



PLOCKTON SMALL BOAT SAILING CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.00pm – Thursday 30th November 2023

Venue – PSBSC Boat Shed / Zoom

1. Apologies

The meeting was chaired by the Commodore, **David Hay**.

- **Present:** Neil MacRae, Graham Sharp, Alasdair Sharp, Michael Hay, Roslyn Hay, Toby Smith & Alaisdair Mackenze. **Present online:** David Hay (Chair), Patrick MacRae, Alexander Mackenzie, Fiona L. Mackenzie, Julia Mackenzie, Simon Fraser, Ian Hay, Laura Anderson, Douglas Hamilton, Malcolm Mackenzie, David Skilling, Sarah Bruce, Teo Becu.
- **Apologies:** Catherine Will, Aonghais Rowe, Fiona Taylor and Alexander Tindall.

2. Adoption of Minutes 2021 AGM

Proposed by Graham Sharp and Seconded by Alaisdair Mackenzie.

With one change to remove the word 'Agenda' from the title.

3. Commodore's Report

David Hay stated that he had thoroughly enjoyed it and it has been an education of all that goes on behind the scenes and he has learnt a lot about the Club and race management. David thanked all the volunteers for giving up their time once again, from the social committee, rescue boats, shore management to all on the water as well helping to keep the Club growing. Major positive for the year was the time keeping rota and should be retained going forward, it keeps it fresh on the line and kept numerous people involved and learning about the Club.

David also gave a big thankyou to Neil MacRae (Secretary) for his help throughout the year and stated that the changes planned for the year for the yacht race were enough to establish contact with other Clubs for their involvement and David would continue this into 2024 to help this race grow. The social gathering on the first Saturday before the fortnight was a great success and helped kick start the fundraising and should continue for 2024 to bring people together.

David said for the sailing races, he had tried very hard to set the courses to give more control over the result and ensure races are completed in time rather than setting a full distance course, hence why Seasgair was used so frequently, perhaps a new mark somewhere in the middle would help with this in the future and give more options to the Commodore. David continued to state that the shortening of races is something we could improve on and was happy to see the Code Flag 'S' option available in the directions, but would have liked to have used the lap times if a race did not finish after one lap had already been completed.

Also some new VHF's fitted to the boats and ashore should be purchased for 2024. Finally David would just like to wish Laura all the best for 2024 and thanked everyone for giving him a fairly easy year as Commodore.

4. Treasurer's Report & Adoption of Accounts

Julia Mackenzie our treasurer shared the current account for the season just past and this was: Proposed by David Hay and Seconded by Neil MacRae.

Julia stated the account was looking a lot more healthy and memberships were up and we managed a big rebate from Scottish Electric for over charging us. Julia also continued to thank Peter Mackenzie for his work in preparing the documents required for the Public Entertainment Licence, which we have now secured for the next 3 years and this will open the doors for future fund raisers.

Graham Sharp questioned what EICR stood for, David Hay replied that this was the Electric Installation Condition Report and Julia confirmed this.

Ian Hay questioned whether the electricity costs were before the rebate and what is the net electricity cost as it seems a lot for the short time that the shed is used. Julia replied by stating the income is the rebate of £2,040 and the £978 which is from April to April is some of what they paid us back and we are paying about £150 a quarter. Ian Hay stated that this still seemed a lot for the little time it is used. This will be looked at with the Committee for 2024.

Ian Hay also asked about the boat shed rental and if it was only Neil (Neillie Ach) MacRae's contribution and how many times had he used it. Julia said it was Neil (Neillie Ach) MacRae's rental and he had used it 9 times this year. Michael Hay asked if it was agreed that Neil (Neillie Ach) MacRae would also pay for the Public Entertainment Licence on top of the rental fee. Neil MacRae said they would look into it, but it wasn't the only reason why we did get the licence.

Everyone thanked Julia for compiling the report and efforts throughout the year.

Plockton Small Boat Sailing Club Treasurer's Report 2022-23

Account Balance 21st November 2022: £2,197.84

Account Balance 30th November 2023: £4,778.62

2022-2023 has been a good year for the club, with memberships and social events generating a more comfortable level of income. We were able to address the high energy costs with Scottish Electric (who had been estimating incorrectly) and received a rebate and two quarters without being charged. We have secured charitable exemptions up to 2025 from Business Stream (water supplier). We have made some improvements to the boatshed and secured a three year public entertainment license to allow us to do more fundraising next season. We would like to thank Peter Mackenzie for all his efforts supporting the club with the paperwork and preparation for this to happen. It is recommended we step up fundraising next year as we anticipate the need for a number of expenses, including improving the starter's hut and tech set-up there.

Income	£
Membership	2,170
Yacht Race/Night	1,800
Concert/Dance	3,170
Electricity Rebate	2,040
Boatshed Rental	450
Advertising	100
Total	9,730

Expenditure	£
Insurance	2,500
Yacht Night and Regatta Dance	1,670
Electricity	978
Fuel	467
Highland Council PEL	177
EICR	150
Other	300
Total	6,242

*Other includes charity donations, website renewal, and ad hoc things like paint and the cannon license.

