ATYC
ASSOCIATION OF THAMES YACHT CLUBS

Officers Meeting

Held at the Bray Cruising Club
On 3rd October 2011 Commencing at 20:00

Minutes

Meeting started at 19:55

Officers present

Michael Shefras	MS
Andy Soper	AS
Peter Hasler	PH
Gaby Chambers	GC
David Jones	DJ
Warwick Morgan	WM (Part attended due to motoring issues)
Jeremy Schomberg	JS
Mike Chambers	MC

1. Chairman's opening statement

Michael opening the meeting expressed his thanks for the team work in the past months since the AGM.

He specifically thanked the officers for the contribution to the success of the Rally which had been very well received by the clubs attending and Mike and team for the competition organisation.

As there is a lot of business to get through tonight with some very pertinent issues to address immediately. Both for the Officers and General Meeting we should make a start.

2 Apologies

Apologies received from Dave Eatwell

3. Confirm Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes were passed by consensus. Minutes to be signed by MS and archived

4. All action points from previous meeting have been carried out.

5. Officers reports

PH Treasurer's report, The Nationwide account is showing £15,282.00 with overall current assets at £18,609.05

There are still outstanding payments due from the Cruising Club which will be chased up.

WM Brief report on the Dinner, the date is 03,03,12 at the same hotel with a ticket price of £30.00. A new band has been booked for this year. There was a profit made last year of £100.00

GC Communications with clubs are going well; the Messenger continues to be well received, there is still concern as to whether it is getting to the right people and even getting on the notice boards. Progress has been made with the on going updating of telephone numbers and e-mails for each club and its officers.

JS No immediate problems, however further distinction of the roles between JS and GC will be required as currently we are duplicating some work and there has been some confusion over the sending of e-mails.

DJ Report to follow at item 9

DE Dave had not sent a report for the RUG's, however Michael did comment that Dave is to retire from the committee, formal notification as from the next General Meeting and formally by the AGM, this early notice is to help with the sourcing of a replacement.

MS Advised the committee that he had some very good conversations with Terry Sharpe which included PH and Andy Hogg on the subject of the Web site and suggested that Terry take up the post of Web Administrator. This was proposed by AS and seconded by GC. All material is to be sent to Terry (TS) and MS will set guide lines on the usage of material to which all are to adhere.

AS Currently having extreme challenges within his current club, it is proving very difficult to give clarity to his Barge Club commitments. Therefore AS was stepping down as Deputy Chairman with immediate effect.

However AS has shown a desire to continue with the Committee by taking on the duties currently carried out by PH, primarily treasurer and H&S. Subject to election at AGM. PH to advise the committee of all his current duties by e-mail.

This leaves the post of Deputy Chairman Open for election at the next AGM, the applicants must be eligible, in particular aware that they will be required to take the post of Chairman in 2014. This vacancy will be announced at the next General Meeting on the 19th October 2011.

ACTION **PH to send list of current duties to all**

MS to develop job specifications for all posts

MS to advertise the vacant officer posts at the General Meeting

It was noted that with DE retiring we should seek a new Officer that could cover the upper River (possibly from Swan Radcot).

Louis Jankel has been pushing for RUG 1 to be represented.

6 Thames Boating Certificate – RYA

No real movement and nothing much to report. Some clubs are to run RYA practical helmsman courses. In particular the TMYC have 4 members that are taking the helmsman instructors course with the RYA to enable them to instruct the course.

On the RYA inland Navigation group, the ATYC will have at least one person that committee.

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The RYA governance, are changing the council of 48 people and top executive management will be replaced this with a new board of 7- 9 members and the Council will meet twice a year to consider matters of principal and where give guidance.

RYA council will be voting in December for this new board.

7 West India Dock Rally Competition Training – Update

Mike Chambers reported:

Test sites not in programme

2 test sites not useable

Burgee Issue, rule will remain

New appointment of head of competitions to go to the General Meeting

Next competitions meeting will be on the 17th October

1st Seminar will be on 22nd January with lunch and this will be at Penton Hook.
There will be a demonstration of tests from Windsor Yacht Club in April 2012

It was agreed that indemnity forms are to be discussed for the 2012 Rally
Life Jackets are to be mandatory, used and correctly fitted.

There was some damage suffered by the ATYC test boat (Yarla Gypsy), the repair has been quoted at both £550.00 and £250.00. The work has been completed for the lower budget and the cost has been covered by the ATYC Rally budget.

All judges are to be fully briefed on safety.

8 West India Dock Rally – Wash up

So far we have received only good feed back and comments.
Some notable items to take forward are as follows;

Ropes and Trots in the main lock need to be improved to allow for safer mooring and also increased mooring to allow more boats in at one time.

