



The meeting opened at 16.00 as a zoom meeting because of Covid-19 restrictions. Voting would be available during the call so that motions could be approved. Reports and other papers had been made available to members using the website with links from the agenda.

1 Welcome

The Commodore, Mick Sheppard, welcomed those attending and thanked those who had prepared documents. He explained how we would conduct the meeting and the voting process.

2 Present - Apologies for Absence - Quorum

36 members were present and 6 more had sent their apologies. Non-cadet membership is 443, a 7% quorum would be 31 and so there was a quorum as required by the constitution. Names are listed in the Appendix.

3 Minutes of the 2019 AGM

The Commodore invited members to comment on the accuracy of the AGM minutes and approve them – no comments were received.

Motion - to approve the minutes of the 2019 AGM.

Accepted unanimously.

4 Honorary Secretary's Report for 2019-2020

David Hayhow presented his report which is in the appendix. He mentioned that the club had been in existence since 1838 and this meeting is the first AGM of the club as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The Hon Secretary commented that the club is entirely dependent upon volunteers and that as usual our volunteers had enabled the club to operate as successfully as Covid-19 would allow.

Motion - to receive the Honorary Secretary's Report.

Accepted unanimously.



5 Commodore's Report for 2018-2019

Mick said that it had been a very frustrating year. 2020 had started with high hopes and plans for working together with other clubs on the river. Covid19 then interfered with everything but did allow a few to indulge in electronic sailing in place of the real thing. John Prevett took the lead in developing methods and procedures to enable us to comply with restrictions. We at last were able to restart racing but spring training was cancelled because social distancing would not allow off the water teaching to take place. We managed thanks to the Alexander family to hold the club regatta but sorely missed the camaraderie of the clubhouse, galley and bar because of social distancing. Next year we will give more emphasis to non-competitive sailing and include more training activities to help sailors regain their confidence and skills.

Motion – to receive the Commodore's Report.

Accepted unanimously.

6 Treasurer's Financial Report for 2019-2020

Rupert Freeman presented his first Treasurer's report for the year ending 30 September 2020, which had been approved by an independent examiner. He thanked the previous treasurer for making the takeover easy.

The key points of our financial position as at 30th September 2020

Current income £70,890 was down £2,727 compared with last year; including Covid19 small business grant from East Suffolk District Council.

Current Expenses (£50,262) down by (£2,499) because of reduced activity.

Operational Surplus (Income less Expenses) amounted to £20,628, £229 less than 2019.

Depreciation of Assets was calculated at £25,085

After Depreciation, the Operational Surplus became a Deficit of (£4,458)

Capital Spend (£7,230) on a new pontoon section

We are a not-for-profit organisation and therefore allowed to have an overall Deficit but it would be safer to have an Operating Surplus sufficient to cover the Depreciation of Assets to build reserves needed to maintain the Fixed Assets in the long term.

Cash Held has increased by £13,524 making a total of £121,818 held as follows:

£70,603 The Family Building Society

£51,060 at Barclays Bank; and

£155 at PayPal

The legal paperwork involved in becoming a CIO cost £4,035 but since as a charity we get a rebate of 80% of the business rates we saved at least £2,000. This saving will continue in the future.

Rupert was asked was it likely that we would need to pay tax on the grant from East Suffolk Council. HMRC may well consider this to be income but since we did not make a profit for the year it is unlikely that we will pay tax on it.

Prospects for 2021 are uncertain because of Covid but since stock items were run down because of lack of activity, replenishment will be required. The commodore added that dredging near the slipway was put off this year and that the north side wall of the club is looking scruffy with thoughts being given to installation of new cladding. There may also be a need for extra



security precautions prompted by the youths' roaming round the club. We may also install an awning over the veranda.

Motion - to receive the Treasurer's Report.

Agreed unanimously.

The Commodore thanked Rupert for his hard work and said his understanding of complex financial issues had improved.

7 Membership Subscriptions and Fees for 2021

The committee has recommended no changes to subscriptions and fees because of the Covid19 effect.

Motion - to accept the committee's suggested fees.

The proposal was agreed unanimously.

