

Minutes of the ECSC General Committee Meeting

Held on Wednesday, 14th August 2024

Attendees:

Tony Cole	John Urry	Chris Kershaw
Paul Denham	John Barnes	Paul Hippolite
Peter Ball	Bob Spendley	Adam James
Richard Davis	Mike Harvey	Mick Hockin
		Graham Tracey

Apologies:

Peter Badham
Jon Knott

1. Apologies for Absence: - (as above)

2. **Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting of 3rd July 2024** – Proposed by Tony Cole and seconded by Bob Spendley and accepted by all present.

3. Matters arising from the previous meeting

- a. Peter B explained that he had called for the meeting to sort out some uncertainty regarding Bob Spendley's role, since he had had to step into Ray's job at short notice. Uncertainties have, in fact, been resolved, or clarified prior to the meeting.
- b. Meeting with Criteria Assets (agents of the pubco re Queen Vic), both Tony and Peter attending on the club's behalf. Peter said that they had explained what the deeds showed to be the boundaries in the area in question viz. the South Store. The agents proposed a price for the area which the pubco does own, which was excessive. We will have to await their next proposals regarding development.
- c. Club's legal identity (proposed change) – Peter said that, subsequent to sending them the documents requested, in particular, the club rules, we had not heard from the solicitors; we may have to give them a reminder, if time passes without an update.
- d. It was observed, regarding GKN's request for access to their Helicell site (see Minutes of July meeting), that GKN had already started some work. It was agreed that Peter and Bob would take a closer look tomorrow.

4. Correspondence

- a. Resignation of Karen James as Membership Secretary. It was acknowledged that there had been a lack of guidance and explicit structure in the role; this had been something of an ongoing problem in the context of the systems based roles of the club's management.

Peter B said that, on the basis of conversations that he had had with them, the Loosemore family – James (recently joined), and his mother, Julie, might be able to pick up the job between them. They were prepared to explore the possibility. James's father's recent help with the winch adaptation was gratefully acknowledged in passing; he had put a lot of time into it. Richard noted that the hours spent need to be logged as per standing instructions.

It was agreed that a meeting on the subject of the Membership Secretary and general system based record upkeep would be helpful, which Peter agreed to organise.

On a related subject, Paul Denham was able to confirm that he had managed to retrieve certain records, including codes etc, when visiting David Casson not long before the latter's death.

In response to a question from Peter, Paul D confirmed that the cameras at the front gate do record. Mike H took the opportunity to ask about the Centenary Room camera and was told that it could most simply be turned off and on by means of the mains plug for the camera.

- b) Position of racing mark – Corinthian Y.C. This was one only of relevance to the racing fraternity, and as John Barnes pointed out, was basically an irrelevance (to all but serious students of navigation)! Peter asked John to reply to John Kidd (Harbourmaster) as he saw fit. It was noted that we could consider moving our transit line, but it was not a "must do".

5. Reports

a. Vice Commodore (House)

Regarding the proposed installation of a 240v socket in the Ladies room, Richard reported that the electrician was reluctant to do the work on the grounds of current regulations. If the socket could be surrounded by a box, it might be possible. Richard will take that suggestion back to the electrician.

The pontoon ladder (to be affixed) is an outstanding job. The winch is now adapted, as noted above - thanks to Mr Loosemore. The lights in the centre store have still to be fixed. The RCDs need to be located; they are evidently well concealed.

The old CCTV cameras are ready for installation on the Race Box on the front. As an aside to this, Peter B said that he had turfed out some boys who were playing football in the compound and therefore to give the impression that electronic surveillance is on is all the more desirable.

Finally, there was a discussion and some disagreement about the advisability of using a cable glove when using the winch. It was agreed that both a formal procedure and training was advisable for all who may be involved in the use the winch.

b. Hon Treasurer's Report

John Urry referred to the July monthly Finance Report that he had recently distributed. He hoped that the figures, together with the notes provided integral to the Report, were fairly self explanatory.

There were no questions for John to answer.

c. Rear Commodore, Sailing

John echoed what he had said last month – it has been (and continues to be) a poor season, the weather being the dampener on proceedings.

Looking forward to prize giving etc. he said that Sue G and Patti had been drawing up proposals, which he thought were potentially over-complex. He will discuss the subject at the Sailing Committee meeting next week. He acknowledged the need to try to keep costs down.

The recovery net had been delivered and which was shown to those interested after the meeting, so we are now in line with every other club in Cowes. There will need to be some fittings to the Danny H in connection with this and we would also have to do some training and practice with the net, once everything was operational.

d. Rear Commodore, Stores

Bob said that there had been quite a few “ins” and “outs”; in particular, Tony Bond’s boat was now out of the water, although the wheels at the rear of the boat’s cradle had collapsed in the process of getting it out of the water.

People regularly ask him about moorings, but at the moment, there are limited options.

e. Rear Commodore, Motor Boats and Fishing

Fishing is good, again! The species hunt in July went well. It was won by Dave Aybrook, who is currently top of the leader board. This Sunday is a “free for all” - weigh-in at 1500 hrs followed by a small bbq – mainly for the participants. Mike also mentioned the next rallies - Lymington and then Hasler in the next few weeks. Details are on the website.

f. Rear Commodore, Social

Peter Badham was not present, but Peter Ball was aware that Peter’s wife had had to visit her mother, who was not in good health. There was nothing significant to report at the moment.

g. Health and Safety Officer

Peter Ball noted that two fire extinguishers had been used to prop open the doors of the centre store. In the process, the tags had been damaged – a clear misuse of the equipment and to compound the matter, they had been left on the floor after the doors had been closed. The same point was made by Jon in his email apologising for his absence, which the Secretary had not seen before the meeting.

6. Resignations and New Members

New applications – CK reminded the meeting that, notwithstanding Karen’s resignation, we were still due to meet with Peter Overton (an applicant) on 28th August. Richard and Graham Tracey are on the roster for that.

Resignations – David and Lin Deane have resigned from the club, without comment or explanation.

Completion of Probationary year - Tim Exell and Shaun Rowley have both completed twelve months of membership. Confirmation of their full membership was unanimous.

7. Agenda Items – None

8. Any Other Business

- a) Apropos Ray Hallet's funeral, which is on 22nd at 11.15, Bob asked whether his family wanted any assistance in setting up the clubhouse, or with regard to catering. They have been given Ray's fob key, and have declared that they can deal with things, but they may appreciate some help clearing up. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- b) Peter Ball put forward the idea of acquiring another pontoon to fill the gap between the two most northerly piles on our patch. Adam mentioned that since Walcon had been doing quite a lot of work in Southampton recently, it might be worth checking to see if they had any second hand going relatively cheap. It was felt that the matter was worth further enquiry.
- c) Peter B said that he wanted to appoint two more Vice Presidents (we currently have only one). His reasoning was that it was a fitting "thank you" for services rendered to the club over time and secondly, to retain knowledge and expertise within the club. He proposed both John Barnes and Tim Pressey. Both were approved by those present, unanimously.

Date of Next Meeting - 4th September 2024

Meeting closed at 2025 hrs