

HLSTC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 10th JANUARY 2023

MINUTES

1. Present	<p>Steve Davis (SD) Oliver Harman (OH) Jane Colson (JC) Bob Jones (BJ) Michael Lysaght (ML) David Morgan (DM) Michelle Gladen (MG) Dave Boyd-Phillips (DBP) John Lyon (JL) Charlie Craven-Bartle (CCB) Chris Hale Mike Ambroziak</p> <p>Plus 20 HLSTC members</p>	<p>Chair of Trustees General Manager Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee RYA Principal / Youth Rep Wakeboard Section Rep Sailing/Racing Rep Maintenance Rep Trustee Nomination Trustee Nomination</p>
Apologies	Sarah Wareing (SW)	Youth Rep Nomination

2. Welcome & Introduction	SD welcomed all attending and began by reflecting on the changes to the organisation structure of the club with Paul Rivington's retirement and the lengthy process to appoint a new manager into the role, as well as MG taking on the role of RYA Principal previously held by PR.
3. Minutes of 2022 AGM	The minutes of the 2022 AGM, held at HLSTC on Tuesday 1 st March 2022, were approved. Proposed by Steve Marshall, seconded by Chris Fife-Schaw.
4. Matters Arising	BJ referred to the £500 fundraiser for the club defibrillator, with 25 U3A members exceeding this and raising a total £1,570, with additional support from JC, and PR contributing towards the cost of the storage cabinet.
5. Reports	<p>Financial Report – Michael Lysaght</p> <p>ML opened by explaining that a budget was written for 2022, and we began the season with a number of advance bookings for the Training Centre, however this tapered off, restricted slightly by staff availability and lack of demand.</p> <p>Total training income was £104,000, ahead of 2020.</p> <p>Membership continued strongly, budgeted £59k, came out at £54k, a strong performance over previous years.</p> <p>Expenses - we planned to spend £182k this year, we spent £162k, this was achieved with lower staff cost due to less course demand, £125k, spent £105k.</p> <p>Site repairs – budgeted £11k, spent £21k due to urgent repairs required due to storm damage and general degradation.</p>

5. Reports (Cont'd)

A substantial benefit was that part of our lease payment to DIO is linked to the clubs' profits, and this had not been taken into consideration for four or five years. PR argued the case that in some years the club had generated a surplus but in others we had not, therefore we were given grace on this, subsequently rent was £3k down from the prior year.

ML explained that in the prior year, the club generated around £40k cash, this year we generated £13k, a reasonable surplus in a challenging year.

The capital plan for the year was for £74k, we spent £25k. Included in the £74k is £35k accumulated by the Wakeboard section towards a new ski boat, which will be rolled into next year.

The plan written from last year involves a continued process of investing in the centre boats with the intention of generating sufficient cash income to fund further repair and refurbishment projects around the club.

ML suggested that if club members felt this was not a suitable way to use our resources, this should be fed back to the Trustees for review.

ML gave thanks to JC and Madi Nel for their hard work in creating the accounts.

Maintenance Report – Charlie Craven-Bartle

CCB is an existing HLSTC member and a keen Bosun sailor. He was appointed into the club maintenance role in November 2022 owing to a strong background in project management and love for DIY.

CCB has documented a number of potential maintenance projects around the club and will work with management to deliver these projects in 2023.

CCB called on any members who have trade skills or experience to express their interest for involvement in future project days.

Sailing/Racing Report – John Lyon

JL highlighted that the 2021 racing and events calendar was slightly marred by the fallout from the pandemic, but 2022 saw a full years racing programme with a good turnout.

The racing programme for 2023 has almost been finalised with a few extra dates and activities to add, with most of the Race Officer (RO) duties having been filled, which was promising.

It was mentioned that a few club events would take the place of Sunday racing, but that racing could be moved to the Saturday prior.

HLSTC would also be hosting the Comet Open on 7th May 2023 and this would require additional RO's to run.

The Bosun's Call members racing event did not run during 2022 but JL hoped this could happen this year.

5. Reports (Cont'd)

A member's fun day had also been suggested to take place during the Summer and a date would be set for this in due course.

Awards were given for the following events:

Club Regatta – Steve Maguire (1st), Carol Butcher (2nd)

Friday Handicap – Carol Butcher (1st), Mick Ogle (2nd)

Friday Pursuit – Carol Butcher (1st), Paul Glass (2nd)

A Boxing Day pursuit was well attended and ran with good conditions, with Richard 1st and Thalya Ambroziak 2nd.

JL extended thanks to the race committee and John Jones for their help with the race programme and results.

