Drew</li> <li>• Matthew Brown</li> <li>• Rob Jones</li> </ul>
Miscellaneous	New Topper rack installed OOD has a radio installed Barbara Hull has donated her Comet to the club for use a club boat

For 2016 the Committee plan the following in accordance with the CDP:

- Keep Saturday Sailing
- Ladies who launch – Ladies only events
- 4 new Laser Picos to replace our ageing Qbas
- Continue links with the community

### ***Sailing Secretary's report – Neil Champion***

Highlights for 2014

#### ***Bart's Bash September***

- Our biggest event of the year with 26 helms
- 17 Adult helms
- 12 Junior helms
- Total 14,357 sailors took part and raised £79,416 so far

#### ***Regatta 2015***

A successful day:

- 6 Races
- 44 boats/helms: 18 adults and 26 juniors took part

#### ***Inter-club Race v Island Sailing Club***

- GTSC won
- 27 total boats over both races: 26 adult helms, 1 junior + 5 crew



**Goring Thames  
Sailing Club**

*Club racing*

We managed a full season of racing

- 128 races run this year in all trophy competitions
- 77 Sailors/helms
  - 42 Adults
  - 35 Juniors

2016

*Next year's Calendar*

- Continue Saturday Sailing
- Improver Series
- Inter-club racing v Island Home and Away
- Bart's Bash 3
- Pursuit handicap system – recommend we keep it. Agreed.

*DutyMan*

- Keep using
- Need more update for confirming duties
- Individuals to request swaps using the system

Another full year of sailing expected

**Membership Secretary's report – Sue Bowen**

SL reported on the Club Membership on behalf of Susan Bowen, Membership Secretary.

<b>Classes of membership</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Family	56	61	65
Joint	20	19	17
Sailing	21	22	24
Social	5	7	6
Life	5	5	4
Honorary	6	6	6
Student	2	2	1
<b>New Members (included in above)</b>			
Family	17	18	21
Joint	3	3	2
Sailing	2	2	3

The numbers are healthy. We lose about one third of new members come the next year.

**4. Receiving the Report of the Treasurer and the audited accounts of the Club for the financial year last expired.**

JMi presented a summary of the accounts, which have been audited by Maureen Whitcher. Thank you to Maureen.

<b>Income</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
Membership fees	20,647.70	18,541.65	17,682.88
Bar	3,154.60	3,980.91	4,440.70
Tea bar/Kitchen	860.00	1,552.60	1,330.65
Social activities	1,990.00	2,038.50	2,996.98



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Training receipts	5,759.50	6,340.00	5,265.00
Juniors Events	1,205.00	1,584.75	1,571.10
Club House Hire	135.00	180.00	405.00
Grants & Donations	2,217.90	1,954.73	10,797.00
Miscellaneous (inc Bank interest)	1,107.53	972.28	1,279.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,077.23</b>	<b>37,145.42</b>	<b>45,769.42</b>

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
Membership Costs	565.70	334.69	124.20
Cleaning	1,600.80	1,637.00	1,486.80
Rates	437.77	426.98	418.19
Insurance	3,204.53	3,566.07	3,678.05
Bar	2,494.23	2,658.18	2,485.93
Tea Bar/Kitchen	622.29	996.71	659.12
Running cost inc. maintenance	6,485.43	5,453.51	7,599.48
Juniors Events	2,095.96	2,098.33	1,410.76
Printing and publicity	1,177.50	1,523.51	1,226.45
Social costs	1,535.77	1,897.10	1,445.21
Trophies	886.10	1,083.42	986.94
Club Boats maintenance	3,156.49	2,652.65	638.28
Training costs	5,160.83	3,891.56	2,301.35
Capital Purchases	1,502.00	1,637.47	12,639.19
Waste disposal	770.27	761.17	647.25
Phone charges	319.09	617.84	309.01
Electricity	1,020.00	1,235.84	660.00
Water Rates	109.86	194.57	142.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,144.63</b>	<b>32,666.60</b>	<b>38,858.21</b>

**Income/Expenditure**

	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>
Income - Social/Bar/Tea Bar	6,004.60	7,572.01	8,768.33	7,137.00	9,643.00
Expenditure - Social/Bar/Tea Bar	4,652.29	5,551.99	4,590.26	5,130.00	7,291.00
Surplus	1,352.31	2,020.02	4,178.07	2,007.00	2,352.00

	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>
Operation costs; net of bar, kitchen and social					
Income	31,072.63	29,573.41	37,001.98	23,014.00	20,273.00
Expenditure	28,492.34	27,114.61	34,267.95	22,784.00	16,073.00
Surplus	2,580.29	2,458.80	2,734.03	230.00	4,200.00



## End of Year Totals

<u>Cash Flow Reconciliation</u>		
<b>Opening Balances at 1 November 2014</b>		
De posit account opening balance		21,009.13
Current account opening balance		8,480.00
Less uncle ars cheques from previous year		747.00
Less unpaid invoice from previous year	-	35.64
Plus Opening cash		122.30
<b>Account opening balance</b>		<b>30,322.79</b>
<b>Add Surplus for Year Ended 31 October 2015</b>	<b>3,932.60</b>	
<b>Represented by Closing Balances at 31 October 2015 :-</b>		<b>34,255.39</b>
<b>Accumulated fund at 31 October 2015</b>		
De posit Account closing balance		21,040.66
Current Account closing balance		12,584.11
less uncle are d cheques		643.30
less unpaid invoice	-	304.00
Plus closing cash in hand		291.32
<b>Closing Total</b>		<b>34,255.39</b>

Running costs continue to rise.

