

Minutes

2017 Annual General Meeting of Dart Sailability Group

at

Churston Golf Club, Brixham

on

Saturday, 28 October 2017 at 10.30am

Present: 24 members

Apologies

Anna Chrystie, Janet and Ian Cottey, Julie Holland, Ian Hooper, Dolly Marsden, Miles and Vanessa Matthews, Juliet Prentice, Tim Trent and Steve Watkin.

Trustee Elections (Proposer/Seconder)

Anne Blood (Tom King/Colin Whymark)
Neil Hockaday (Tom King/Andrew Cushen)
Colin Whymark (Andrew Cushen/Tom King)

Each of the above was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 12th November 2016 were approved. There were no matters arising.

Annual Report

The Chairman thanked members for attending the meeting and thanked all those volunteers who had contributed their time and effort to the club during the year. He offered particular thanks to Rob Boyd and Jo Heaton who have retired as trustees. Both have made a tremendous contribution to the charity.

The Chairman offered thanks to Mike Breed (former Chairman and Treasurer) who resigned as a trustee in February and welcomed and thanked Neil Hockaday who joined as a trustee in June and Nick Woodward who has taken on the role of treasurer.

The charity has had a successful year of fund raising. The Chairman thanked all those who have given their time to this vital activity and particularly to Mike Pleass for his energy and enthusiasm as a fundraiser.

Annual Statement of Accounts

Nick Woodward (Treasurer) presented the full Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2016. He highlighted that the charity had an income during the year of £25,996 and expenditure of £19,281. The net income was £6,716 and when added to the funds brought forward from the previous year, gave total funds of £22,772.

The accounts for the year ended 30 September 2017 had yet to be prepared but the Treasurer referred to the management accounts that had been circulated and noted that the total income for the year was £34,973 and expenditure was £22,212.

The Chairman thanked Nick for his report and acknowledge the assistance given by David Blood in preparing the new format required by the Charity Commission and for his work as the Independent Examiner.

Principal's Report

Steve Oakey presented his report.

The membership comprises 40 individual adult disabled sailors, 6 group memberships and 65 volunteers. During the year the group achieved 1,678 sailor days on the water. Volunteers provided 3,724 hours of time to support on water activity and year round boat maintenance. In addition the Management Team and those supporting the Wednesday evening racing provided 1,000 hours.

Efforts to increase the number of sailing members and group participants have been successful and both the Arc and Nab boats have been fully utilised during the season.

In addition to the Principal, the Management Team comprises, Deputy Principal (Steve Watkin), Chief Sailing Instructor (Bob Miller), Chief Powerboat Instructor (Andrew Cushen) Membership Secretary (Janet Cottey), Welfare Secretary (Dolly Marsden), Safety Officer (Tim Trent), Engineer (Richard Fellender), Recruiting (Denise Winks), Training (Mark Hartnell), Publicity (Mark Barwick-Saunders), Racing and Trustee Representative (Keith Cockburn), Dinghy SI (Anna Chrystie).

The Principal thanked all of the team for their support during the year and offered particular thanks to Anne Bailey, Andrew Cushen, Richard Fellender and Nick Teage who are standing down from their roles.

The group has continued to receive generous support from donors including Premier Marinas, Sainsburys (Dartmouth), the Clothworkers Foundation, Mrs Robson and a number of Rotary Clubs.

The group continues to enjoy a close relationship with South Devon College some of whose work placement students assisted with boat maintenance.

As part of a ten-year renewal plan, equipment has been renewed including the replacement of two Hansa dinghies, new sails for other Hansas and two new outboard engines. Safety equipment has been upgraded and at the year end the major item requiring replacement before 2018 is the personnel hoist that no longer complies with safety requirements.

Safety both on and off water has been a particular focus during the year. Aside from equipment renewals and improved procedures, the timing of sessions has been reviewed to avoid very low tides that create difficulties for some using the pontoon ramp. The Principal acknowledged the particular support provided by Tim Trent as Safety Officer in this area.

During the year Premier Marina began preparatory works for the redevelopment of Noss Marina. The group has worked well with Premier staff to allow this work to proceed and minimize disruption to the sailing. 2018 will be more challenging as the group will need to move from the green shed and there will be more restriction on the site as building work commences.

Annual Dinner & Social Events

The last annual dinner was held at Horizons Restaurant at South Devon College. The event was a greatly enjoyed by members and their guests and the Chairman thanked Janet Cottey for all her efforts in making the event such a success.

Arrangements are in hand for a Christmas lunch – details to be confirmed shortly.

Following the success of last year's dinner, the 2018 event will again be at Horizons Restaurant on 21st or 22nd March. Details to be confirmed.

Any Other Business

Mike Pleass reminded members to continue support for the Co-op funding raising that closes in November and to note the Co-op presentation on 26 November.

The issue of the whether volunteers should pay a membership fee was raised. The Chairman acknowledged that this had proved to be a difficult issue and that the trustees would look again at fees before the start of the 2018 season.

Andrew Cushen urged all members to give their feedback on the group via the website.

The new RYA Powerability Log book was highlighted. This was the result of work done by the group and it was very pleasing to note that Dart Sailability was acknowledged in the new Log Book.

Tom King
Chair, Dart Sailability Group
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