

## **CHICHESTER YACHT CLUB GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **21/10/2023**

The General Committee, chaired by Commodore Simon Benson, met on 21<sup>st</sup> October and dealt with the following business:

- Discussed possible access to a Hawk 20 yacht for training and members' use; this will be further investigated.
- Planning consent has now been granted for solar panels on the clubhouse roof, installation of which is expected to be completed in December.
- The new paid parking system is now live at the Premier marina with 30 free parking spaces for Club staff, working parties and committee meetings. The Club has also leased a further 20 parking spaces which will be allocated from day to day on a need basis. The first two hours are free to all and any member wishing to park for longer than six hours in any one day can sign into a tablet at the Club Office to benefit from a capped £4 fee per day.
- A member has been banned from the clubhouse for three years following an incident in which a member of staff was assaulted; the member in question has resigned.
- A detailed member disciplinary procedure was agreed and will be posted in the clubhouse.
- Income from the Bar and Restaurant was well short of target in July and August, probably due to the poor weather but also the economic climate and other reasons. Measures are being taken to improve the offer and a budget allocated for member events. Further action is also being taken in an attempt to reduce purchasing and staff costs.
- A reduced price per unit for electricity will now begin to benefit us, alongside the solar power, but gas and water costs remain a concern.
- Planned but unstarted projects are now on hold. Further work is required before the flagpole can be re-erected.
- There is a downturn in membership numbers, probably for the same reasons as catering income. Recruitment and retention opportunities were discussed with some concerns being raised that we hope can be addressed. The late summer open days had signed up some new members and it was suggested that we hold more at the beginning of the season next year.
- The departure of Drew Gibson has resulted in a re-assessment of training management and we will now recruit a part-time Training Administrator and a seasonal Bosun in his place.
- It was agreed to look into the possibility of forming a charity to provide training for the Club which should improve access to grant aid for e.g. hull replacements.
- An open forum day is planned for all members on 18 November at the clubhouse to discuss the Club's strategy for the next three years.
- The clubhouse had been closed for one day for safety reasons following discovery of a faulty gas pressure regulator; this has now been rectified and certified safe again.
- There is some concern over children swinging on the handrails in the garden. Measures will be taken to prevent this activity.
- It was agreed to host a raft race at the Club next year on behalf of the Chichester Harbour Federation. This will be for rafts made from recycled or recyclable materials.
- Concern was voiced over the lack of rules for wingfoilers in the Harbour and it was suggested that the Conservancy should draw up a code of practice.
- It is expected that the Conservancy will reduce the speed limit in the Harbour from 8 knots to 6 knots next season.

The next General Committee meeting will be on Saturday 9 December at 10:00.

David Pearce  
Hon. Secretary