Income from the tea bar and bar is low compared to the costs. The cost of training versus the income from training is close. Sally Wicks requested that the Committee look into addressing the gap.

Thank you to Maureen Whitcher for doing the audit again this year. Flowers and wine were presented to Maureen Whitcher.

Paul Bradstock proposed that the accounts be accepted. This was seconded by Archie Fergusson and approved unanimously.

SL proposed that Maureen Whitcher be asked to audit the accounts next year. This was seconded by Yvonne Francis and approved by members.

## 5. Electing the Committee

SL thanked the outgoing committee.

Several committee members are standing down: Sue Bowen, Mark Neild, Raph Demangeat and our Bar Managers Mandy Stoker and Catherine Wedgbury. Many thanks to all for their service.

Andy Nicoll was put forward as Commodore. Proposed by Neil Champion and seconded by Phip Woodhatch. Carried unanimously.

Several new Committee members have volunteered: Jennie Wood, John & Audrey Beer and Rachel Conway.

Mark Neild is stepping down as Training Principal. Rachel Conway will take over on completion of her training during the winter.

SL to take over as membership secretary and it was confirmed during the meeting that there were no rules to prevent him also taking the position of Rear Commodore.



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Sailing Club**

The following is put forward as the Committee for 2016:

<b>Nominations</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
<b>Commodore</b>	Andy Nicoll	Neil Champion	Phip Woodhatch
<b>Vice Commodore</b>	Rob Jones	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher
<b>Rear Commodore</b>	Simon Lidbetter	Rob Jones	Jane Howe
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jean Mitchell	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher
<b>Secretary</b>	Jill Marsden	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher
<b>Sailing Secretary</b>	Neil Champion	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Simon Lidbetter	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher
<b>Committee member</b>	John Turtle	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher
<b>Committee member</b>	Phip Woodhatch	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher
<b>Committee member</b>	Jennie Wood	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher
<b>Committee member</b>	Audrey Beer	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher
<b>Committee member</b>	John Beer	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher
<b>Committee member</b>	Rachel Conway	Sally Wicks	Maureen Whitcher

Approved as proposed without objection.

<b>Other key roles</b>	
<b>Training Principal</b>	Rachel Conway
<b>Junior Sailing Development</b>	Rob Jones
<b>Adult Sailing Development</b>	Rachel Conway
<b>Burgee editor</b>	Phip Woodhatch
<b>Publicity</b>	Phip Woodhatch
<b>Safety Boat Officer</b>	Pete Owen
<b>Safety Boat Instructor</b>	Barry Bailie
<b>Maintenance Officer</b>	Simon Home
<b>Bosun</b>	Simon Reed
<b>Bar Manager</b>	

There is a vacancy for Bar Manager. Please let Andy know if you are willing to take on this role.

**6. Fixing the amount of the subscription for each class of member and the entrance fee for the coming year.**

SL explained that there had been debate at the Committee as to what should be suggested for the fees for 2016. It was agreed that a small increase should be proposed by rounding up the 2015 figures.

<b>Membership Category</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Proposed 2016</b>
<b>Joining fee (one off payment when first joining)</b>	50	50
<b>Sailing (One person over the age of 18)</b>	143	145
<b>Joint (Two people living at same address)</b>	189	190
<b>Family (one or 2 parents plus children [5-18])</b>	208	210
<b>Student (Person aged over 16 in full-time education)</b>	47	48
<b>Social (Non-Sailing)</b>	45	45
<b>Unemployed discount</b>	50%	50%
<b>Additional dinghy parking*</b>	47	48
<b>Additional canoe parking*</b>	27	30
<b>Junior dinghy parking*</b>	32	33

*\*parking for one boat is included in the membership fees*



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The membership fees for 2016 were proposed by Matthew Brown and seconded by Simon Reed. The fees were approved with no objections.

**7. Considering the election of such persons as the Committee may recommend as President, Vice President or Honorary members of the Club**

Archie Ferguson stepped down as President. His nominated successor was Paul Bradstock who was proposed by Andrew Darke and seconded by Jane Howe. Carried unanimously.

Elsbeth Drew was nominated as Vice President (to replace Paul Bradstock). Proposed by Phip Woodhatch, seconded by Yvonne Francis and carried unanimously.

Rob Jones proposed and Mary Clucas seconded the election of Maureen Whitcher as an Honorary member. Carried unanimously.

Gifts and flowers were presented to Archie and Margaret Ferguson in recognition of their loyal service during Archie's tenure as Club President.

