



COMBWICH MOTOR BOAT & SAILING CLUB

Minutes - Monthly Committee Meeting Tuesday 31st July 2018

Apologies: Steve Bird.

Present: Dave Allibone, Trevor Reason, Bill Edwards, Mark Lowther, Chris Thompson, Jeff Ryan, Steve Cox & Bill Johnson.

New member applications: Sue Weston, Darren Langlois & Ray Riddle (unable to attend – working).

Sue Weston & Darren Langlois both attended for interview and were unanimously accepted as members.

Sarah O'Malley attended for interview on the request of DA and will be accepted on the completion of the 14 days display of application on the board.

Ray Riddle was unable to attend due to work commitments and will be interviewed as soon as available.

There was much discussion around whether we should have personal water craft at the club (jetski type equipment) and opinions were voiced. It was decided that we would make Mr Riddle's membership a provisional one and set out a code of conduct to avoid any undue noise and nuisance to the village. Also decided that he must have Insurance in place.

TR to draft with the assistance of Steve Cox who has much experience in this type of craft.

Items for discussion:

1. Minutes of last meeting.

Minutes of last meeting . Read and signed by the Commodore.

2. Hochtieff/EDF

Update:

Meeting held with Philip Douglas & Alan Lynch Friday 29th June 2018. (DA,TR,ML & J. Miller)

a) PD provided a copy of latest drawings showing removal of concrete topped dolphins and position of new Dolphin. Now displayed on board.

b) We provided our input to the planning and requirements for the new rise & fall pontoon based on our local knowledge. Agreed that we would be happy for power and water to be on the club

side of the road and taken to the pontoon through a roadway bridge which would be removed when large heavy loads used the road.

c) Agreed positioning of new winch stand to be incorporated into planning.

d) Agreed position of new Pill Pontoon bank seat to be fed back into planning.

e) Discussed possibility of retaining walls to edge of new road. Not possible due to cost. Will remain as a banking slope.

f) Discussed issue of state of the slipway and having it re-laid. PD stated it was not in the budget and would not be done. This is contrary to previous project managers agreement and left in abeyance for the future.

g) Mooring fees for displaced boats.

AL stated that invoice submitted by the club would be paid around the 1st July. Monies actually paid on 6th July and cheque sent to Watchet for payment of their invoice. Due to fact club only had two cheques available the other fees due (Dave Allibone & Alison Tsui) was included in reimbursement of expenses to TR who would arrange payment to the others. All now completed.

h) Corporate Membership. Discussed the offer the club had made and PD said they would take up our offer when works commence on site.

i) John Miller asked to present the case for travel expenses for those displaced boat owners due to extended time period away from the Pill. (Was initially thought to be for 18 months now looking more likely to be 3 years due to mooring chains coming out a year ago). PD stated that he would have to consider this and would come back to us.

No liason meeting set to follow next committee meeting due to vacations of PD/AL.

3. Insurances

All now in place.

4. Gig section update- (TR).

Membership requests continue to come in.

We currently have 32 signed up and fees paid members (5/6 more in the pipeline). Additionally there are several existing club members also taking part.

Only outstanding issue is purchase of cover but need to make centre stand and rails to put in the boat to keep the cover up. TR/CT to arrange. [Chris Thompson has made the cover supports so ready to obtain cover.](#)

TR provided costings spreadsheet for the Gig project that shows that the section is now showing almost 400 pounds in profit and self financing .

Proposal 1: We have now reached the point where getting everyone out in the Training Gig in a session is getting difficult and ideally a second boat is needed.

BOS Gig club have been allowed to bring their Training Gig to the club for the purpose of combined training and practice races etc. This has been very useful so far but is a temporary arrangement.

The Club has been offered a wooden Gig to rent for a period of a year (cost to be 1000gbp). This would allow us to join the CPGA and take part in Regattas mainly next year when we are ready but some interaction with other local clubs this year is planned.

Renting a boat would allow the club to keep expanding its membership within the Gig section and demonstrate for future funding purposes that the need for a new wooden boat is there. Since funding and then commissioning a new boat will take at least 12 months it would avoid the situation where members lose interest due to not being able to progress.

Proposed by Bill Edwards Seconded by Jeff Ryan.

Committee agreed unanimously to take up the leasing offer and formal agreement will be completed.

Proposal 2: We have been extremely lucky to have had for free the expertise of both Jerry Boaden and Pete Stobart as coaches so far. Pete Stobart is already a member of both Clevedon and Exmouth Gig clubs and has done much maintenance on equipment and has knowledge that far exceeds anyone in the club presently. Pete and his wife are both avid Giggers. Had we hired in a coach it would have cost us at least 500 so far. Since we are half way through the year can we give Pete and his wife free membership in recompense for his assistance so far and ongoing until the end of this membership year. They can then decide if they want to pay membership next year and continue with us.

Proposed by Trevor Reason Seconded by Chris Thompson.

Agreed unanimously by the committee that the minimal cost would be beneficial to the club and that we should offer him the position of Gig coach.

TR to communicate the offer to Pete and see if he accepts the offer.

5. Electrical Inspection due.

Electrical survey carried out and no issues highlighted. Copy of survey in file and a copy sent to our insurers.

Invoice from Peter Bullied in the sum of 180.00 to be paid by Treasurer. Cheque signed and will be sent by Treasurer Bill Edwards.

