

**MINUTES OF A ROYAL SOLENT YACHT CLUB HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 1100 HOURS**

Present:

John Poyner, Rear Commodore House
Sarah Davey
Caroline Norris
Helen Le Gassicke

Apologies:

Susie Breare
Catherine Holmes

In Attendance:

Claire Hallett, Secretary
Lucy Case, Events Manager

58/24 Apologies As listed above.

59/24 Approval of 30th July 2024 Minutes The minutes were approved as a true record.

60/24 Matter Arising from Minutes

Ladies' Lunch Speakers. RCH had approached Ingrid Kelly regarding a talk for the Ladies' Lunch, but she was not keen to do one. However, Margaret Joy has been recruited by RCH to do a talk at the Ladies' Lunch on Wednesday 13th November on the subject of a Mystery Spy in Cowes.

61/24 Points from Rear Commodore House

Dogs in the Hudleston Bar. Following the trial from June to August there has been no issues and the only feedback received in writing, as was requested in the last Secretary's News, has been positive. [It was agreed to propose to the GC that the trial be continued during October and November.](#) Members would be advised that dogs must be well behaved and not muddy and that food and drink may be ordered at the main bar and consumed in the Hudleston Bar during lunchtimes only, when the Hudleston Bar is not in use for meetings or events.

RCH

62/24 Past Events

It has been a very busy 7 weeks in the Club since the last House Committee meeting:

- 3rd August, Summer Party – very good feedback regarding the music and food, good takings on the bar. The Events Manager has enquired if the Wight Hot Pipes are available for New Year's Eve 2025 and is waiting to hear back.
- 5th – 8th August, Dinghy Week – around 12 children took part from RSYC and YSC. It is hoped to increase numbers next year and the Sailing Secretary has made sure the date is deconflicted with YSC. Sandwiches were provided free of charge to the participants, courtesy of the Millennium Fund which is for young sailors.
- 7th August, Derek Sandy – 145 attendees, sadly not the best weather this year. Burgers replaced the hog roast and were well received. The 8pm later start didn't work as well so will be put back to 7:30pm next year. Derek Sandy has been re-booked for next year.
- 8th August, Wet Wheels Charity Dinner – 24 attendees, £1790 raised through ticket sales and donations, so Wet Wheels were very happy. Caroline commented that it was a nice dinner and shame it wasn't better attended.
- 10th August, Port Solent Dinner – 35 attendees
- 15th August, Member's Drinks Party – 29 attendees
- 17th – 23rd August, Folkboat Week. 86 for Welcome Dinner, 38 for Hog Roast, 78 for curry & quiz, (reduce length of quiz by one round due to Lymington sailors needing to get ferry home), 108 for Prize Giving Dinner.
- 24th August, Gin & Literature Night – 49 attendees
- 27th August, Parkstone YC Dinner – 37 attendees
- 31st August, Open Day – 20 applications
- 3rd September, Solent Events & Leisure Lunch – 35 attendees
- 4th/5th/6th September, American Club BBQ – 15/14/22 attendees
- 7th September, RAYC Regatta Dinner – 42 attendees, lower numbers than usual afloat and ashore.
- 12th September, Film Night: 'Mrs Harris Goes to Paris' – 37 attendees, very good feedback, feel good film which is what's needed. [Reports that sound sometimes muffled, which would be looked into.](#)

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- 14th September, Red Squirrel Charity Ball – 160 attendees. Feedback from organiser that it was felt to be the best ball that they had held yet and they have already pre-booked for next year.

63/24 Upcoming Events

- 25th September, WER Prize Giving Dinner, fully booked at 97 (higher than last year)
- 1st October, Winter Warmer Lunch Offer on Tuesdays & Wednesdays
- 2nd October, First Wednesday Talk by Kevin Shaw
- 3rd October, Scrabble & Backgammon
- 4th October, RNLI Curry Supper
- 10th October, Film Night – Bob Marley: One Love
- 11th October, Gents' Lunch (organised by Jules Wood)
- 15th October, Wildlife Talk & Walk by Hamish Fletcher
- 19th October, Jazz Night
- 24th October, Wine Society Tapas Evening
- 31st October, End of Season Cruising Lunch

The Club's Winter Programme is currently being finalised by the Events Manager and includes the following highlights:

- 5th November, Fireworks Night Supper
- 9th November, Laying Up Dinner
- 13th November, Ladies' Lunch
- 15th November, Gallagher Insurance Talk
- 15th November, Recently Joined Members' Evening (invitation only)
- 30th November, Après Ski Night (silent disco again, £125 for 30 headsets)
- 7th December, Helpers' Drinks Party (invitation only)
- 15th December, Commodore's Christmas Drinks & Lunch
- 20th December, Carols & Camembert Share
- 24th December, Christmas Eve Brunch
- 31st December, New Year's Eve – agreed to be in the format of a Bottomless Brunch
- 25th January, Burns Night
- 8th February, Murder Mystery Night
- 8th March, Commodore's Supper
- 29th March, Opera Night

64/24 Catering & Bar Points

- Light Bites had continued on Wednesday evenings after sailing, but generally only 4-5 portions had been sold each week. [The Events Manager has come across an Après Sailing menu from another yacht club which we could draw upon for inspiration next year with input from the Second Chef.](#)
- RCH mentioned that he'd visited Island Sailing Club recently and their menu featured moules, which it would be good to add to our menu on occasion as they can be purchased in individual vacuum packs. [This request would be discussed with the Head Chef, plus the provision of fresh lobster and crab in the summer.](#)
- Champagne by the glass is being looked into as Taittinger have a device which can preserve the bubbles in an open bottle, which we are hoping to obtain free of charge as they are very expensive to buy. It was noted that the Club does currently sell half bottles which are quite popular.
- The Club Steward has reduced the prices of the high end wines on the Wine List, which will go live and be promoted next week.
- It was suggested that the Club's menu could be refreshed to include a signature Club sandwich and signature Club burger, which could be photographed and promoted on the bar. Plus, new sandwich fillings, such as pastrami/spiced beef, cheese and onion, pulled pork. [This would be discussed with the Club Chef.](#)

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65/24 Date of Next Meeting: Friday 18th October at 1600 hours.

(Apologies from the Secretary)