

Crouch Area Yachting Federation

Annual General Meeting 2013

14:00 on Saturday 16th March
at the South Woodham Ferrers Yacht Club.

Minutes

Attended by:

Alan Shrimplin	Creeksea SC
David Chick	Creeksea SC
David Lewin	Burnham SC
Derek Underwood	Up River YC
Doug MacEwen	South Woodham Ferrers YC
Duncan Haley	Crouch YC Royal Burnham YC
Eddie Brown	South Woodham Ferrers YC
Edwin Buckley	Royal Corinthian YC
Graham Larkin	West Wick YC
Idris Lewis	Eyott SC
Jan Van der Schaus	Crouch YC
John Negus	Brandy Hole Moorings
John Paul	Burnham SC
Nick Parsons	North Fambridge YC Hullbridge Mooring Holders Assn
Richard Bessey	Roach Sailing Association
Russ Cashel	Crouch YC
Simon Mitchel (Chairman)	Burnham SC

1. Apologies for absence

Andy Fletch	Brandy Hole YC
Dave Aldridge	Hullbridge Mooring Holders Assn
John Stevenson	West Wick YC
Justin Curtis	Brandy Hole Moorings

2. Minutes of last AGM (2010)

Simon Mitchel proposed the minutes as a true record, seconded by Doug MacEwen.

3. Matters arising from the above minutes

Idris Lewis pointed out that the minutes mentioned a vacancy for CAYF RYA delegate, yet David Lewin has since been acting in that capacity. Simon Mitchel replied that Mr Lewin had filled that vacancy since the 2010 meeting.

4. Report on current CAYF position

Simon Mitchel said that there had been a lack of involvement in CAYF for several years, although CAYF delegates had continued to represent yachting interests at the CHA Advisory Committee, RYA Eastern region and the RSPB Wallasea Local Liaison committee.

Richard Bessey reported that although CAYF holds funds of £270.10, the need for funds has diminished because communication is mainly by email, and the RYA no longer require a subscription from CAYF. Up until 2010 member clubs paid a subscription to CAYF, but this has no longer been necessary.

5. Proposal to amend the CAYF constitution

A draft updated constitution was attached to the meeting notice, and was circulated. Richard Bessey outlined the objective of the changes, to simplify the operation of CAYF and improve communication with member clubs, whilst removing the need for any financial management.

Richard suggested that the remaining funds be donated to the RNLI if the constitution changes were accepted. Doug MacEwen proposed that the funds be retained for further consideration at the next AGM.

Nick Parson asked for clarification on the areas defined in the constitution e.g. "Clubs based on the Crouch to the West of Burnham". It was agreed that Creeksea SC fell within the Burnham area, Farnbridge "to the West".

Subject to the amendment re: retaining CAYF funds until next year, the constitution was agreed (proposed Graham Larkin, seconded Doug MacEwen).

6. Matters arising from any amendments to the Constitution

Since CAYF funds are to be retained, a Treasurer needs to be appointed. Richard Bessey agreed to continue with this role unless a replacement came forward, since there will no longer be any subscriptions to collect or pay (indeed there is no expectation of any transactions at all).

7. Election of CAYF Management Committee

- Chairman: Idris Lewis was proposed by Doug MacEwen, seconded by Richard Bessey and elected by a show of hands.
- Secretary and treasurer: Richard Bessey was proposed by Doug MacEwen, seconded by Graham Larkin.
- Two CAYF Delegates to the Crouch Harbour Authority Advisory Committee:
 - Representing the Burnham area: David Lewin was nominated by Idris Lewis and seconded by Alan Shainalin.
 - Representing the Roach area: Richard Bessey was nominated by Idris Lewis and seconded by Doug MacEwen.
- Two Delegates to RYA Eastern Area committee.
 - Idris Lewis was proposed by David Lewin and seconded by Richard Bessey
 - The second delegate position remains vacant
- RYA delegate to the Crouch Harbour Authority Advisory Committee: Idris Lewis.

Idris Lewis summed up to say that these appointments will ensure that yachting interests in the three areas of the Crouch and Roach will be represented on the Crouch Harbour

Authority. He proposed that the outcome of meetings attended by CAYF delegates shall be circulated to member clubs in the form of an email newsletter or similar format. Edwin Buckley said that it was his intention as CHA Chairman to have CHA meeting minutes published on the web site.

It was pointed out that there are only three people on the CAYF Management committee, since Idris and Richard hold more than one post. Idris replied that the constitution allows more members to be elected or co-opted should the need arise.

8. Any other business

Idris reported some items from a recent CHA meeting which he attended as a member of the public.

- Due to recent ill-health the Harbour Master, Mark Wakelin, is now working shorter hours in the post of Chief Executive based in the Harbour Office, whilst Susan Harrison has taken on more hands-on responsibility as Harbour Master Pilot.
- Shellfish Wars are an on-going agenda item. Edwin Buckley reported that legal opinion is being sought by CHA as to whether a general commercial sea fishing licence gives rights to fish in the river. The issue of excessive fishing affects other users of the river in several ways: fishing at night and through moorings is likely to result in collisions and damage to boats. Incidents of actual violence between conflicting parties e.g a boat ramming incident are a concern.
- There is a proposal to review byelaws, in particular speed restrictions. Richard Bessey said that members of the Advisory Committee were pushing to have the outdated byelaws reviewed. The main concern was not so much speed, but wash, which can be a hazard in moorings and anchorages, and has been causing significant erosion to sea walls. The fact that changing byelaws might take some time was all the more reason to get started, by gathering views and broad agreement on the best ways to manage behaviour.

Edwin Buckley reported on the Wallasea project. A Shipping Management plan is being prepared (a draft has already been circulated) to coordinate Crossrail ship deliveries to Wallasea with the yacht racing programme on the Crouch. There have been difficulties at Wallasea with unloading equipment, which is being replaced. If the replacement is successful, around 6 ships per day are expected by the summer.

Idris Lewis proposed that the AGM be moved to January from 2014, as this time of year is less likely to conflict with fitting out.