6. Slipway.

TR/DA/ML and CT spent many hours digging and pumping 6000 litres of water at the silt and have managed to open a small gap in the silt wall that is allowing some washing out to occur but the silt does continue to build up and consume the slipway. Unfortunately the club having spent nearly 400 on diggers and not successfully cleared it this time has decided that spending a further 800/900 on a larger machine is now out of the question this year. Alan Lynch has promised to clear it when Hochtief have a machine on site. We will have to battle it until then.

Steve COX stated he may be able to get a large machine from a friend who owes him a favour and will follow it up.

7. Hand over of Treasurer.

Mark Savill reports he has handed over the petty cash tin to Steve Cox and provided a breakdown of transactions.

Steve Cox reported that Mark Savill had delivered the petty cash tin and a pile of paperwork to him but had not completed a proper audit or provided any records of transactions. Bill Edwards agreed to take over the Petty cash tin from this point on but would not be responsible for any transactions prior to this date. The sum of cash in the tin agreed between Steve Cox and Bill Edwards to establish a starting position going forwards.

Bill Edwards and TR will attempt to make sense of the situation later this week.

Any accounting issues to be reported at next committee meeting.

Steve Cox handed over all other Treasurers paperwork to BE.

8. Projects to complete or consider.

a) Racking of big garage. Already allocated 150 for the project and ML & MS to deliver.

Committee decided that it was unlikely Mark Savill would complete this project and we will review and see how to move forward.

b) Create racks to keep oars in so to avoid them being slid along the roof bars in the container.

DA has provided insulation to the bars in the container to avoid damage to oars.

Still need to come up with a better racking system for them.

c) Roof terrace. – DA to investigate costs of metal box section for supports.

DA reported he has not yet been able due to time restraints obtain costings.

d) Finish painting small garage.

Jeff Ryan has done one side and the back but run out of paint. TR to get another tin.

f) Leak in container roof.

Mark Lowther to talk to Nigel Frost and resolve if possible.

9. Website and ongoing costs. – Bill Edwards.

Bill Edwards reported that having worked on the website for some time now that the ongoing costs of the current provider were excessive for a club of our size and that he felt that we could go it alone fairly easily and had already set up a version that mirrored our website. He reported that Tony King of Harlequin had told him that there may be copyright issues and that the club did not own the domain name. Bill stated that there are other options for domain name that would work.

Committee decided that we should explore moving to an independent solution.

10. Resignation of Mark Savill and allegation of unauthorised spending.

Dave Allibone read to the committee the resignation texts from Mark Savill that clearly alleged that monies amounting to hundreds of pounds had been spent mainly by TR that were not authorised by the committee. This was primarily in relation to an additional 6 life jackets and a throw line purchased for the Gig section and that he did not want to be associated with a committee that was not accountable to the membership.

TR stated that the Gig section had an agreed budget at the start of the project of 1500 and that the club had worked within that budget throughout and currently showed a profit as earlier reported and in relation to the lifejackets we had not purchased the full desired number of 16 (ie 2 full crews) initially as we wanted to see how successful the project was. The need to get the additional lifejackets was based on the success of the Gig membership.

Of the other projects authorised this membership year budgets were clearly set and reported as:

Pontoon Project: 1500 budget authorised. Project completed at a cost of 990. Underspend of 510.

Picnic tables: Budget set at 350. Cost was 415. Overspend of 65.

Gas BBQ: Budget set at 400. Actual cost 370. Underspend of 30.

Painting of outside of clubhouse and garage: Budget set at 250. Not yet completed but still under budget.

Benching of large garage: Budget set at 150. Project not yet started.

TR reported that all spending had been supported by receipts to the Treasurer. The committee noted the comments of Mark Savill and found no wrongdoing.

TR pointed out that there was one unauthorised spending which amounted to 375. This was when Mark Savill had arranged for Merv Lang to bring his small digger and subsequently a slightly larger digger onsite to try to clear the slipway. This had not been authorised by the committee and had in fact prevented the possibility of the club having a larger digger that TR was in the process of getting quotes for to get authority by committee. Mark having spent 375 on equipment that failed to properly clear the slipway had meant that several members had spent considerable time battling the slipway mud since. Also Mark Savill had failed to pay Merv Lang for the machines which led to Merv complaining. He has now been paid.

11. Anonymous letter of complaint – Dave Allibone.

Dave Allibone reported that he had received an anonymous letter posted 14th July to his home address that purportedly came from someone concerned about the sexual innuendo used by TR around the Giggers.

TR stated that there was no truth in the allegation and that DA was welcome to speak to members of the Gig group if he so wished.

The committee decided that this was the actions of someone determined to try to undermine TR and since it was made anonymously no credence could be placed on it. It was seen as mischievous and spurious and unless someone comes forward the committee will not take any action.

AOB

1) Dave Allibone raised the disappearance of the barrel of diesel from the back yard and wished it to be known that it was given to the club to be used by the club and not just taken at will.

Both Mark Lowther and Alan Wright had agreed to take 20ltrs each which was authorised.

2) TR reported that he had informed both Dave and Ross Parham that the Blyth Catamaran would need to be removed from the yard prior to the wharf works starting which was likely to be October.

3) Mark Lowther raised the possibility of the club buying his small boat as a club safety boat. Decided to leave this for the next agenda.

Meeting closed at 10:02pm

Next meeting Tuesday 28th August 2018.