

Grafham Water Sailing Club: Flying Fifteen Fleet

Unconfirmed Minutes : Annual General Meeting

17th February 2021

Attendees: Bryan Appleyard, Colin Burns, Ian Dubock, Jim Hibbert, Jonathan & Trish Knight, Pip Noon, Dave & Jenny Philpott, Tim O'Brien, Andy & Sue Rhodes, Suzie Sonntag, Nick and Alex Taylor, Richard Watson, Mike & Jean Wilczynski, Peter Wolstenholme; Barry Wyatt, Katy Wyatt

Apologies: Nigel Cady, Simon Kneller, Richard Marshall, Geoff Parkinson, Les Rant

Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the AGM of February 23rd 2020 were adopted unanimously.

Matters Arising

The timing of the Winter Series' do not align with the Winter Membership period – would it be possible to align to maximise the benefit of joining and participating in a full series. This matter has been raised before but with new stewardship of the Racing Committee, the Fleet Captains were asked to raise again to effect changes for the coming winter. AR/SR

Fleet Captain's Report

The fleet captain (Barry Wyatt) reported that due to the pandemic and the March to July and Autumn shutdown of the club, sailing had been limited to the summer months and there had been very little club racing.

Barry thanked:

- Dave Philpott for organising the single-handed FF racing in the summer
- The club officials for their help in organising the racing in very difficult circumstances
- The race teams and safety boats who made racing possible
- Trish for making sense of the results
- Everybody else for their patience

Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer (Jonathan Knight) presented the accounts for 2020-21. A change in engravers for 2020 reduced the engraving costs from £385 to £140. Dave Philpott proposed adoption of the accounts, seconded by Jim and this proposal was accepted unanimously. Jonathan did not feel it was necessary to raise the fleet dues but reported not all 2020 dues had been paid. Given the lack of sailing it was not proposed to ask for dues that had not been paid last year but Jonathan will generate an email explaining how much the 2021 dues are and how they can be paid. JK

Scorer's Report.

Trish Knight provided a results sheet for the season. Trish was thanked for her efficient discharge of this task. The new Committee will decide on when and where Annual Prize giving can be held. (A summer picnic was suggested).

Election of Fleet Officers

Pip nominated and Tim seconded the election of the following fleet officers:

- Fleet Captain (Sue and Andy Rhodes)
- Vice Captain (Dave Philpott)
- Treasurer & Scorer (Jonathan & Trish Knight)
- Fleet Dinner & Trophies (Susie Sonntag),

Barry handed control of the meeting to Andy Rhodes who thanked Barry for his time as the fleet captain and his help in preparing for the role.

Foretaste of 2021

Andy asked Tim and Dave to give a foretaste of what racing will be like in 2021

- **Investment**
Tim described the investments the club is proposing to make: replacing the east end jetty with the target of having it completed by the end of April; replacement tractor; scissor lift for the building to improve access to the upper floors; boat barn.
- **Returning to the water:** Tim and Dave explained that the club have put off a full council meeting to discuss when the club will be opened until after Boris's statement on February 22nd. Speculation was for a post Easter opening, with the Ovington Inlands (end March) being cancelled. It is likely that restrictions on numbers will continue but a tally system for using the showers has been established.
- **Club refurbishment:** Whilst in the first lockdown staff were furloughed, in the second their time was spent with club renovations.
- **Club finances:** Whilst the club remains in positive cash it took a hit last year. As the club is dependent on its members for income it is expected that fees will need to rise for next year. Tim suggested that if members wanted to make an additional donation, one option was to forego the rebate due on last year's membership.
- **Championship and World sailing:** Tim outlined the changes that are being discussed as a result of the pandemic.

Andy suggested that it would be good to get the fleet together when restrictions are lifted and proposed

- a repeat of the boat park tidy, potentially the weekend before sailing returns. This was agreed and will be repeated prior to the Flying Fifteen meeting 12/13 June.
- A boat repair / shakedown Saturday before racing on the Sunday

Andy asked if there were any suggestion from the floor and there was a brief discussion

- Sail training (including video for feedback to the sailors) – Simon, Dave, Mark to be approached
- Online Teams Social evenings (as there was a good turnout for the AGM)

- Wine testing
- WhatsApp and Newsletters will continue
- Use WhatsApp to facilitate helm / crew matching
- Continue with single handed racing

Andy expressed thanks to all for participating and showing such enthusiasm for the Flying Fifteen Fleet and closed the meeting.

Date and Time of next meeting: February 16th, 2022 - online