

## **Minutes of the Blakeney Sailing Club Committee Meeting held at the Blakeney Harbour Room on Saturday 22 April 2023**

**Present:** Angela Harcourt (Commodore), John Myers (Vice President), Alan Collett (Treasurer), Andrew Bassett (Rear Commodore, Racing), Jane Armstrong (Secretary), Alan Robinson, Jane Bassett, Simon Hibberd, Sue Gregory.

### **1. Apologies:**

Edward Allen (President), Rod Jeffreys (Bosun), Sean Moore (Rear Commodore, Flotilla), Trish Moore (Membership Secretary).

### **2. Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting on 29 March 2023 were approved.

### **Matters arising:**

Rod was not able to attend the meeting but asked for a clarification to be added to item 10 (Secretary's Report) of the March meeting minutes as follows: "Although the Equipment Sub Committee does not hold formal meetings / record minutes as such, the members and other volunteers communicate extensively by email and these emails are available for inspection." The committee agreed that, in view of this, there is no need for a record of the Equipment Sub Committee's meetings to be held by the Secretary.

### **John Seymour's resignation from formal BSC posts**

Following John's resignation as Vice Commodore, Trustee of BSC and member of both the Committee and the Equipment Sub-Committee the committee discussed how to deal with filling these posts. First, the committee proposed a vote of thanks for the very significant contribution which John S has made to BSC over many years. It was further noted that, whilst John has decided he would like to stand down from his existing official posts in the club he plans to continue to help with practical matters (as previously) including Race Officer and Patrol Boat duties as well as equipment maintenance, winter works, etc.

### **3. Vice Commodore for the 2023 season**

Andrew Bassett was co-opted into this post having been proposed by Simon Hibberd, seconded by Alan Collett and supported by all committee members present.

### **4. BSC Representation on the Dinghy Park Management Committee**

It was felt that there is no need to make any immediate decision on this as the next DPMC meeting is in two days time (so clearly no change should be made before then) and also, as a Blakeney Parish Council committee, the DPMC's "new year" will start in a fortnight after the parish council election which may lead to other changes on the DPMC. Various general points were made as follows:

- There is no reason why all three of BSC's representatives on the DPMC have to be BSC Committee members though it is helpful if at least one is. At present Alan C is on both committees so can report back.
- The "tradition" of a BSC representative being the chair of the DPMC may not be an advantage to BSC. Now that only 3 BSC members are permitted to be on the DPMC, the requirement for the chair to be relatively neutral in discussions can work against the sailing club. On the other hand, the chair's casting vote (though rarely used) may be an advantage.
- Alan C noted that the DPMC's practice of agreeing the date of the next meeting at the end of the previous meeting means that, once you miss one meeting you get no say on when the next is. In view of this Alan would like to request the ability to nominate a delegate from BSC if one of the

three representatives is unable to attend. The committee thought this was a good idea (though it will probably need the DPMC Terms of Reference to be amended).

#### **5. BSC Committee vacancy, Equipment Sub Committee vacancy, Trustee vacancy**

- It was agreed that it would be preferable to fill the **BSC Committee** vacancy now rather than wait for the AGM and, given that the club has had a number of new members, it was agreed to send an email to all members asking for suggestions / volunteers. (Via the same email, Jane A will ask for interest from the membership in the Secretary role.) **Action: Jane A**
- It was felt that the **Equipment Sub Committee** (which is less formal) should be able to decide itself which member(s) if any it would like to join. **Action: Equip Sub**
- In terms of a replacement **Trustee** (existing trustees are Edward Allen and George Harcourt) some names were discussed and it was agreed to approach the individuals to assess whether either would be willing to serve.

#### **6. Personal Accident Insurance**

Angela reported that she had looked into this in more detail with our existing insurers who noted that it may be possible to include personal accident cover for volunteers aged between 65 and 69 subject to annual medical assessment and additional premium for each volunteer. Angela also noted she had discussed this matter with neighbouring sailing clubs, none of whom seem to have more cover than BSC does through the standard Gallagher Sailing Club Policy. It was agreed to take no further action on this.

#### **7. Approval of Work Party Risk Assessment**

The revised document was approved by the committee and it should now be uploaded onto the website. **Action: Jane A**

#### **8. Lapwing transport to and from Breck Farm**

Rod had confirmed the annual cost for Henry Archer to transport Lapwing (on BSC's trailer) to and from Breck Farm for the winter and also to launch in the spring and recover in the autumn would be £350 total including VAT. Henry also confirmed that anything towed by his vehicle would be covered by his insurance. The committee agreed to go ahead on this basis.

#### **9. Any other business**

- The email received by BSC in respect of the Certificate of Lawfulness submission made by Blakeney Parish Council in respect of using the dinghy park for car parking was discussed. In particular whether BSC should write to North Norfolk District Council who is currently assessing the submission. It was agreed that BSC should write to NNDC (with copy to Blakeney Parish Council) and that the points made should stress a) the risk/danger of a cars parking in the dinghy park at the same time that boats are rigging, launching, de-rigging and being recovered and b) the change that BSC has noticed in the use of the dinghy park for parking in the last couple of years (ie in the volume of cars parking and the type of parking which used to be associated with boat use but recently is mostly regular visitor parking. **Action: Angela & Jane A**
- Angela noted that problem we have with Race Officers during May (very few have been filled via DutyMan). In particular, the nominated Discover Sailing dates have no Race Officers and several of the "usual suspects" are going to be abroad. We are also short of helms for 2/3 person boats. Closer to the time we can consider whether Discover Sailing should just be a flotilla event this year.
- Alan C asked whether Norfolk Fire Services had received their annual notification that we store petrol in the race hut. **Action: Jane A**