

Creeksea Sailing Club
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held on Saturday 2nd March 2013 at 4pm.

Present

Alan Shrimplin, David Page, Jack Page, Una Shrimplin, David Chick, Julian Plummer, Chris McDonnell, Bill Taylor, William Taylor, John Torrance, Kelvin Fowler and Barbara McDonnell.

Alan welcomed those present to the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

These were received for Sue Palmer, Alan Palmer, Diane Roberts, Chris Roberts and Karen Hamilton.

2. Minutes of the Last AGM

These were read and agreed.

3. Treasurer's Report

Kelvin had not yet arrived so Alan informed the meeting of the Club's financial position from the most recent Committee meeting. David Page, the membership secretary, informed the meeting that a quarter of the membership had already paid their subs.

4. Commodore's Report

Alan said that 2012 had gone pretty well with the Jubilee and Open Day and 14 boats from Creeksea taking part in the Burnham Week regatta. Some of the members continue to take part in external competition in the Finn and Phantom classes.

The Club had 87 members in 2012 including three Life members, but we have recently lost Carl Pycraft, who died in February. Alan organised flowers to be sent to his funeral and a card of sympathy to the family on behalf of the Club.

In 2013 the Phantom Open is being organised by John Torrance on the weekend of the 6/7th July, which has a good midday tide. It is hoped that the Open will also include some classic wooden Phantoms. Volunteers will be appreciated to come along and help on the day, launching and retrieving boats and trolleys and also driving the RIB. John has also asked Angie and Simon to provide safety cover in their boat.

The Open Day will be held on the 8th June, which is earlier than usual but will give people who want to become members a chance to join earlier in the season. Again volunteers will be needed to give people a taste of sailing and also donations of cakes for refreshments during the afternoon.

There are four Cruises on the calendar including Woodham YC visiting Creeksea and camping overnight and returning on the Sunday. It will be good to have ties with another Club.

This year Racing is planned for Sunday afternoons starting at 1pm, which will be handicap racing starting on the autohoot. Also in the summer there will be some racing on Thursday evenings from 6pm.

David Chick mentioned that the RYA are organising a Get Afloat event again.

Ramp Work

This is due to start on 1st April and of course is weather dependent so it is hard to say when it will be completed, but it should be possible to launch boats into the water at weekends. We only have funds at the moment for the repair of the top part of the ramp. Before the work starts an area at the front of the dinghy park needs to be cleared for equipment, materials and for lorries to turn round.

It is planned that the area will be cleared at a Work Party on the 16th March, so plenty of volunteers are needed on the day. There probably will not be time for any maintenance work on the day, so another work party will be planned for the summer.

John Torrance asked if there is anyone who could open the ramp officially for the club. If some sort

of celebrity could be found to do this, it would provide publicity for the club, recognition for the organisations who provided grants and inspire sponsorship for the top capping of the bottom of the ramp. Suggestions put forward included John Whittingdale MP and Mike Peyton, a yachting cartoonist who lives at Farnbridge. It was also suggested that the official opening could take place on the Open Day.

Alan said that there is some work we need to do including laying another set of chain down for the front row of boats or moving the existing chain. The concrete from the old ramp will have to be put in gabions on the foreshore to help stop erosion. Again volunteers will be needed for this work. Neil will dig a trench so that water pipe and a power supply may be laid down for the Starter Hut.

Alan had attended a Grant Fayre in Maldon during February and found a couple of leads but many of the grants had criteria that did not meet the needs of Creeksea SC.

Alan said that the website is up to date now. He also thanked all the Committee members for their work and a special thank you to Chris Roberts, who had resigned from the Committee due to other commitments.

5. Election of the Committee

All members of the Committee were willing to continue serving on it. Chris McDonnell would ask Mark Ingall if he wished to be on the Committee. Therefore at the moment the Committee comprises Alan Shrimplin (Commodore), Kelvin Fowler (Treasurer), Barbara McDonnell (Secretary), Diane Roberts (Social Secretary), David Page (Membership Secretary), David Chick (Publicity), Graham Manning, John Torrance, Chris McDonnell and Steve Lawrence.

6. Any Other Business

a) Una asked if the rent for the dinghy park has increased regularly or not. The rent, which is paid to the Pycraft family is currently £1,426.48 and is reviewed every 5/7 years. John suggested that it would be a good idea to try and buy the land where the dinghy park and the starter hut are. John also mentioned that Eugene had offered the club the use of the patch of land opposite the ramp, and would ask for permission to store the boats there, which need to be moved while the ramp work is done. This brought up a question as to whether Eugene is liable for ten percent of the cost of the ramp repair. It was decided that no one knew where this idea had originated but the lease should be found and studied for the details of who owns what. However, Eugene has never asked for rent for using the ramp or the foreshore.

b) David Page mentioned that now the club is issuing stickers for boats whose owners have paid their dues, what is the club's policy for boats with no sticker. Alan replied that the boats will be moved out of the dinghy park with June being the cut off point for subscriptions to be paid. Then in September the abandoned boat procedure, as laid down by the RYA, can be started, although ownership of some of the boats is not known.

c) The shortfall in the cost of repairing the ramp was discussed as Alan mentioned that there were other things which had to be bought, for example, the gabions, a gate for the top of the ramp and posts, which will cost about £2k. Half the club funds are spent on running costs each year but there will probably be enough to cover the shortfall.

d) Chris asked for a show of confidence in Alan as Commodore as he has worked very hard for the club, Kelvin seconded this and the meeting agreed.

The meeting closed at 5.15pm.