

NORTH CHESHIRE CRUISING CLUB LTD

Minutes of the second digital “zoom” meeting of the Board of Directors of the abovementioned Club on Monday 8th February 2021 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT:-

John Fenton (Chairman), Pam Suggitt (Company Secretary), Bill Jewsbury, (Finance Director), Eric Roberts, (Land & Water Space Director), Pam Russell, (Membership Services Director), Denise Wright (Director without Portfolio). Martin Tattersall, (Premises Director)

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-

Bob Barlow, (Director without Portfolio - Bar)

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Proposed by ER and Seconded by DW

3. MATTERS ARISING:- none

4. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:-

I have had acknowledgement from C&RT that they have received the insurance documents that I have sent them. I pointed out to them that we are at the moment in negotiation for new insurance for 2021, but I haven’t had any paperwork as yet.

Griffith & Armour (our insurers) have been in touch to say that they have sorted out the new insurance and will be forwarding the documentation together with the invoice in due course. When it arrives, I will forward a copy on to C&RT.

As expected, the club hasn’t heard from the tree lopping people who were acting on behalf of the EE network. They said they would be in touch when they were going to come back and finish off. I won’t hold my breath in view of their previous non-communication. It would appear that the signal is okay now.

I did try and send a text round telling everybody that Brian Bowker had paid the bill for his boat on hardstanding, but it didn’t go so I’m putting it in my report. Despite us sending him a letter giving him a week to comply and pay the bill, he decided that he would pay two days after the expiry of the weeks’

notice. I thought that maybe as he had deigned to pay that this would be an end to his unendingly problem causing.

New board members will not be aware that when Tom Sutton took over as Premises Director, Brian was laying claim to club equipment then. Tom told him the club was fed up with this and that he had to remove any and all equipment that he considered his and that any equipment that remained on or in club premises after a fortnight would be deemed by default to belong to the club. The only exceptions would be if he could show an original purchase receipt or written consent of ownership from the donator. That was 14 months ago! Unfortunately, it would appear that we need to review the situation with regard to Brian and his antics and blatant commandeering of club property, which we all know in many cases has been donated to the club by current or former members.

With regard to Rodney Bostock. Pam and I have visited his house on three occasions in the last 10 days.

The first was on Friday 29th January, we knocked on the door and rang the bell for half an hour and eventually gave up as we got no reply.

The next occasion was Thursday 4th February, where we spent another wasted half hour banging and ringing on his door. Pam eventually put a note through his letterbox giving both mine and Bill's contact details and asking him as a matter of urgency to get in contact with either of us – nothing was forthcoming.

Whilst we were standing at the glass front door, we noticed that on a pile of slabs stood on their end in his glass porch was what appeared to be Bill's registered letter on top of them unopened, but obviously put there.

The last occasion was Friday 5th February where we spent another fruitless half hour knocking and ringing and again there was no reply. Evidently, someone had come to the door as the note that Pam had posted the day before was now missing. It's worth pointing out that on all three occasions the keys were left in the door lock on the inside, which must imply that he was in and not wanting to answer the door as he must have heard us knocking etc., as we made enough noise. (It would appear that RB has stored his boats on hardstanding for 20 years, maybe longer).

5. COMPANY SECRETARY'S REPORT:- nothing to report

6. FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:-

As I reported last week, we still have no payment from Rodney Bostock or any kind of contact, he did sign for the letter and John and Pam have knocked on his door to no avail, they have offered to go again and if still no response, we need to decide our next course of action. Small claims often cost so much, it's not really worth the hassle, if we can claim ownership we could try and give the boats away, but I know they are in a poor state so it's one to discuss.

Action to be taken

John Suggitt is to be asked to contact IWA/AWCC and JF to speak to Max Longton re Rodney Bostock/boat insurance on hardstanding.
(paperwork awaited from BJ before action).

Adrian Case with Taylor Maid paid his mooring on the date he said. His next payment is April 1st, so we will wait till then with him.

Is his boat licenced?

Action to be taken

Sheila Barlow to be asked to check this.

Hazel has been shown how to use the card machine, so should be ok for future transactions. I will get it mentioned in the Ditchcrawler to remind people they can pay by card. It was originally decided we would charge 1% on transactions over £50 which I don't think has happened with a couple of transactions. I have made a poster outlining the rules with card payment for the workshop and office.

Action to be taken

It was decided to monitor card payments.

Members are continuing to licence their boats through us and I think we need to remind them that they will incur a charge if they don't. The commission is valued income for the club and at the moment we need all we can get. C&RT are not very good with the processing but I seem to have a helpful contact in Customer Service now so am getting better communication over payments.

When John Suggitt produces the Ditchcrawler, I can print some copies for the workshop for him. I did this for the last issue and don't mind doing it again.

I have tried to access the CCTV and had no joy. I think we need more info like device name and codes. Have we got this or should one of us speak to Craig Jones? Has anyone managed to view it yet?

Action to be taken

BJ to ring Craig Jones to discuss (bigger memory to be installed)?

At some point can we look into extending the Club's WIFI further down the Arm? This should only involve WIFI extenders and access to power I believe.

The Club's expenses have been playing on my mind and I would like to trim costs where possible. We don't have excess costs but some things could be looked at, the bins for example I think need price comparisons and I'm thinking of seeing if I can alter the collections for the time being. Some of the things we buy through the wharf could be sourced cheaper, we just need to have an eye on what we spend and what on.

Once we eventually head out of lockdown, I suggest we advertise our hardstanding facility to see if we can encourage some more boats, especially a 60 footer along the wall.

Oh, just a head up, I did a zoom chat this week and it didn't give me the unlimited time like before so may only get 40 minutes. An idea would be to schedule one for 7.30 pm then another one for 8.30 pm so we have the codes if the first one runs over and there will be time to brew up in between.

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

Because of lockdown nothing has been done with landscaping on the area past Ron Axon's shed. The plan for the moorings on the left was to be started after the landscaping but because of lockdown it is on hold.

The most urgent at this time is the problem with Rodney Bostock and the owner of Taylor Maid.

The Wright's old boathouse has an asbestos roof. It cost NCCC £1000.00 to have Steve Rowe's boathouse removed by a Specialist.

Five boats are due to take up moorings in the arm.

8. MEMBERSHIP SERVICES DIRECTOR'S REPORT:-

Nothing to report apart from the problem of Rodney Bostock who has not paid membership, so is officially not a member.

No new members

9. PREMISES DIRECTOR'S REPORT:- nothing to Report

MT asked whether the frost stat was in use in the clubhouse.

The answer was yes.

JF reported that a problem has arisen concerning water coming into the workshop around the door.

10. DWP BAR REPORT:- nothing to Report

11. DWP REPORT – DW:– nothing to Report

12. COMMODORE'S REPORT:- nothing to Report

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:-

a) MT said that by law members of the NCCC should not be doing any work on site. They are only allowed to check on the condition of their boats and carry out emergency work on their boats if necessary. JF to write to club members and remind them of this.

b) BJ visits the club every Sunday to check for any post.

c) ER said he will advise members of any problems with boats if he sees any.

d) BJ to send copy of Rule Book to ER

e) A letter had been received from John Suggitt via the Secretary concerning Brian Bowker. According to John F, it would appear from John's letter that Brian isn't content to stop creating problems and is still laying claim and commandeering equipment that isn't his and what's more depriving other members of its use. A meeting been arranged to discuss these problems with Brian for Monday 22nd February 2021. Brian will not be present at this meeting.

Meeting ended 8.55 pm

14) DATE OF NEXT ZOOM BOARD MEETING:-

Monday 8th March 2021 at 7.30 pm