



# Ashlett Sailing Club



## Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7 pm in the Club House.

1. Present: Chris Brown (Chairman), Jim Hopwood (Secretary), Sue Doyle, Merv Griffiths, Alan Morrison, Keith Guy-Gibbens, Carl Sharman, Neil Howarth.
2. Apologies for Absence: Dick Pizey, John Lavers, Steve Rush
3. Adrian and Pam Lumb were in attendance with a view to joining the committee.
4. The Commodore announced that the Queen had died and asked for a minute's silence
5. Minutes of the last meeting – approved.
6. Commodore – Chris Brown:
  - a. LOWLER inspection is booked for 5<sup>th</sup> October.
  - b. Pursuit race and barbecue planned for 8<sup>th</sup> October.
  - c. Chris will get a quote for an onsite tractor service.
  - d. Dave will arrange scrap removal.
  - e. Chris suggested we think about disabled access to the Club House.
  - f. Chris and Carl reported on discussions with “bed levelling” contractor. Cost for tidying the edges of the dredged area would be £5500 plus VAT. **Agreed to wait till the start of the next season.**
  - g. Chris is keen to get the office ready for use. **AI will talk to Tom about repairs.**
7. Clubhouse Alterations – Steve Rush
  - a. Now we have a new lease (hurrah!) we can continue with the Clubhouse Alterations. I've emailed both the architect and structural engineer to inform them. The Structural engineer is on hols until the 5th Sept so trial pit dig will be scheduled once I've spoken to him.

### **Next steps.**

- b. **1. Trial hole dig to examine the existing foundations.**

Do we need permission from the landlord to dig the trial pit? I've spoken to the structural engineer, he needs the trial hole dug to expose the bottom of the existing foundations, from the outside of the building only, I'm thinking the corner closest to the clubhouse veranda. It could be a metre down, so quite a big hole and we'll see where the water table is and might have to pump it out for the engineer to see. I'll need some help with the dig, could we arrange a work party? Or if it's too much employ a groundworker to do it? It has to be on a date that the engineer can visit. He can't do this week, I can't do the next, and I'm visiting Tickymint with my daughter 1-3rd for a small sail, so looking like the 4th October onward.

I will need to hire a breaker for the concrete and a few bags of ballast and cement to repair the hole once inspection is done. After the dig - preparation of foundation design drawings from which we can approach contractors for quotations.

**Chris suggested using Kitcher's mini digger.**  
**Merv will check our pump.**

**Club will reimburse costs.**

c. **2. Stage 1 Internal Drawings.**

In September I'll carry out a detailed survey and measure of the existing club, with the architect's input, to design the new toilets and associated internal alterations and upgrade. This will lead to a set of drawings and spec to approach contractors for pricing.

d. **3. Stage 2 Planning Package**

Once I've spoken to Anthony we can begin to move towards submitting a planning application. I'll report back when I have a timeline for this.

e. **4. New Septic Tank.**

Is it Brian who empties the existing tank? He said he would speak to me at the regatta, which unfortunately I couldn't make.

f. **5. Gas in the clubhouse.**

Al asked whether we should stay with gas or move to all electric. An all electric cooker will require a 6 or 10mm cable from the consumer unit on a 32amp breaker, so it probably makes sense to stay with gas until the clubhouse alterations, when the kitchen will be reconfigured and a significant re-wire needed anyway. **Al will get quotes for reinstating the gas supply.**

8. Secretary – Jim Hopwood:

a. AGM

i. British Legion booked for Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October, 1100 till 1300.

ii. Nominations and motions by 15<sup>th</sup> October.

iii. Any rule changes needed? Mooring inspections?? **Agreed to remove Waiting buoy. Agreed no need to reintroduce membership cards.**

iv. Annual report and notice of agm to be circulated by 1<sup>st</sup> October. **Need your input for the report asap.**

9. Treasurer –

a. Sharon has resigned. Jim will handle BACS payments until the agm.

b. Financial position:

Bank account		£66000
Reserves	Key deposits	8000
	One year's costs	15000
	Toilet fund	30000
Available funds		13000
Forecast income by year end (hoist)		4000
Forecast running costs by year end		7000
Available for use before March 23		£10000

c. Propose to open interest bearing savings account -£40000 – **agreed.**

- d. Suggest no need to increase fees this year – **agreed**.
- e. Suggest no need to change the financial year - **agreed**.

