

CHICHESTER YACHT CLUB GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING 14/11/2020

The General Committee, chaired by Commodore Tony Mobbs, met via Zoom on Saturday 14 November and dealt with the following business:

- It was agreed that the period for reclaim of card balances by resigning members should be twelve months rather than the one month agreed previously.
- The poor attendance at the Zoom AGM was discussed and thought to be partly due to prior voting having been required. The next AGM will be on 30 January 2022 (due to the change in Club year) when it is hoped a conventional meeting can be held.
- The Major Incident Committee continues to meet fortnightly in order to manage the continually changing Government Covid-19 rules. With the departure of Philip Brown from the MIC, Gavin Crick has taken his place.
- The lockdown has impacted our financial performance and our plans need constant revision. All staff have been furloughed to some extent in November.
- We have now hired a Cornish gig for a one year period in order to assess the demand for rowing across the season. Trained coxes are needed and it is hoped that there may be some formal racing in the Harbour in 2021. With the increasing popularity of rowing, kayaking and SUPs, it was agreed to seek a member to be a “paddling champion” for the Club.
- GC noted that two laybys had been closed and double yellow lines painted on the Marina access road. Although there are reportedly no plans to introduce payment for parking, a watching brief will continue.
- The Commodore’s charity for 2021 will again be Stonepillow.
- The Treasurer reported that, whilst it is difficult to predict our financial performance during the pandemic, there is a good chance we will break even at the end of the year. He hoped to have a draft 2021 budget for the February GC meeting. It is likely that installation of the eastern pontoon will need to be delayed.
- The Committee agreed to take just 3 months’ subscriptions from annual payers in January with 12 months being due in April. This is as a consequence of the AGM decision to move the Club year, with no increase in rates to be applied before April.
- Feedback on our Covid precautions has been very positive with a number of members saying they feel safer at the Club than many other places.
- Current membership was 1,013 with the average age down to 47, mainly due to new Dinghy Section members who tend to be younger than in the other sections.
- The possibility of a partnership with, for example, a charter business was discussed which might allow us to offer a larger Club vessel for training use by members. It would also allow us to expand our RYA training course offer. This will be referred to the Member Services Committee for further consideration.
- Some urgent roof repairs are required which will be considered by the MIC at its imminent meeting.
- There have been some big shifts in technology thinking during the pandemic and we need to take a co-ordinated look at our own IT and communications. It was agreed to seek members who could assist the Club in this way.
- The Business Risk Register was reviewed. One positive outcome of the current restrictions has been the cross-skilling of staff. We still do not know what impact Brexit will have.

The next General Committee meeting will be on Saturday 20 February 2021 at 10:00.

David Pearce
Hon. Secretary