

**HSSC AGM Minutes**  
**Saturday 6th March 2021 16:00**  
**Deferred from November 2020 due to Covid**  
**Meeting held by Zoom meeting due to Covid 19 restrictions**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

None

**2. Approval of Minutes for 2019**

Louisa Spice approved the minutes from the 2019 AGM

**3. Commodores report**

Hi - good afternoon and welcome to last year's AGM –

So glad that a number of you have managed to join us from the comfort of your homes

Last year, and practically to the day of the first lock down, we have seen one of the most unprecedented episodes in our times and definitely in our lives!

Covid 19 was not expected and definitely not very welcome!

None of us could have imagined the total transformation and suffering that some people have had to endure during this period, and our sympathies are with them. We all know the story far too well now, and we just hope that we are now nearing the end of this STORM that has disrupted so many lives locally and across the world.

Let's hope that you have all come through this safely and are looking forward to returning to the water and our newly refurbished club with many new facilities that some of you may not even have not seen or experienced in the last year.

At the end of 2019 we were proud to announce the amazing news that our club had finally secured funding from Sports England for the long planned refurbishment works. By the spring of 2020 the new galley was in, the bar had been transformed and we were ready for one of the best summers to be had on record. But on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020 the country, and the rest of the world, went into lock down and everything was put on hold. We had to lock the doors, all clubs, bars, restaurants and all sports indoor or outdoor were banned, even sailing in the middle of our channel was not permitted!!

However, and luckily for us, by this time we had already agreed a deal with Loaf (Grant and Kate) to take over the running of the new galley with the added ability to provide takeaway food to the general public. This has proved invaluable not only to us as a club but also to the local community and has kept the club alive and running through these craziest of times!

Not only was Loaf able to provide food for the club and general public they have also managed to provide over 500 meals free of charge to the NHS and other charities in the local area! A fantastic effort, which we are very pleased to be associated with - thank you guys!!

You will also be pleased to know that we have now agreed a three year deal with Loaf to continue with their service and to provide quality food (discounted to members) and run and organise regular functions as soon as restrictions allow. We did have a taste of this last summer for a short period when permitted and they are not to be missed! Going forward they have also offered to service the

bar so we can now guarantee that it will be open regularly on a Tuesday, Thursday & Friday night when we are fully back up and running.

The club refurbishments have continued behind locked doors this winter including the refurbishment of the ladies changing area and new toilets and a training/recreational area have been created, all under the watchful eye of Marc Carney, ready for when the doors can be opened again this year.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the army of helpers who over those winter months of 2019/20 turned out on Saturday mornings (prior to any Covid restrictions) and mucked in to help with the massive refurbishment task ahead! Unfortunately, March maintenance has not been possible this year for obvious reasons, your help is sorely missed but don't worry we are looking to introduce April Maintenance if restrictions allow!

My thanks go to the whole committee for their continued support and input during this period but especially Louisa Spice who has worked tirelessly to ensure our safety and the smooth running of the club during this period – a massive thank you to you! This hasn't been an easy task to deal with!

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Back to the Club

I am incredibly proud of what we managed to achieve last year and many of us managed to take to the water during one of the best summers on record. The windsurfers and sailors managed to get some racing in on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays and there was an influx of paddle boarders and swimmers to the club, which is great to see.

My thanks go to Dan Hollands for organising the permanent buoys (well nearly **permanent**), which have been a great asset to the club and enjoyed by all on the water.

I would also like to thank Stu Hards for keeping our Tuesday night racing alive more competitive than ever!

And

Alex for her new addition to the beach last summer, 'The Sup Hub Shack', which we hope to see again this year attracting even more paddle boarders and wider interest in our club.

My other thanks go to my committee and for the tremendous support that exists between us all - this is truly a team effort!

Chris Addison (my wing man), Rear Commodore

Louisa Spice (my wing lady), Membership Secretary and Covid Coordinator

Special tanks to you both!!