8 Election of Officers and Committee

Motion – to approve the proposed officers and committee.

Note: the list of proposed officers also indicates those who are bank signatories and is shown in the appendix.

Accepted unanimously.

9 Any other business at the discretion of the Commodore

None

10 Commodore's Closing Remarks

The Commodore thanked members for attending and hoped that next year we would be able to meet in person. He added that charity status should begin a new era in club history. The legal work on transfer of leases is almost complete thanks to hours of hard work by Jenny Shaw. He expressed thanks to the all the custodian trustees who had helped the club in previous years.

The meeting closed at 17:08.



Secretary's Report

I want to thank all those who have volunteered in so many ways to keep the club afloat; we could not function without so much help.

This meeting is novel on two accounts. First, it's not being held face-to-face thanks to Covid-19, which has disrupted so many of our activities this year. Second, it's the first AGM of the club as a charity but only a few things will change for this reason. One change required by the Charity Commission, the organization which supervises charities, is that all the committee must resign, but are eligible for re-election. Another technicality is that as a "members' club" we needed volunteer custodian trustees to sign leases and other legal documents; now committee members can do this. The committee would like to thank Mel Ringer, Eddie Taylor and Howard Payne and their predecessors for their dedicated service as custodian trustees.

This time last year we had expected that transition to a charity would have been effected before the sailing season began. For numerous reasons this became a long drawn out affair. Our discussions with our bankers and with lawyers to formalize the handover of our property and our leases with the Crown Estate, for the clubhouse, pontoon, slipway and moorings, and Mr Kingston-Smith, for the Dinghy Park were not completed until late summer. We are all extremely grateful to Jenny Shaw for pushing all these changes through and managing to keep in contact with lawyers and bankers who were working from home. She will not be seeking re-election to the committee.

This has been a great year of electronic change. The committee has managed to convene its meetings with Zoom, Liz and Ben Alexander pioneered the way for our members and guests to register for the reduced regatta and sign in to races online and we even managed to hold the regatta awards ceremony online. Social media have entered our lives in a big way allowing discussion and argument before and after sailing. John Adams and others indulged in virtual sailing while we were locked down early in the year. Our Health and Safety and house management specialists have instituted new procedures to keep us safe both on and off the water, but we have been denied the use of the clubroom and changing rooms for social distancing reasons. Other great casualties have been the galley and bar, so we have been denied both **cakes** and ale while chatting after a busy day on the water.

Talking further on electronic changes, many of these have been masterminded by Pat Morgan, who has not only managed to sail in the Baltic but also has effected changes that our founders in 1838 could not have imagined. He's been responsible not only for setting up the website but many other technical challenges.

Looking forward to next year, I hope that we will all manage to resume more vigorous sailing and that things will settle down. I will make my usual New Year's resolution – "Do more sailing". I hope you will too.

We will soon review detailed reports from Mick our Commodore and Rupert, our Honorary Treasurer, who have both worked very hard on our behalf.

Thanks to you all and for all our volunteers who have managed to keep us sailing this awkward year.



Appendix – Treasurers report

See Separate Document

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Appendix – Commodore's Report

By all accounts this has been a frustrating year for all of us. During the winter we had been busily preparing for our sailing season as usual; the club had been engaging with Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club with a view to running joint events and sharing facilities with each other. You will all have noticed the new posters on the Clubhouse wall encouraging all to come sailing with us. We were at the final stages of converting to a Charity Incorporated Organisation and another great sailing year was anticipated.

However, the shadow of Covid19 crept up on us during February and in April came the lockdown and the club was closed for a few weeks. During the lockdown, our dinghy racers kept interest by taking part in a series of computer “virtual” club races organised by John Adams. My lack of dexterity let me down and unsurprisingly one of our younger entrants won.

Meanwhile health and safety risk analyses were carried out and special DYC rules and procedures were drawn up and published to members so that as many of us as possible could safely enjoy sailing on the Deben. Many thanks must go to John Prevett for leading on this.