5. Membership Update by the Membership Secretary

Neil MacRae Membership Secretary shared the spreadsheet for the previous years breakdown of members and this showed a very slight increase in members. Currently our total for 2023 is 79 members. Neil continued by stating that the quick way to increase our numbers is to start training again for all ages and informed everyone that we have recently been looking at paying instructors to come to Plockton to carry out this training on a regular basis. This will continue for 2024 to ensure we are using the Clubs assets and continuing to grow the Club year on year.

Neil stated that he proposes no changes to the costs and if we can increase the number of members there will be no need to increase them next year.

Memberships	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Honorary	5	6	6	6	6	7	?	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Life	26	26	26	26	28	25	?	26	27	27	27	29	31	28	26
Family	19	16	16	31	39	37	?	15	33	45	13	7	11	13	14
Individual	41	55	50	55	57	51	?	71	48	40	30	31	27	20	25
Student	9	11	12	Removed											
Cadet	1	3	3	Removed											
Junior	9	20	23	34	32	30	?	40	15	10	20	5	4	3	3
Social	7	8	9	17	17	15	?	5	5	12	5	4	3	4	5
TOTAL	117	145	145	169	179	165	147	164	134	140	101	82	82	74	79

6. Members Agenda Items

1. Proposal to combine the boys and girls race to junior races.

Neil MacRae stated that this was proposed to him by Laura Anderson after a request from her son and one which he also agreed with. Michael Hay stated that he was completely against it as the number of boats in the fleet would require heats for a winner and this would not work for kids. This has been a tradition for generations and would be a shame to lose it.

Neil MacRae stated that it would be 2 separate races and the current age group of 9 to 15 would be split to 9-12 and 13-15 for example. Laura Anderson stated that it could be a sliding range to ensure everyone who wants to sail can sail. Michael Hay said it would be too vague and would ruin 2 cups, just for now we may not have many girls racing but this will change in the future and it cycles a lot year on year. This was always a first come first served basis and if you didn't get a boat then you didn't get to sail. David Hay stated that a big part of the year was to try and get as many people on the water as possible and not have people missing out if it could be avoided.

Graham Sharp stated that it sounded like this had been discussed in depth out with the Committee and it was the first he had heard of it along with a few others. Julia Mackenzie stated that this was discussed a lot after the Boys and Girls race this year and was in favour of the change, with the recent success of changing the Melora and Auchwurin Races to include more participants. This would also allow children to race against children of their own age by splitting the age group for juniors.

David Hay offered that perhaps a 3rd trophy would be the answer for this with a sliding age range year on year to get everyone on the water and not change the purpose of the trophies donated to the Club in the first place. Ian Hay agreed that an additional mixed race might work but would vote for not changing the original boys and girls race. Ian stated that had we known how many children wished to race earlier in the season then we could have accommodated them all on the water. Neil MacRae stated that his reasons for backing the change were

nothing to do with this years race and followed the same process as the Ladies race being changed, as it is no longer applicable and can be changed to work better. Alasdair Mackenzie stated that as this is new, then this should be looked into by the Committee for the pros and cons and brought back to the next AGM if deemed necessary. The Commodore agreed that this would go back to the Committee for a full discussion

7. Election

- a. Honorary Life Membership – No member put forward for this, constitution currently states a maximum of 10% as Honorary Life Members.
- b. Office Bearers

Office Bearers	NAME	Proposed	Seconded
Commodore	<i>Laura Anderson</i>	<p><i>Candidates for election to the Office Bearers were eligible for re-election Notified to the Honorary Secretary prior to Wednesday 29th November 2023 at 7.00pm.</i></p>	
Vice Commodore	<i>TBC</i>		
Honorary Secretary	<i>Neil MacRae</i>		
Honorary Treasurer	<i>Julia Mackenzie</i>		
Membership Secretary	<i>Neil MacRae</i>		
Sailing Convenor	<i>Michael Hay</i>		
Time Keeper	<i>Sarah Bruce</i>		
Principle Instructor	<i>Alexander Mackenzie</i>		
Social Convenor	<i>TBC</i>		
Welfare Officer	<i>Lauren Glasgow</i>		

- c. General Committee Members

General Committee Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
Ian Hay	<p><i>Candidates for election to the Committee were eligible and Notified to the Honorary Secretary prior to Wednesday 29th November 2023 at 7.00pm.</i></p>	
Graham Sharp		

Commodore David Hay will automatically serve as Ex-Officio on the Committee for one year.

All above agreed by at least 2/3^{rds} of the persons present.

8. Commodore Handover and Close

David Hay said a thank you to all members attending tonight and handed over to our new Commodore. Laura Anderson thanked David and everyone and closed the meeting for 2023.