Trophies were awarded as follows:

Fast Fleet – 3rd Paul Glass, 2nd James Maxfield, 1st Steve Maguire

Slow Fleet – 3rd Mike Wardale, 2nd Mick Ogle, 1st Carol Butcher

Club Champion – Steve Maguire

A question was raised by a member that they did not know the class of dinghy they sailed and could they still take part in racing. PR advised that the handicap value could be calculated based on the performance in individual races and can be ratified over time.

It was asked what the members fun day would entail, Mike Ambroziak (MA) advised that various options were available including fun races, access to the club's paddle kit and BBQ with a view to building the club atmosphere.

Youth Report – Michelle Gladen

Whilst the youth programme for 2023 is still being finalised, youth club will still be active on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings throughout the season.

A few things are in the calendar such as bring a friend or relative, which has proved popular and a good way to introduce new prospective members to the club.

The youth season would start in the Easter Holidays and would conclude with the end of season youth regatta during October half-term.

The only major youth event currently in the calendar is the Thames Valley Feva Challenge, Saturday 8th July, which would require full use of the lake but would be a good source of income and exposure for the club, this was met with no objections.

Last season was quieter on Wednesday evenings but well attended by up to twenty or so youth members for the Sunday morning sessions out of a total junior membership of around sixty.

A number of the clubs RS Tera dinghy fleet have been renewed which was a positive driver for youth participation.

5. Reports (Cont'd)

Members were reminded that on occasions the youth club would participate in club racing under the supervision of the youth coordinator, and to be mindful of this.

MG extended thanks to the youth volunteer parents who have stepped up and assisted with the coordination and supervision of the sessions, sadly she would be standing down as youth rep role after 12 years and handing over to Sarah Wareing, a parent of an existing HLSTC junior member.

Wakeboard Section – Dave Boyd-Phillips

DBP advised that the section had experienced a slow start to the season but picked up as the year progressed, however a fault with the ski boat propellor meant that they could not operate for five or six weeks.

The ski boat is now fully operational but this incurred maintenance costs of around £900, this was compounded with issues regarding insurance cover to satisfy DIO.

DBP advised that the ski boat would require additional work to the upholstery to increase its value when it is eventually sold.

DBP explained to the members who were not aware, that the £35k reserves accumulated for a new ski boat were profits raised as a result of developing the section and not funded by the members club side of the organisation.

SD asked how many members the ski section was operating with, DBP advised around 20-22 which included 2-3 new members which would join during the 2023 season.

DBP asked whether the money was still available for a new ski boat as a few years prior it was noted that the club had potentially asked to invest some of this into the club, ML advised that as long as it was planned in advance.

JL asked whether the section would operate any open days over the Summer, DBP says usually two or three days over the season which would require sole use of the lake.

Social Events & Communications

SD advised that there was no member nominated into this role but invited MA to speak as he has previously work on membership engagement and communications within the club.

MA advised that there have not been many communications this year as he did not have access to the formal club mailer system, and club events and activities may not have been as well attended as a result.

A members' private Facebook club with around 80 members remains active as a means for people to post onto, with photos and race results

<p>8. Managers Report</p>	<p>OH introduced himself and gave thanks to MG for a swift onboarding process into the role of GM at the club.</p> <p>He highlighted that the role is all-encompassing, but focus is to ensure members can voice concerns, praise, suggestions, or support matters they feel could be of use.</p> <p>Initial key development points for the club were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A new PDQ or Chip and PIN system - Taking over bar license from PR. - Development and rollout of new website - System to develop project management and maintenance days. <p>OH concluded that a promising number of enquiries for 2023 season had already been received which he hoped will provide further financial stability to allow us to further invest back into the club in the years to come.</p>
<p>9. General / AOB</p>	<p>A question was raised about how the club currently markets its courses and training to prospective new clients.</p> <p>OH advised that we receive repeat bookings, advertise on social media platforms and through the website, as well as support from the RYA, whilst also relying on the existing membership to advocate on the clubs behalf.</p> <p>MA suggested that we should be doing more with local school such as presentations or posters to help publicise courses and activities.</p> <p>PR highlighted that there had been a degree of success with this previously but targeting the more appropriate groups and subsequently staffing these activities would sometimes present an issue.</p>
<p>10. Chairs Close</p>	<p>SD concluded by giving personal thanks to JC and BJ for their work on the club, and extended gratitude to PR for his service to the club.</p> <p>SD also recognised the membership for their support and involvement and was looking forward to continued growth in the coming years.</p>