

THE NORTH CHESHIRE CRUISING CLUB LTD

Minutes of the digital “zoom” Board meeting of the Board of Directors of the abovementioned Club held on Wednesday 15th February 2023 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT:-

John Fenton (Chairman), Pam Suggitt (Company Secretary), Pam Russell, (Membership Services Director), Martin Tattersall, (Premises Director), Eric Roberts (Land & Water Space Director), Ruth Smith (Finance Director), Willie Walker (Director without Portfolio), Mike Robison (Director without Portfolio)

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:- Lyndsay Hillman (Bar Director)

2.APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Proposed by BW and Seconded by PR

3.MATTERS ARISING:- None

4.CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:- Nothing to report

5. COMPANY SECRETARY’S REPORT:- Nothing to report

6. FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:-

RS presented a Profit and Loss Report/Balance Sheet/A Detailed Point of Sale system for the bar. The POS system was approved by the Board.

7. LAND & WATER SPACE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:-

23 members turned up on Saturday and I must admit a lot of work was done. At least 6 volunteers do not moor in the arm.

We have started the piling again aiming for September finish.

8. MEMBERSHIP SERVICES DIRECTOR’S REPORT:-

I have 3 lots of new members to put to the board. One year’s probation for all.
Gordon and Pat Letij - N/b Sweet Pea – moored at Victoria Pit – 25 ft Dawn Craft.
Patrick Beirne affiliated to Cobweb (Grandson)
Mike Hodgkinson and Val Lipworth - N/b Bliss moored at Furness Vale – 58 ft narrow boat

9. PREMISES DIRECTOR’S REPORT:-

I rang a company called Clarius Eco Inspections who Canal & River Trust have appointed to inspect the premises. It was a mobile number - nobody answered so left a message.
Have rang Craig Jones and left a message for him to inspect the fire alarm system.
The stairlift will be serviced on the 23rd February by the A6Mobility shop local company with good reviews.

Mary Sunley have booked the room for their annual meetings and training, dates as follows:-

Training Day 22nd February

First aid training 10th March

AGM 14th March

If I get any replies from my calls, then I will let you know on Wednesday

10. BAR DIRECTOR'S REPORT:-

- ❑ We have had the usual club nights and a Pie & Pint session in January – the next is scheduled for the 11th February. Linda H has kindly offered to volunteer again with the pie side of things and Willie has agreed to cover the bar for me and help Linda out, thanks Willie!
- ❑ I have already replied on email that I am in full support of the new till/payment system for the bar which Ruth has kindly provided us info for. We would need to make sure the WIFI is at it's best/upgraded as the system works off it.
- ❑ I still don't have any response from the board in relation to a club debit card/access to it for stock for the bar. As explained in my earlier emails, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find time to go to various supermarkets to get the cheapest deals etc. I am therefore going to start ordering bottles/cans and some spirits directly from Bollington Beer supplies. Bollington already supply our draft and we have an account with them which is paid for directly by the club (SB does this when I give her the invoice). This will mean a slight cost increase/VAT but I think we will still be making a profit on goods sold so no need to increase prices at this point. Pam R has kindly done a cash and carry run for me so thanks Pam, it is massively appreciated!!
- ❑ I have spoken to Lee at Bollington's and he has offered to have the brewer come out and survey the pumps and T-Bars in the bar. I am looking to get a slight premium lager to go alongside the Carlsberg which will be approx. £3.20 a pint (£2.80 for Carlsberg). A few members tasted it on Friday and got the seal of approval haha! The brewer will fit us with new T-Bars to show what we have on offer and remove the old/dead ones which are no longer in use, so the Boddingtons etc. We still have nowhere near the numbers coming to the club to justify purchasing more of that. Tetley's will remain as it does last longer than other cask ales and seems to be going down well. When it's all set up properly and running through the right pump it will be at the right temperature (it's currently colder than it should be as we don't have the right lines). There is no fee from the brewer for this to be done so if there are no objections at this meeting I will go ahead and arrange that to take **place ASAP**.

On a personal note, I am becoming increasingly worried/frustrated with the lack of support from most members when it comes to offering to help behind the bar; be it a normal club night or club event.

