

**MINUTES OF THE SWAN (RADCOT) CRUISER CLUB AGM HELD ON SATURDAY. 10<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011**  
**AT THE FERRYMAN, BABLOCKHYTHE**

**PRESENT:** Dave Hansell, Commodore  
Alan Hill, Vice Commodore & Secretary  
George Jarman, Treasurer  
Gillian Hill, Minutes Secretary  
Roger Bazzoni  
Geoff Dickinson  
John Douse (Entertainments)  
Dennis Hill  
Olivia Stanton

**Apologies for absence:** Paul Hayes

The Commodore opened the Meeting at 4.30 p.m and welcomed the Members present and thanked them for attending.

**1) Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Colin & Jackie Fisher (Gypsy Princess), Fred Martin (Lady Merrin), Hary & Angie Rawal (Aziz), Jo Morris & John Sheldon (Rowena II), Bob & Debbie Hark (Crikey), Chris Humphries (Andastra), Steve Sharp (Theba), Mike & Anita Buckwell (Sheer Luxury), Simon & Beryl Marshall (Zippidy), John & Jean Birkett (Oriana), Richard Fisher & Mike Hinder (Molinka), Martin & Wendy Hiscock (C Jay), Alan & Polly Cox (Little Wizard), Peter Barnett (Haf Tonig).

**2) Minutes of the last AGM:** Acceptance of the Minutes for September 2010 was proposed by Pat Matthews (Sandy Dee), seconded by Janet Powles (Zaca) and carried unanimously. There were no matters arising.

**3) Treasurer's Report:** Members had been issued a copy of the Income & Expenditure for the year ending 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011 which George briefly ran through. There were no queries from the floor and acceptance of the Balance Sheet was proposed by Pat Matthews (Sandy Dee), seconded by Frank Huddleston (Eleanor) and carried unanimously.

**4) Entertainment Officer's Report:** John opened his report by commenting on the fact that attendance at all events this year had been low, so much so that the Fancy Dress had to be cancelled. However, Quiz Night had proved very popular and he added that heating would be provided for this event next year. John briefly ran through the rest of the events, mentioning that the Treasure Hunt had been won by team Anatolia and Mad Hatters.

**5) Commodore's Address:**

"Well, its been a strange year for me boating- wise. After I thought I'd fixed all the problems caused by the long hard winter I found I had to replace the hot water tank followed one week later by the fresh water pump, then when we went on holiday I had to replace a leisure battery, hence the saying - standing in a shower and tearing up 20 pound notes. I didn't use the boat as much as normal mainly because of poor weather during the weekends and also because of a new addition to the family in the shape of a dog. Still, it gave me a bit of free time to work on my golf handicap. Anyway the dog has now been down the tideway, through the Thames Barrier and back with no problems and is now the best part of my crew.

"It's been a challenging year, but I have been helped, or should I say carried, by a dedicated Committee, without whom my inexperience would have been much more evident. I would like to thank the Committee for their help & support over the last year, especially Alan Hill who stepped in as Secretary after the very sad loss of Bob Ward, and has done a fantastic job.

I would also like to thank Nigel for the great job he does in putting together and editing the Newsletter.

“As John said, it was very disappointing to have to cancel the Fancy Dress Party, so please put some positive thoughts as to what you would like to do as a Club on the questionnaire in front of you, and we will try to make amends for next year.

“ I understand those of you who attended the Treasure Hunt had a good time, and thanks to Martin and Lesley (Perspectief), and Alan and Carol (Captain Toad) for setting the clues, which I have heard were very difficult. Congratulations to Ollie and Nigel (Anatolia) and Steve and Lin (Mad Hatters) who were the winners.”

**6) Election of Officers:** All the Committee were willing to stand for another year and no other volunteers had come forward. Re-election of the Committee was proposed by Darrell Fowler (Sark Point), seconded by Tom Minns (Sarah Liam) and carried unanimously.

**7) Resolutions:** The following Resolutions had been proposed:

**a)** To be inserted in paragraph 4 of the Club Constitution: The Club’s primary means of communication with Members will be via email and the Club Web Site. Postal communications will only be sent to those Members without email facilities. It is the Members responsibility to keep their contact details up to date.

Proposed by Alan Hill (Vice Commodore & Secretary). Seconded by Dave Hansell (Commodore), carried unanimously. **(It is requested that any Member without internet access should let either Alan or Dennis Hill know).**

**b)** To replace line 3 clause 6: Subscriptions more than 2 weeks overdue, without good reason, shall render the Membership terminated. If a member then wishes to rejoin he/she must pay the full joining fee or be placed on the waiting list if membership is now full.

Proposed by Dennis Hill (Committee), seconded by Alan Hill, and after a little discussion this was carried unanimously.

**c)** Paragraph 13 CRANE OUT: Slight alterations were proposed for this section and after some discussion the following was accepted:

#### GUIDELINES

The Committee will endeavour to assist all current Club Members who wish to avail themselves of the crane out facility. Only requests submitted by the due date and on the appropriate form sent to all club members will be considered. Verbal requests will be ignored; late applications will be accepted on a 'first come, first served' basis.