10. Membership and Communications – Dick Pizey:

- a. The five proposed members in the last couple of Newsletters have not had any adverse comments so I will be progressing their membership over the next few days. The associated moorings and Compound requests have been forwarded to the relevant committee members.
- b. This takes our total membership to 209 which is showing us almost static over the last few years.
- c. I am still looking at Webcollect as well as another product called Sailing Club Manager. Both have pros and cons and received good and bad feedback from users I have contacted. Overall, at the moment Webcollect seems to offer what we want but I have yet to get involved with the second product to be totally objective. I will liaise with Adrian Barnes as to set up something and then hand it over seems rather unfair and we ought to plan for the future. **Agreed range of standard sizes for moorings and pound spaces would be OK.**
- d. Jim will take over the Newsletter – **dates and notices to him please.**

11. Pound and Health and Safety –John Lavers:

- a. Reorganisation of the compound proceeding well with great help from Barry
- b. Planning some dates for first aid training
- c. Work play dates TBD

12. Pontoon and Slip – Dave Waters:

- a. Only thing for me is a change to the pontoon rules. Members can now have a 7 day stay on the pontoon as a posed to the previous 5 day stay. There will also be a book in the club house that members can use to book a longer stay with a good reason given. This will enable the pontoon to be used more effectively and give members more flexibility. It will monitored to make sure the system isn't abused. The end slot of the members side should still only be used to drop off and pick up. **Agreed.**
- b. When my slight hip injury is sorted I will be back to my slip way clearing duties and minor repair of the loose concrete on the slip.
- c. Question from Steve - Will there be a way to book the pontoon remotely? **Only needed for more than 7 days. Members should contact Dave.**
- d. **Chris and Al will review and update visitors signs on pontoon.**
- e. **Ben to use old RASCAL to skim mud.**

13. Creek – Carl Sharman:

- a. Planning a new pole to guide boats turning in to pontoon.
- b. Will mark line for block laying with withies.

14. Moorings – Keith Guy-Gibbens:

- a. 4 blocks lifted from the mud, 5 replaced and 7 prepped ready for relaying.
- b. Successful work evening last week with 8 of us ashore and on the block lifter.
- c. Dates agreed for further work parties.

15. Bosun – Merv Griffiths:

- a. New hitch lock operating cable fitted to red tractor.
- b. RASCAL rudder repaired and converted to tiller steering. Can be launched when needed.

16. Maintenance – Alan Morrison

- a. After reports of the smell of gas within the clubhouse, we disconnected the lines from the gas bottles. The lines either need replacing or we go all electric. Gas bottles are now stored in the Mast rack enclosure. **AI to get quotes to reinstate gas supply.**
- b. After the hosepipe ban being implemented in our region, I saw one of our members washing his boat deck with a hosepipe, so after having a word, I coiled all hoses and placed them in the Bosuns store.
- c. A shower unit was reported to be smoking in the Ladies shower cubical and after investigation, it was found to be a faulty unit and needed replacing. I bought a new unit and Sam Savage kindly carried out the replacement.
- d. The gents loo was reported to be blocked again after the Regatta and I pulled out half a toilet roll.

17. Boat House – Neil Howarth:

- a. Nothing from me.

18. Club House, Creek News and Regalia – Sue Doyle:

- a. Clubhouse is ticking along with Rachael doing her regular clean. It is well used.
- b. The coffee tin has a very healthy £120 at the moment. People gave generous donations at the last BBQ and regular Sunday hostesses are reluctant to take any expenses.
- c. Have two items for Creek News – more needed.

19. AOB

- a. AI will get quotes from the Jolly for a Christmas do and a curry night.
- b. Neil proposed Peter Howell as Rear Commodore.

Future meetings: 6<sup>th</sup> October, 29<sup>th</sup> October (AGM), 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 1<sup>st</sup> December.