The Quiz - was very good – Thanks to Penton Hook for managing it.

The BBQ - was a big success, however it was decided that the ATYC would not give a further donation as the pricing was at a commercial rate and it was felt that the business given was good. MS thanked JS for managing on the evening.

London VTS – have reported that they were pleased with the event and felt it all went well.

Extra stay costs – No bills have been received to date. PH has a record of all boats and JS has a photo of each boat.

Ticketing – this worked well

DJ + AS, MS offered thanks for the organisation of the Chinese Dinner Party

The following points were noted by DJ + AS;
It is imperative that there is only one point of contact
Numbers of people that have paid must be recorded
There is an expectation of club members that they will be sitting together. (This is a point for discussion as the mixing up of people is used to get more people from different clubs talking to each other).

The Marquee – it was agreed that this was a very good facility however the design will need to be looked at with regards to emergency exits.

Table decorations – some were good, however many didn't make any effort at all.

Raffle – this was good and was a good system to have the tickets in the envelopes and this should continue after David has retired.

Auction – we had some good auction items, it was very unfortunate that the PA went down.

.**Welcome Pack** – this was good and had some substance to it.

MC comment – The site entrance was a real pain and must be sorted out for future events. It was not understood as to why the restriction was so intense. It was unnecessary not to hand out more passes. Possible political issue to investigate

Club Commodores – they were unaware that they had to organise their own boats. AS noted that boats may be subject to being moved or set in holding positions. In most cases a greater degree of flexibility is required.

Rally Radio Call – a reminder of any changes or to advertise rally events, this was not agreed by all so further discussion before future implementation.

Rally newsletter – suggestion to send it out every morning, to be discussed

The zoning of sites and numbers need to be set as a larger size for ease of reading

Thanks was made to WID for all their help

9 Thames Motor Boating Association

It was reported that this organisation had become a member of RTA. DJ will open communication with Tony Riley.

10 Pavillon d'Or / ATYC Rally – JS

The Pavillon d'Or is not going ahead and this has been confirmed with the RYA

I (JS) have asked the TMYC it they wish to continue with our previous plan of staging the ATYC rally even thought the Pavillon d'Or has been cancelled. It will still require the additional mooring pontoons.

ACTION MS sorting out costings and a site visit to Beale Park as an insurance for the withdrawal of TMYC.

11 Customer Charter

No body has been happy with it this year; it will be addressed at a meeting in December, 2011. The mainstay is to have a resident lock keeper at each lock otherwise there will always be a problem. This will all be discussed at the next meeting.

Chairman's After Note: ***EA announced on 7 October that they were to freeze Resident Lock Keepers and lease vacant houses.***

12 Waterways Working Group

There has been a 10% increase in licence fees planned, nobody is happy about this and can see no full justification. Ruth hall has been sent a clear message that this is unacceptable.

AS+MS had 15 minutes to talk to the EA Board when it visited the Thames and made the point that why should boat users pay so much more. It was pointed out that the contribution for water companies for the abstraction of water is negligible, certainly not large enough.

The funding for the Thames is less than 1% of EA budget. Boaters are being viewed as a soft option.

The WWG next meeting is on the 31st Oct.

There is an RT alliance meeting on the 11th October.

The Mooring Group meeting to be attended by MS +Officers next week on the 6th October: Progress, How to capture members, autumn report, signage, pay by phone.

13 PLA Matters – DJ

The main subject was on the proposed river park, the RYA has written to the city of London planners asking for more information. The ATYC will follow the general flow of the expert opinions.

Paddle Boards, there is an issue with no lights, they are not stable. They will continue to be a point of discussion.

Richmond Lock will have VHF trained Lock Keepers by the end of the year. David reminded us of the PLA web site and that it is a font of information. The PLA has produced the “Thames Recreational Users guide 2011”, this is free on request and can be requested via the web site. David will have a further update to report on at the General Meeting.

14 Q D J R Pageant 2012 / Olympics

Taking the lead from the rehearsal, there were 35 boats with 33 responses to the questionnaire. The results of which will be invaluable in carrying out the analysis of the event.

David Philips has asked for the Olympics notes to be circulated.

Work is going to start on the footings of the temporary bridge to go up between Boveney and St Mary’s Church.

15 **Club Matters**

16 AOB

It was agreed by MS that he will confirm the location of the 2012 Rally by the end of this week

Thanks were offered to PH for sorting out the arrangements for the Bray Cruising Club to be used for the meeting.

Meeting ended at 22:15

Draft minutes completed on the 6th January and forwarded to MS by e-mail to check for errors and omissions. – MS amendments and returned to JS Saturday 7 Jan, 2012.