As soon as restrictions were lifted, members were at last able to go dinghy sailing. Access to the pontoons was re-opened and yacht owners could join our dinghy sailors on the water. Same-household volunteers came to the fore to man safety boats and run organised events. Following social distancing rules, ad-hoc organised racing was begun in July. This triggered a glimmer of hope that some kind of regatta could be held, especially for our youngsters who had already missed out on so much. Thanks to the great effort of our enthusiastic community of racers driven by Ben Alexander a plan was devised, the weather was fantastic and a regatta actually happened in the first week of August. Special thanks must go to our Club Captain Alan Grant, to the Alexander family for running the event.

Right up to the beginning of the current new lockdown, with thanks to the dedicated efforts of volunteers, most members have been enjoying as normal a sailing season as is possible under the circumstances. Now with the new one-month lockdown we again must curb our activities but all being well we may be able to do something at Christmas / New Year and restart the Winter Working Party.

However, I do regret that our non-racers, many of whom are new members and members without their own sailing dinghies have not really had the opportunity to sail with safety boat escort this season but the committee will be working hard over the winter to plan a good introduction to next year's sailing season especially to enable all members to get afloat safely.

This summer some members' enjoyment has been marred by frequent invasions of young swimmers jumping off our pontoon and even from our Crow's Nest. I do not wish to see our clubhouse turn into a fortification but must do what we reasonably can to prevent youngsters



Appendix –Election of Officers, Committee Members and Authorization of Bank Signatories

Our committee acts as trustees of the charity. As this is the first AGM of the charity the Charity Commission requires that all trustees resign but they are eligible for re-election.

Our Commodore has been in post for one year thus will remain for another year. Charlotte Norrbom resigned from the post of Vice Commodore having moved away, Rear Commodore, Ian Cade has moved into that position so we now have a vacancy for a Rear Commodore.

Financial authorities will be authorized signatories for the club’s bank, building society and PayPal accounts.

Officer	Name	Authorized Signatory	Proposed by
Commodore	Mick Sheppard		Committee
Vice Commodore	Ian Cade		Committee
Rear Commodore	Vacancy		
Honorary Treasurer	Rupert Freeman	Yes	Committee
Honorary Secretary	David Hayhow	Yes	Committee
Honorary Assistant Secretary	John Prevett		Committee
Honorary Membership Secretary	Frances Alexander	Yes	Committee
Club Captain	Alan Grant		Committee
Committee Member	Alistair Mickleburgh		Committee
Committee Member	Charmaine Biggle		Committee
Committee Member	Diana Cobb		Committee
Committee Member	Ian Cade		Committee
Committee Member	Jane Bradburn		Committee
Committee Member	Mark Cresswell		Committee
Committee Member	Martin James		Committee
Committee Member	Peter Ling		Committee
<i>Cadet Committee Chairman</i>	Vacancy		
<i>Property Manager</i>	<i>Mick Sheppard</i>		<i>Committee</i>
<i>Training Officer</i>	<i>John Prevett</i>		<i>Committee</i>
<i>Galley Team Leader</i>	<i>Diana Cobb</i>		<i>Committee</i>
<i>Publicity Officer</i>	<i>Jane Bradburn</i>		<i>Committee</i>
<i>Bar Committee Chairman</i>	<i>Charmaine Biggle</i>		<i>Committee</i>

To be approved at AGM 14 November 2020 – David Hayhow – Hon Secretary



Appendix – Attendees

John Adams	Chris Cobb	Pat Morgan
Ben Alexander	Diana Cobb	Robin Parsons
Frances Alexander	Dan Dew	Howard Payne
Liz Alexander	Rupert Freeman	John Prevett
Steve Alexander	Alan Grant	Graham Seabrook
Charmaine Biggle	Diana Hanes	Jenny Shaw
John Brown	Roger Hanes	Mick Sheppard
Peter Brown	David Hayhow	David Tricker
John Bubb	Christine Holding	Dianne Tricker
Liz Bubb	Peter Manning	Jacqueline Tricker
John Burnell	Graham Mole	David Watson
Ian Cade	Pam Morgan	Trevor Woolman

Appendix – Apologies for Absence

Jane Bradburn	Roger Mccombie
Richard Haugh	Peter Shaw
Claire Mccombie	Eddie Taylor

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