

MINUTES OF A ROYAL SOLENT YACHT CLUB HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 1130 HOURS

Present:

Susie Breare, Rear Commodore House
Catherine Holmes
Helen Le Gassicke
Caroline Norris
Jane Roberts (on Zoom)
Jules Wood

Apologies:

None

In Attendance:

Lucy Case, Events Manager
Claire Hallett, Secretary

Jane Roberts was warmly welcomed to the House Committee by Rear Commodore House at the start of the meeting.

83/25 Apologies As listed above.

84/25 Approval of 27th October 2025 Minutes The Minutes were approved as a true record.

85/25 Matter Arising from Minutes Covered by agenda points.

86/25 Points from Rear Commodore House

Christmas Squares Draw. The Events Manager advised that the poster and squares are ready to go. In order to encourage more entries and raise money for a worthy cause, proceeds will go to the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. Jules stressed that the Club shouldn't be afraid to collect funds for its own projects to better the Club for members. The winning squares will be drawn from the raffle drum at the Commodore's lunch on 21st December. The winner will choose from a pile of Christmas presents and Helen has very kindly provided 17 wrapped presents to date with the aim being to get a maximum of 30 donated gifts. The draw will be open to anyone, and mobile numbers should be recorded for non-members. [The Squares will go on sale in the bar next week. EM](#)

NYE Party. There are 88 bookings to date out of a total 100 maximum capacity, approximately 10 of those are non-members. Although a finger buffet, it was felt that there should be seating for all attendees with a table plan. The band will need to be located in the members' lounge and dining room. Tables will go in the Solent Room and main bar with more chairs around as no one will be dining. Two buffet stations may be helpful to reduce queueing – to be discussed with the RSYC team. Tables will feature tartan napkins and a floral or greenery centre piece with tartan ribbons* around (*donations welcome!). [Happy New Year banners and tartan paper chains will be sourced. Kir Royale was suggested as the welcome drink. EM](#)

Casino Night. The Events Manager has contacted Shuffles several times to check their availability with no response. The event will fund raise for the HIOWAA again. The Secretary had attended the Casino Night at The Wheatsheaf recently and advised that they had one blackjack table and one roulette table and two blackjack tables would be needed for 100 attendees, as provided by Shuffles' King Package at £545. A platter on each table, as was served at the Summer Party was requested again by RCH.

Summer Party. Lucy has contacted the band Honky-Tonk Highway who have confirmed their availability for 8th August and quoted £900 for a 3-hour set, which is line with what other bands charge. The theme of the event will be country music, and it was felt that the band should play after the meal. [As the fundraising raffle raised so much at the Summer Party this year, perhaps it should be repeated next year if sufficient prize donations can be sourced again? ALL](#)

Halloween Party. Rear Commodore House advised that her neighbours, acoustic duo Hodge & Allen, have been provisionally booked for the Halloween Party next year.

Christmas Bingo. Anthony Davies has agreed to be the bingo caller. [Helen recommended a music bingo event, which she enjoyed playing at the Portland Inn – to be researched for next year. EM](#)

87/25 Past Events

- 28th Oct – Afternoon Classic 'Casa Blanca' – 13 attendees. Good feedback, but numbers fairly

low. RCH advised that Allan Cooper has lots of DVDs he could lend the Club. The Secretary suggested a discount on lunch before the film rather than tea and cakes during.

- 30th Oct – Freshwater WI Dinner – 39
- 31st Oct – Totland Bowling Club Dinner – 31
- 1st Nov – Royal Thames Dinner – 36
- 2nd Nov – All Saints Church – 30
- 5th Nov – First Weds Talk with Kevin Shaw – 47 for lunch
- 5th Nov – Fireworks Supper – amazing atmosphere, 20 more meals served than last year at 108 in total and up £1k on the bar.
- 6th Nov – Scrabble & Backgammon – 13
- 8th Nov – Laying Up Dinner – 67, great feedback. RCH will discuss protocol issues, such as attendees getting up before the comfort break, at the VCC meeting tomorrow. Jules highlighted the need to respect tradition but also not impose rules on people that may put them off coming in future.
- 12th Nov – End of Season Cruising Lunch – 45
- 13th Nov – Film Night ‘Maria’ – 27, lovely food commented on.
- 14th Recently Joined Members Evening – very successful, good job by the Membership Secretary. Better located in the Solent Room. 13 new members attended the drinks reception and 10 stayed on for supper joined by 28 other members.
- 15th Nov – YOD Dinner – 47
- 18th Nov – Ladies’ Lunch – 50, fantastic talk by the Sailing Secretary. Food was good but the chicken & rice dish needed a touch of green as it was very beige.
- 19th Nov – Quay 2 Quay launch event, decent amount spent on drinks and canapes.

88/25 Upcoming Events

- 20th Nov – Wine Society – 40
- 25th Nov – Afternoon Classic Film ‘The Philadelphia Story’
- 29th & 30th Nov – Robin McInnes Picture Sale
- 29th Nov – Jazz Afternoon Tea postponed to Spring/Summer as only 20 booked & 60 needed to make it viable
- 3rd Dec – First Weds Talk
- 4th Dec – RNLI Christmas Fair
- 5th Dec – Christmas Bingo
- 6th Dec – Helpers’ Drinks
- 10th Dec – Senior Citizens’ Christmas Lunch
- 11th Dec – Wine Society Christmas Party
- 12th Dec – Gents’ Christmas Lunch
- 13th Dec – Needles Relief
- 16th Dec – Afternoon Classic Film ‘It’s a Wonderful Life’
- 20th Dec – Carols & Mummers’ Play
- 21st Dec – Commodore’s Christmas Drinks & Lunch
- 24th Dec – Christmas Eve Brunch
- 26th Dec – Boxing Day Race & nibbles on the bar

Some additional kitchen closures in December due to the Head Chef’s paternity leave – closed on Tuesday 9th, 16th & 23rd, bar nibbles only on New Year’s Day.

- Re-open 20th January
- 22nd Jan – Film Night
- 24th Jan – Burns Night

89/25 Catering & Bar Points – No additional points

90/25 AOB

80th Birthdays. RCH had been approached by Dick Dawson as many members will be 80 years old next year, so Dick suggested an eighties themed evening in 2026? It was felt that most eighty-year-olds wouldn't be very familiar with music and clothing from the 1980s.

Flag Officer Lunches. RCH suggested that Flag Officer lunches could be resurrected, or happy hour promoted more. Jules suggested that committee members should always wear name badges when they are in the bar so that new members can approach them. *It was felt that committee members should only be required to wear name badges at specific events they are asked to support, but they should keep an eye out for anyone on their own in the bar and introduce themselves. RCH will raise this at the next GC meeting.* **RCH**

91/25 Date of Next Meeting: 1600 hours on Friday 23rd January 2026

Shore.

