

MINUTES OF A VICE COMMODORE'S COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE ROYAL SOLENT YACHT CLUB, ON FRIDAY 27TH JUNE 2025 AT 1100 HOURS

Present:

In the Chair: Rudi Fortson, Vice Commodore
Susie Breare, Rear Commodore House
Peter Crowhurst
David Porter
Lesley Tregear
Sarah Turvill

Apologies: None

In Attendance

Claire Hallett, Secretary

54/25 Apologies

As above

55/25 Approval of the Minutes of 23rd May 2025:

The minutes were approved as a true record.

56/25 Matters Arising

Marketing suggestions. Spence Willard are not interested in adding a Club flyer to their promotional material as they already have a sponsorship arrangement in place with the Club.

The VC remarked on the publicity regarding the Royal Thames' 250th anniversary, which included 40 boats motoring up the Thames led by *Gypsy Moth IV*.

Hannah Mills, an Olympian sailor, would be a good contact to promote youth sailing and sailing clubs. E4s would be the way to go but cost £8k each, which is an issue in terms of diversity as many will find this unaffordable. Lesley advised that she is attending a meeting with the Youth Engagement Officer, Claire, from YSC in due course, along with our Sailing Secretary and youth member, George Newman. **The offer of 10% off subscriptions for those joining in Dinghy Week or Laser Training week would be suggested to the Sailing Secretary and Membership Secretary.**

Membership Categories Review. Following analysis by the Membership Secretary, it is proving too difficult to make any swift decisions about merging the membership categories, not least because of the rule restricting the maximum annual increase on subscription fees. Further analysis of how the membership categories have evolved over the past 10 years would be helpful, though the exercise probably won't result in any increase in subscriptions revenue and is more to simplify categories to facilitate administration. It was further suggested that a discounted rate for members who become widows or widowers could be introduced. **Peter suggested that the objectives need to be identified – is the primary objective to attract and retain more young members? Simplified categories might make it more attractive – Peter kindly agreed to come up with a plan.**

Equality Act. The VC advised that there has been no further update and the required consultation with the Government is causing a delay.

Photo Gallery. The Secretary advised that the Photo Gallery on the Club's website has now been updated with this year's events by the Membership Secretary.

Sec.

PC

57/25 Vice Commodore's Points

Maintenance Projects. A number of aesthetic improvements were highlighted as needing attention, including the re-painting of the south side of the clubhouse and covers for the rusty fan units on the colonnade. The Secretary advised that they are on the list, but near the bottom due to financial constraints. Steve Carson is due to carry out further repair work on the cracked pillars and loose paving slabs on the sea wall before the Taittinger RSYC Regatta.

58/25 Membership Matters:

Applications: There are 5 membership applications for 7 applicants this month:

Applicant	Proposer	Seconder	Comments/Interests
1. Mrs Gabriele Davies	Tony Sceales	Mo Kearns	DoB 20 th February 1993 Daughter-in-Law of Katie Davies, lives in Lausanne and will be helping out afloat at Taittinger Regatta.

			Interests: racing, crewing, onshore activities, and race management.
2. Mrs Barbara Bryant	Catherine Holmes	Penny Woodbridge	<p>DoB 3rd August 1945</p> <p>Worked at the Chamber of Commerce (now retired) and has recently moved from Hulverstone to Yarmouth.</p> <p>Interests: onshore activities, WI and a very keen gardener who might be happy to help with flowers at the Club.</p>
3. Mr Jon Goddard 4. Mrs Pam Goddard	Davd Fentum	Anne Kyle	<p>Born in 1964 (both).</p> <p>Both work in the Construction industry; they have an 8.5m RIB which is at Yar Boatyard.</p> <p>Interests: motorboat training, boat shed/mooring, and onshore activities.</p>
5. Mr Will Bradley 6. Mrs Adele Bradley	Susie Breare	Anne Kyle	<p>Born in 1963 (W) and 1964 (A)</p> <p>The Bradleys own/operate Yarmouth café “Word of Mouth” and were inspired to join RSYC by a visit to Happy Hour.</p> <p>Interests: cruising, motorboat training, and onshore activities.</p>
7. Mr Andrew Poyner	Rudi Fortson	Madeleine Green	<p>Son of Commodore John Poyner, Andrew owns a Wylie yacht which is moored in Oakland, CA where Andrew lives. He will be in the UK for Taittinger Regatta.</p> <p>Interests: racing.</p>

All those present were happy to recommend the applications to the GC for approval. [The Membership Secretary will email the GC for approval by Wednesday as there is no GC meeting this month.](#)

Mem.
Sec.