**8. AOB**

Proposals submitted under AOB

8.1 That the Club's racing rules be amended by the deletion of all references to visual signals

Reason: Even for an experienced OOD, the co-ordination of both sound and visual signals is quite demanding, and virtually impossible on a Wednesday evening in the absence of an AOD/SO. Visual signals are not an option on the Moulsoford Reach. This proposal, if adopted would make the duties of an OOD less daunting for new members.

Mark Hayzelden did not want to delete the reference. We should keep our racing as similar as possible to other clubs. He thinks there is sufficient flexibility in our racing rules.

Rob Jones agreed with Mark. The juniors race at other clubs and have to know what to do.

Trevor Jackson suggested that even if it is not mandatory to use flags their use should be encouraged. The flags themselves require sorting out and repairing.

Yvonne Francis requested that those flags with short strings be replaced.

Rachel Conway happy to put training time in the calendar for the use of flags.

The motion was put to the vote. Proposed by John Francis, no seconder. The motion failed. The Committee to take back and determine if any changes to the racing rules are required based on the comments.

8.2 That those concrete hard-standing areas which are breaking up be replaced with an e-friendly permeable surface.

Reason: The Club owes a duty of care to members and visitors. The deterioration of many areas has created a (potential) tripping hazard.

John Francis clarified his motion, detailing the area of concern was from the OOD hut to the slipway south of the club house.

SL reported on behalf of the Committee that they had discussed options to 1) patch it, 2) find a long term solution.

Motion proposed by John Francis, seconded by Yvonne Francis. 0 for, 10 against and 12 abstentions. The motion failed.

Rob Jones indicated that it was not a pressing issue.



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Phip Woodhatch questioned whether it could be a health and safety issue.

Sally Wicks suggested that the new Committee further discuss the options. Proposed by Matthew Brown, seconded by Raph Demangeat and carried unanimously.

8.3 That the rigging instructions for the Club's dinghies be posted on the Club's website.

Reason: The Club now owns 7 different dinghy classes so this would assist new members, and others unfamiliar with the process.

Ian Helmschrott-Bowden suggested that a set of laminated instructions, consistent in style, be posted on the clubs notice boards.

Rachel Conway agreed that the website is not the best place to host the instructions for people actually down at the club needing assistance.

Mark Foster suggested considering Utube clips posted to the website for reference.

Peter Hunter requested de-rigging instructions, including covers.

Phip Woodhatch stated that we do not want encourage any phones by the water.

Rachel Conway suggested a simplified version for the website.

Rachel proposed that she get the juniors involved in preparing rigging and de-rigging laminated sheets.

The original motion was superceded. Proposal by Rachel Conway was put to the members.

Proposed by Ian Helmschrott-Bowden, seconded by Yvonne Francis and carried unanimously.

8.4 Average points for OOD (and anyone else assisting running the racing/safety).

Allow anyone assisting running the racing to be eligible to claim average points for the series containing the race they are running. This would not be automatic but would be requested on the bottom of the results form. The aim here is to avoid anyone being "penalised" for helping out and is in line with practice at other clubs. It's trivial to implement in Sailwave (and other systems) for a competitor who has already sailed a race.

Mark Hayzelden presented the principle that the OOD could claim average points for the race, which would equate to the average of all their races.

Proposed by Phip Woodhatch, seconded by Matthew Brown and carried unanimously.

8.5 Revised protest procedure.

At the moment the only option after a disputed/possible rule infringement is the "nuclear" option of a formal protest hearing. The RYA recognise this is not a good situation as it makes it unnecessarily adversarial in a club setting and discourages people from learning about the rules. I suggest we adopt the "Advisory" and "Arbitration" options as described in:

<http://www.rya.org.uk/racing/racingrules/Pages/rules-disputes-process.aspx>

In essence it adds two "less nuclear" options:

- a) Advisory: an informal hearing when two parties just want an interpretation on a situation if a rule was infringed. No proscribed penalty if an infringement was found to have happened though the at fault party might be encouraged to retire or accept an "exoneration penalty (defined on the SI's typically 30% place penalty).
- b) Arbitration: both parties agree up front to arbitration by a rules advisor (in our case could be OOD and/or anyone more experienced they want to assign). The maximum penalty a boat could be given is the "exoneration penalty", not disqualification.

John Francis asked other clubs had accepted the RYA process. Mark Hayzelden responded that he had seen other clubs adopt their own protest procedure.





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Paul Bradstock asked if these options were recommended by the RYA. Mark Hayzelden responded yes.

Andrew Darke suggested that if people were unsure whilst on the water they could perform a 720 and then they could follow the procedure.

Rob Jones informed the members that the RYA are offering rules advisors to come to clubs, so he suggested that we take up the offer and have a lunch session, or have a session as part of Saturday Sailing, or a session prior to the start of the season.

Paul Bradstock proposed that the Committee action having a RYA session, seconded by Phip Woodhatch and carried unanimously.

**9. Date of next meeting**

Sunday 27 November 2016.

The meeting was closed at 15.20.