In the event of there being more applicants than spaces, and after taking into account emergency requests, first consideration will be given to those who have attended a Club function excluding the AGM and New Members evening during the previous 12 months unless it was not possible due to extenuating circumstances. The following priorities then apply:

1. Applicants who have been full Members for the year (1 Sept to 31 Aug) immediately prior to the crane out AND paid their subscription prior to 14<sup>th</sup> September of that year. \*
2. Applicants as in 1 above, but who paid their subscription after 14<sup>th</sup> September.
3. Applicants who become Members during the year of crane out.

\*In the event of there still being more applicants than places in this category then those Club Members who were not craned out in the previous year shall have priority.

In each case where numbers in any category exceed places, and after the above criteria have been met, a draw will take place.

No Officer or Committee Member will take precedent by virtue of their position, but the Committee reserve the right in exceptional circumstances e.g.urgent underwater repairs, to allow any Club Member to take priority.

In all cases the decision of the Committee is final.

#### End of club rules.

*To give an example of how this might work in practice:*

*90 Applications for 60 places - 5 did not attend a single function in previous 12 months - REMOVED*

*Of the remaining 85 - 10 joined in last 12 months, and one did not pay their subs until December - REMOVED*

*Of the remaining 74 all who have been members for a full year and attended one function 8 were not craned out the previous year.*

*This then leaves 66 members to be drawn for the 52 (60- 8) places.*

*Of the 10 members who could not be craned out, one was a committee member, and one was on a summer mooring. Unfortunately this does not give them any form of priority, but we will try and find them all empty moorings if required, or suggest alternative crane out sites.*

Proposed by Dennis Hill (Committee), seconded by Dave Hansell (Commodore), carried unanimously.

#### **8) Any Other Business:**

**a) Crane In:** A communication had been received from Tracy Day (Nesta of Sidley) regarding the order of crane in. In the past it has always been the boats craned out on crane 1 that go back in first and she asked if it would be fairer if this was alternated annually with crane 2's boats so that the same people did not go in first every year. After discussion it was decided to try this next year.

**b)** Steve Soltesz (La Bretagne) passed on his thanks to the organisers of the trip this year to West India Dock which made it possible for him and Angie to take part, especially to Paul Hayes (Mr. Pimms) who escorted him all the way down the Tideway. He also thanked Jill (Black Sapphire) for giving him some of her painkillers when he fell and hurt his back – these enabled him to make the trip back without too much pain. Angie enjoyed the trip and is looking forward to the next one.

**c)** At this point, Dennis introduced Adrian Swift as follows: "Some of you may have noticed a familiar face in the room a face we normally see in an EA uniform. It is, of course, the now retired Adrian Swift.

"During my years as Vice Commodore and later as Commodore, a total of 12 years, I formed a very good working relationship with Adrian and I know just how much interest he took in the Club and the amount of work he put into helping the Members.

"He has attended our AGM on more than one occasion, *without wearing a flak jacket I might add*, and stood up here doing his best to answer your moans and groans.

"I'm sure I'm not the only one who remembers him shuttling people back to their moorings in his car when they were trapped by flood waters following an Oxford Treasure Hunt!

"Whenever I had a problem on the river Adrian would always be the first one I'd phone. Anything from overhanging trees to underwater obstructions etc. and he would always do his best to sort things out,

most recently by organising a working party on a Bank Holiday to remove a tree that was partly blocking the river.

"So on behalf of the Club I will ask our Commodore to present Adrian with a small memento. I feel sure you will join with me in thanking Adrian for all his help in the past and wish him a long and happy retirement."

Adrian then thanked the Club for the framed flag and said that flying our Flag meant you were never without help when needed. He also recalled the time when he had a narrowboat called Sweaty Betty and how much he appreciated our Members recognising that when he was on her, he was not on duty and so did not pester him about river problems. He had also heard that with us taking part in the ATYC Rally and having walked off with the "big prize" 3 years out of 4, it had certainly woken up the boaters down river. Adrian closed by saying how privileged he felt to know many of our Club Members and wished us "all the best".

**d) Boat Safety Certificate:** A reminder to any Member requiring a BSC next year to contact Dave Hansell as soon as possible.

**e) Winter Break 2012 – Porthcawl:** There are still places left at this event, so if any Member who has not already booked but would like to, a copy of the Booking Form and Explanatory Letter can be downloaded from the Club Web Site, Library/Notice Board on the main menu. Please return the Booking Form to Jill Hill at the address given as soon as possible.

**f) Crane Out:** Dennis informed the Meeting that a problem had arisen this year due to over-subscription. It is not just boat numbers but also boat size that has to be taken into consideration. In view of this some applicants will have to be refused crane out. If there are any Members who are not bothered if they come out or not, would they please let Dennis know as soon as possible. It is hoped that applicants who cannot be lifted will be notified in the next 2 – 3 weeks.

**g) Club Awards:** This year the Commodore presented the Club Shield for the Treasure Hunt to Nigel and Olivia Stanton (Anatolia) and Steve and Lin Hatter (Mad Hatters). The Heclantis Plate for the Round the Island Race went to Dave Hansell and Liam Minns.

The Commodore closed the Meeting at 5.20 p.m.