59/25 Governance Matters

Visitors & Guests. Ahead of the meeting, the VC had emailed out a paper ‘Entitlement of Members, Visitors and Guests to use Club Facilities – ver.2’ (see page 4). An issue has arisen relating mainly to one specific member who crews, isn’t being signed in and often comes to the Club alone and signs themselves in, and who has now exceeded the six times rule. This person has been approached about the matter and has now taken a membership application pack. It is noted that they have been a re-instated member several times already. It seems necessary to define open sailing events and to clarify the remit of RCS in terms of open sailing events and the number of visits permitted and a notice to members posted accordingly.

[It is recommended that a letter be sent to the individual concerned from the Commodore and Vice Commodore after the Taittinger RSYC Regatta.](#)

[The Secretary also recommended that it would be helpful to obtain from sailing members a list of names of non-members who crew for them and would ask for this to be raised at Sailing Committee.](#)

Boat Shed Bye-laws. [No issues were reported by the GC on the revised Boat Shed bye-laws proposed by the VCC.](#)

Registration Fee Review. Rule 21.2 states that subscriptions and the registration fee may only be increased by 10% plus the Consumer Price Index (CPI):

“All registration fees and subscriptions may be increased with effect from 1st January in each year by a maximum amount of 10% above the previous year’s rates plus the percentage increase in the amount of the Retail Price Index (as defined below) prevailing on the preceding 31st July for the twelve months prior to such 31st July.”

VC

Sec

Sec

The recently proposed registration fee increase from £150 to £175 is slightly higher and should be restricted to £172 in line with Rule 21.2. **However, as the CPI runs from July to July it is necessary to review the latest CPI at the end of July so this matter will remain on hold until after July.**

Terrorism Act. The VC reported that there have been no further developments, but the situation should be monitored as it will have an impact on the Champagne Taittinger Reception and Towers Party, which have over 800 attendees. This must be taken seriously and any preventative measures, such as bag searches, CCTV, notifying the local authority etc, must be complied with. The implementation date is January 2027.

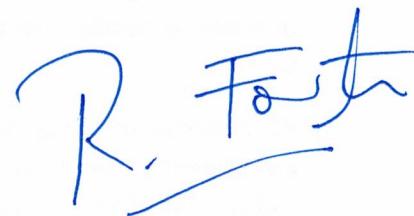
60/25 AOB

Food Hygiene Certification. In response to an enquiry from Peter, the Secretary confirmed that all kitchen staff involved in food preparation had the necessary food hygiene certification.

61/25 Points for Next Meeting

- Visitor Entitlement
- Registration Fee

62/25 Date of next meeting: 11am on Thursday 31st July 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Foster".

ENTITLEMENT OF MEMBERS, VISITORS AND GUESTS, TO USE CLUB FACILITIES – ver.2

- Rule 20.6: "Honorary Members, Honorary Life Members and ex-Officio Honorary Members shall, subject to rule 17.7, be entitled to all the privileges and benefits of full membership of the Club."
VC: In fact, only ex-officio Hon Members are, under this rule, affected by rule 17.7 [fn¹].

CEO points out that it has only ever been ex-officio honorary members who have been granted temporary honorary membership for the term of the position that they hold, who don't have full member rights. The other honorary members do maintain their rights as full members as they have generally been given honorary membership due the contribution they've made to the Club.

VC: Proposes amending the wording to read: "Honorary Members, Honorary Life Members and (subject to rule 17.7) ex-Officio Honorary Members, shall be entitled to all the privileges and benefits of full membership of the Club."
- Rule 20.7.1: "Temporary Members shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of membership, except that no voting rights accrue, nor may they purchase or wear any item bearing the Club Insignia."
- Rule 20.8: "A Life Member shall be entitled to all the privileges and benefits of full membership of the Club".
- Rule 25.1: Visitors and Guests: the following may use the Club facilities no more than six times a year [r.25.2] (there is one exception, below) and sign the visitors book [r.25.3(a)], and comply with the Rules and byelaws [r.25.3(b)]:
 - i) Members of any RYA affiliated Club skippering yachts (and their crew) [replicated B9.1].
 - ii) Persons owning / skippering yachts (and their crew) competing in Club races and rallies.
 - iii) Visiting yachtmen and yachtswomen (including foreign yachtspersons: B.9.2).
 - iv) Members of other (reciprocal) Clubs [replicated B9.3].
 - v) A guest accompanying a Club Member.
 - vi) Guests, as regular crew when racing with Members at open sailing events [replicated at B9.5] - "...except for guests who are regular crew when racing with Members at open sailing events who may, at the discretion of the Rear Commodore Sailing, exceed the six-day limit" [r.25.2].

NOTES

- Rule 11.4

The General Committee shall have power to make, alter and repeal such Bye-laws for the day-to-day management of the Club as it deems expedient. Such Bye-laws shall be published on the Club's website and shall be posted on a noticeboard in the Clubhouse and subject to such Bye-

¹ Rule 17.7: "At any General Meeting all Members may vote save Members under the age of 18 years, Temporary Members and also ex-Officio Honorary Members".