In terms of events alone we currently have the laying up supper, race night and Willy's film night booked in over the next couple of months and despite sending emails to all members asking for support for the events and I've only had one email response offering support. (other than Willy's). Unfortunately as confirmed by Directors previously involved in bar work, it is hard to interest volunteers.

I understand from John (he mentioned it briefly on Friday) that Martin has agreed for a wake to be held in the club soon, however I am not aware of the date or time so can this be confirmed? Also as it will be in the week and I work the board will need to seek volunteers to work the bar and look to have a run through me if they haven't worked the bar before (till, cellar etc).

Whilst I appreciate people are busy, I am too. Working full time and having my own boat to work on takes up a lot of time and it means that my only spare time is taken up with running

around doing shopping for and working in the bar and this isn't sustainable long term, without volunteers we won't be able to accommodate functions etc.

I've worked behind the bar since around Sept/Oct 21, formally getting my license in January 22 and taking over, with the support of Bob and Sheila Barlow with the accounting side and have worked pretty much every single Friday since.

I do feel that moving forward and without the required support of members I'm not going to be able to continue in this position long term and that the board will need to seek someone else who has the capacity to take over the running/regular working behind the bar. Whilst I don't make this statement lightly I'm afraid I single handily just don't have the time or capacity to be able to dedicate to the bar every club night/event on my own any more (it also means that I don't get to actually enjoy any event as a member as I am always working them) I'm really not sure what the next steps are as the board but I need to share this with you now for your consideration. Maybe one solution is that the club makes it a duty requirement for members to do some hours behind the bar.

Suggestions from board members abounded but nothing conclusive was decided.

PS, that said Linda Hambleton has been a godsend for Pie and a Pint and Mike Robison too as without him the bar would be closed when I've been on holiday or poorly so a big thank you to them! It shouldn't though, always fall to them to step in, it's not fair all round.

11. DIRECTOR WITHOUT PORTFOLIO'S REPORT (WW):-

Club's 80th Anniversary

1. A village fête type of event could be considered, including inviting the village to help us to celebrate our 80th. 2. Co- promotion for a number of children's activities with a child's passport to get a star for each activity stuck in it, (a small charge could be made for this). 3. Adult entertainment could be from a brass band, Adlington Morris Men, displays from Anson Museum, High Lane Model Railway society, etc etc. 4. Evening entertainment could be a small concert featuring things like Barber Shop Singers, Stockport Ukulele Band together with an Open Mike session for members to display their talents. The event could be either one or two days. A boat rally would have been nice but C&RT will run short of water again by August time. C- promotion could be considered with other village groups ie:- Scouts, Cricket Club, Tennis Club, plus others. A Budget from the club should be decided. A steering committee to be set up.

Send out an e-mail to members asking them to vote for the above.

12. DIRECTOR WITHOUT PORTFOLIO'S REPORT (MR):-

MR brought forward a suggestion concerning how installing solar panels on the roof of the Clubhouse would save the club money. He went into detail. However, we need permission from Canal & River Trust. The Board agreed to MR making further enquiries.

13. COMMODORE'S REPORT:- Nothing to report

Sunday lunches averaging £28.00 a week. Lunches should finish end of April. Should have enough money for a BBQ in the not-too-distant future.

13.ANY OTHER BUSINESS:-

- a) Lighting needed in area where dredger will be moored.
- b) Check insurance rules for moorings.
- c) PR reported leak in cistern in Ladies toilet. MT to attend to this on his return from holiday.
- d) The Board decided to increase the Membership Fees. It has been 10 years since it was increased.
- e) Following on receipt of an e-mail from Gordon Smith, PS was asked to write to Gordon Smith as the Board wish to organise a meeting with him. ER and MR to meet him direct. The position of Health & Safety Officer (Advisory) is still vacant.
- f) Where is the Health & Safety file? (Last known storage area in the foyer in the locked office). PS to check.
- g) It was decided that a Debit Card in the name of the club be organised for LH.
- h) Internet needs checking.
- i) Hazel and Brian Bowker carried out work on the club's boathouse which they rent from the club, (although they had been told not to by both ER and MR). This should not happen – the club should carry out the work.

There was no further business and the meeting ended at 10:30 pm

14)DATE OF NEXT ZOOM BOARD MEETING

Monday 13th March 2023 at 7.30 pm

Chairman

DRAFT