

**CHICHESTER YACHT CLUB GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**09/12/2023**

The General Committee, chaired by Commodore Simon Benson, met on 9<sup>th</sup> December and dealt with the following business:

- Heard that the Hawk 20 yacht is no longer available and agreed that circumstances do not permit the idea being pursued at this time.
- Installation of the solar panels on the clubhouse roof is now underway and is expected to be completed in January 2024.
- The Club is planning to switch away from Intelligent Sport to Sailing Club Manager for its management software. This should be completed in January.
- The Commodore plans to stand for election for a third year to make up for his short tenure as the Vice Commodore some years ago.
- There is much concern over the new paid parking system at the Premier marina. There are safety and disability issues over access to the payment machine, poor number plate recognition and overcrowding at the barrier. There are also queries over the £4 per day maximum member charge and how this will work for long-term parking. Members' concerns will be collated by the Office for communication to Premier.
- Club finances are tight, partly due to some poor figures from the Bar and Restaurant during some of the summer months. This is thought to be due to bad weather this year. Costs will need to be carefully controlled for the remainder of the year if we are to break even. The reduction in electricity prices will help.
- Most projects are now on hold until the next financial year. The solar panel installation will be completed and also some preparation work designing improvements to the Bar area which is often overcrowded during Club events.
- The slight dip in membership was causing some concern, although some other big clubs are suffering worse declines than CYC. We need to concentrate on our core membership.
- There had been complaints about overcrowding on Fireworks Night but this event had been good for the Club. An unexpectedly high number attended and we will review for next year.
- It was agreed to try to recruit more members for dinghy race support and to provide training.
- A part-time Training Administrator has been recruited to start in January. We are also looking into forming a charity for training purposes, which will attract more grant funding, and at commercial sponsorship in appropriate areas, e.g. racing marks.
- In conjunction with the introduction of Sailing Club Manager, we also plan to revamp the Club website. It is important to be clear about what we want to achieve online, including how we attract and manage events, and that the number of "clicks" is limited.
- The current mobile phone app will not be available with Sailing Club Manager, however it is essential that whatever replaces it is quick and easy to use.
- Service in the Restaurant was discussed again. Table service costs no more than the old hatch service but offers more possibilities for upselling e.g. desserts and coffee. Our new pricing guide will support a more efficient catering operation.
- The AGM in January was discussed and most members are willing to remain on GC. The Cdre thanked the outgoing RC Motors for his contribution and advice.

The next General Committee meeting will be in February 2024.

David Pearce  
Hon. Secretary