

**MINUTES OF A ROYAL SOLENT YACHT CLUB HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON FRIDAY 22ND MARCH 2024 AT 1600 HOURS**

Present:

Chair: John Poyner, Rear Commodore House
Susie Breare
Sarah Davey
Catherine Holmes
Helen Le Gassicke
Caroline Norris

Apologies:

None

In Attendance:

Claire Hallett, Secretary
Lucy Case, Events Manager

19/24 Apologies As listed above.

20/24 Approval of 16th February 2024 Minutes The minutes were approved as a true record.

21/24 Matter Arising from Minutes

Ladies' Lunch. Charlotte Rayner of the NCIS is coming to talk at the ladies' Lunch in April and almost 40 ladies are signed up for this now. RCH will give an introduction to Charlotte's talk. Kate Taylor, the lifestyle coach, finally responded to an enquiry about giving a talk but this would have to be in the autumn now. The Events Manager is waiting to hear back from her regarding any costs. Caroline Blest should be available for a talk in Spring 2025.

Junior Event. The Secretary relayed that the Vice Commodore had thought it would be good to have an event for existing junior members and family members e.g. grandchildren of existing members. The issue is that the number of the members aged under 18 are low, so attendance of such an event by our members is also likely to be low and not warrant much expenditure:

- 24 members under 18 on family accounts
- 13 members under 12
- 16 members aged 12-17

It was felt by those present that the Derek Sandy evening in Dinghy Week works so well as it's sailing related. The Secretary advised that an email would be sent to the membership before the May bank holiday and Carnival Week to highlight the benefits of the Club to families (lift for push chairs, high chair & booster seats, nappy changing facility, children's menu, table tennis & table football) and to underline that families are welcome. The Secretary and Events Manager also suggested that a tuck shop and freezer for ice creams (Calbourne Classics?) in the Hudleston Bar this Summer could also be beneficial.

Ev Man

Commodore's Party. As the party has an Italian theme (food & dress code), the Commodore suggested that Tony Walton and Alan Roffey-Jones sand as Pavarotti and Bocelli but Alan Roffey-Jones is away. A playlist of Italian and popular music will be used instead.

Opera Evening. Dick Dawson's opera evening will now take place next year on 29th March as the singers have no availability this year for the dates we have free.

Après Ski Night. A second Après ski themed silent disco has been scheduled for 30th November.

Boat Jumble. RCH offered to help run a Club table (post meeting – it was subsequently decided that there is not the call for a Club table). There are 7 tables booked to date at £10 per table. Posters will be put up in the harbour and a blackboard will display the poster at the end of the drive, plus the Events Manager will email the sailing club.

Ev Man

Fawlty Towers etc Night. The Commodore recently suggested a themed night by players/actors such as Caught Red Handed. This has been looked into before and is done by Off the Rails, but all present felt it was too expensive an evening at around £100 a head. It was suggested that a Murder Mystery Night would be a better option as the last held a number of years ago was very popular and successful. The Events Manager offered Saturday 19th October as a potential date. (Post meeting: Caught Red Handed are already fully booked this year so we will look at booking them next year).

22/24 Past Events

- 22nd Feb, Wine Society – Louis Jadot themed with Mark Calver, 53 attendees.
- 29th Feb, Start of Season Cruising Lunch – with a talk by the Sailing Secretary on her past trip to Antarctica, 63 attendees.

- 1st March, John Doerr Talk & Supper, 22 attendees. It was stressed again that any Race Officer/sailing talks/training should not be held on Friday evenings to clash with happy hour in future as it negatively impacts happy hour.
- 6th March, First Wednesday Talk by Talan Skeels-Piggins, a Double World Champion, European Champion and Winter Paralympian. It was an incredible talk, 30-40 attended and 57 had lunch.
- 10th March, Mothering Sunday Lunch, 56 attendees. It was commented on how pretty the décor looked thanks to the Events Manager.
- 14th March, Film Night 'The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society'. A very popular film, 24 attendees.
- 21st March, Wine Society (last of the season). Call My Bluff theme, 38 attendees, it was commented that the lamb was lovely.

RCH added that the Little Ship Club dinner had been very successful with 98 attendees who were fairly relaxed and watched the rugby between courses. They had since emailed thanks and positive feedback about the staff and service.

23/24 Upcoming Events

- 29th March, Good Friday Fish & Chips – a few on the list, but as it's a busy lunch for 62 members of a visiting club it's not a concern that it's not fully booked.
- 31st March, Easter Sunday Lunch – already a lot on the sign up list.
- 6th April, Clay Shoot & Lunch – numbers are building slowly.
- 11th April, extra Film Night – 'Sunshine on Leith' which was suggested by Ann Vernon, although she hasn't seen it!
- 13th April, AGM & Fitting Out Dinner – 25 signed up for the dinner, so a slow start.
- 17th April, Not Quite the First Wednesday Talk by Kevin Shaw.
- 19th April, St George's Day Gentlemen's Lunch – Anthony Davies is standing in as host.

24/24 Catering Points

Happy Hour Light Bites. These are selling but in low numbers, hopefully demand should increase as the Club gets busier. It is planned to trial them on Wednesday evenings and Sundays after sailing. There's no wastage as it's frozen food. It was commented that they don't need a salad garnish (post meeting the Head Chef has since confirmed they don't come with a garnish, only dips).

Winter Warmer Mid-week Offer. The mid-week deal for members of £12 for a starter and main is proving popular with 42 this Wednesday lunchtime and 44 on Thursday lunchtime. It will therefore be continued during April as a Mid-week Spring Special.

25/24 Bar Points None

26/24 Any Additional Points

Staffing. The Secretary explained that a new Second Chef, Jon, would be starting on 10th April, which was great news and will enable us to open the kitchen on Tuesday lunchtimes from the following week. A number of part time staff have also been recruited to the bar and waiting teams.

27/24 Date of Next Meeting: Friday 19th April 2024 at 1600 hours