Dan Hollands, Rear Commodore Sailing

Stu Hards, Rear Commodore Windsurfing

Dave Finch, Honorary Secretary

Bob Davidson, Publicity Secretary

Boyd Garrard, Treasurer (who is standing down this year after many, many years of service, our special thanks go to you - thank you Boyd )

This has been a particularly difficult time for us all and I would just like to thank you all for your support, patience and understanding during these times. The restrictions imposed upon us have had their challenges and the management of the club has not been a simple problem to deal with, but we hope that we have dealt with this to the best of our ability and are now stronger and in a better position to move forward.

Hopefully we are at the very tail end of this Storm and we will do everything we can within Government and RYA guidelines to get you back on the water and back into the club - fully functioning like never before! Unfortunately, we have been unable to hold any functions or have any prize giving's during this year, they are all on hold and will be organised by each section when possible. We also plan to hold a special Summer party for all members when permitted and will be looking for volunteers to help put this together

The club has benefited from the support of the local council and Sport England over the last year and is in a good financial position. We have invested in the club to provide better facilities and improve existing ones but there is always more to do! It has always been our aim to have a fully sustainable club that provides the support and facilities to our members and to provide a strong training ground for us all to use and enjoy, and I believe that we are nearly there!!

Thank you all again for your tremendous support and I look forward to seeing you all at the club in the very near future!

This is your club - enjoy it!!

#### **4. Rear Commodore Sailing Report**

Dan reported that despite the lockdown restrictions the club has had a good year for sailing with lots of boats on the water and some close racing for the part of the year that we could race.

For the coming year Dan hopes we will have more freedom to do what we want. He is working on the rescue boat duty. The proposed start for Sunday racing is 28th March with 3 x 10 week series and Thursdays starting on 1st April with 2 x 12 week series.

We have a Contender open meeting on 24/25 July and will be looking for volunteers to help.

In honour of Dick Elston, who died in August last year our RNLI trophy race will be re-named the Richard Elston Trophy. Dan is looking forward to seeing members at the club and on the water this year.

#### **5. Rear Commodore Windsurfing Report**

Despite the restrictions it was a great year for participation in racing and in use of club training equipment. Stu also reported that at the end of the first lockdown we had such a spell of windy South Westerlies that the short boarders also had a great time. The racing saw 48 races with good participation and narrow margins with the overall winner decided on the last race. One benefit of the club improvements is the new training kit store, which allows rigs to be stored rigged up, which has significantly improved the training experience. 2 of our junior members took part in the regional championships. It is great to see our younger members developing so fast. Stu thanked everyone involved.

#### **6. Treasurers Report and Accounts for the year**

Marc thanked Boyd for his input and hard work over the past 12 years that he has been treasurer. Boyd commented that the income for the club had been good. Bar income is only down a little despite being closed for many weeks. The deal with LOAF has worked well and brought in more than we made on the galley. We have also benefited from the Sports Council and Council grants that have left the club in a very good financial situation.

Finally Boyd commented that he had enjoyed his time as treasurer and was pleased to be able to hand over the club in a good financial state and he looks forward to 2021 being a bumper year.

## **7. Appointment of Officers-**

Marc reported that Boyd Garard – Treasurer, is standing down. All other officers are available for re-election.

Steve Peirce has been proposed as Treasurer.

Steve Peirce was voted in as Treasurer by a unanimous vote.

All others were voted in by unanimous vote.

Marc welcomed Steve to the committee.

## **8. Change of fees**

Louisa reported that the committee is proposing to keep all fees the same for the coming year with the exception of the social membership. It is felt that the club has much more to offer and thus we should charge more. For the first family member social membership will rise to £50 but for second and subsequent members it will be £25.

## **9. Any other business**

Simon questioned how we control the access and numbers of cyclists. They do not have fobs and people don't recognise them. Louisa commented that the cyclists are controlled by their principal members. Marc commented that now we have upstairs toilets the changing rooms will be off limits to both social members and cyclists.

Marc also commented that key fobs will be the only way of accessing the club.

Les asked what time the cyclists leave the club. Chris commented that the cyclists leave at 9:00 prompt and normally return between 10:30 and 11:00. We do not control when they leave the club.

Anna asked how the rescue boat rota will work with Covid restrictions. Dan commented that we will be following the RYA guidance and he will explain that as it is issued.

Meeting Closed.