

SPRING ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY 7th APRIL 2011

The commodore called the meeting to order at 19:30 and welcomed all those attending.

Agenda Item 1 Apologies

Apologies were received via members attending:

Sean Cunningham (via John Dougal)

William McAlpine (via Phil Whetton)

26 Members were present including 9 Committee members and the President.

Agenda Item 2 Adoption of the minutes of the October 2010 AGM Minutes.

These were proposed as a true record of that meeting by Sandy Thomson and seconded by Phil Whetton. There were no dissensions.

Agenda Item 3 Office Bearers' Reports

Commodore (Captain Denis Sullivan)

“Well here we are again, another winter over and living in hope for better weather this season.

Thanks to the Committee

As always I wish to record my heartfelt thanks to all our committee members for all the work they do. Many thanks also to non committee members who do a lot of work for the club, namely Willie McAlpine, Moira Hoyes, Nan Whetton, Ian Girvan, Sean Cunningham and John Dougal.

Web Site.

I am sure that those of us who have accessed the website will agree that it is working particularly well. The system of e mail links to new posts has been a great success and has resulted in dramatically increased activity. Many thanks to Nan (Whetton) for all her hard work.

Vice Commodore.

One of the tasks we have to perform this evening is to confirm the appointment of our new Vice Commodore. As you will know this post was left unfilled at the October meeting. Sandy Thomson has worked tirelessly bringing himself up to speed on the position, and drawing up a racing programme .I am sure that if elected he will be a great asset.

Planned Improvements

Further to my October report I am pleased to announce that the extension to the patio is now complete. Many thanks to all the willing volunteers for all their hard work. Thanks also to Ken Bellini for the free supply of slabs to do the Job.

Work Parties.

Praise was also due to those who regularly turned up each winter Sunday to carry out improvements to the club. He believed it was probably the lure of Eva's buns which encouraged the work force!

Open Day.

Following the success of last year's open day, we have provisionally agreed to repeat the exercise in 2011. The date chosen is July 16th and subject to the approval of members we will confirm this date with the RYA and Fife Council.

We have also been approached by Alex Hill of the Gala committee to see if it would be possible to make this a joint event with the Daft raft race. Unfortunately the preferred date for the Daft raft race is August 6th and it will probably not be possible for us to accommodate this date.

Security

Sadly I have to report that we have recently had a series of break ins and thefts from members' boats, with diesel fuel being the main target.

Phil will be expanding on this subject as it is becoming increasingly obvious that we need to improve our security arrangements as soon as possible.

Here's wishing you all a happy and safe sailing season.

Denis"

Vice Commodore (Designate) (Sandy Thomson)

Racing Calendar

S.T. gave details of the forthcoming schedule of races, including: 4 evening races, 5 Club races championship + the Everett and Rae trophy races.*

OOD duties

1. It now appears that there are enough volunteers to cover all the programmed races.
2. A 'Master Class' will be held to take those unsure about racing arrangements through the necessary procedures. It is hoped that this may take place in the Starter's Box.

Handicapping

S.T. reported that he found the subject quite complex but was gradually working his way into the matter with the support and help of Ian Girvan.

FCC Regatta dates for 2012.

S.T. said that he would shortly be attending a meeting with other FYCA members at the Cramond boat club to finalise the dates for next year's regatta.

Forth Pilot Hand book.

The new updated version of the handbook (whose publication date was delayed by copyright issues) was now on sale at a price of £25.00. S.T. indicated that he had negotiated a deal at £23.00 per volume, but that price would depend on how many were ordered. He urged all those interested in obtaining a copy to contact him a.s.a.p.. The book contains details of harbours and moorings between Berwick and Fraserburgh with added information for transiting the Forth & Clyde canal.

Finally, he wished to thank Eva for the provision of cakes for the work parties.

* By the Sec: Details of all races and cruises and other calendar events may be found under their discrete headings on the web-site forthcruisingclub.org

Cruising convenor

(Alastair Bullions)

“The sailing programme this year includes a mixture of day, evening, weekend and night sailing.

The shake out cruise is Saturday 30th April

The next planned cruise is a longer cruise planned for Anstruther and Eyemouth leaving on Friday the 20th May returning to Limekilns on the following Monday.

In June we have our first evening cruise on the 9th at 7p.m., followed by an overnight trip to Dysart on the 11th and on the 26th one of the busiest cruises of the last couple of years, the bring your own barbecue cruise, a morning sail returning for a lunchtime barbecue.

July has three programmed cruises. An evening cruise on the 7th and weekend cruises to Cramond and Aberdour on the weekends of 22nd and 29th respectively.

August 5th/6th Anstruther Muster and on the 19th/20th we have a treasure hunt for younger members either on Inchcolm or at Aberdour

We have programmed a night cruise on the 3rd September the destination is yet to be decided. We will then have the closing cruise on the 25th.

Please keep an eye out for the Bell Trophy which will be out soon and remember to get your entry in for the cruising log competition.

So here’s hoping for some decent sailing weather over the summer.

Alastair.”

Rear Commodore (Piers and Moorings)

(Philip Whetton)

Work still to be taken in hand

P.W. started his report by indicating the jobs that still remained to be undertaken, comprising:

Replacing the draught boards.

Replacing the davit ropes

Patching the south pontoon mooring rod where worn. A permanent repair will be effected when time and tides permit.

Affixing the rubber fendering holding brackets (to Hand) to the south pontoon.

Placing of handrails at various steps, once manufactured and galvanised.

The replacement of the defective power plinth at the bottom of the garden. (The device is on back order.)

The provision of mast racks and configuration of the lower S.W. garden to allow for their placing.

Work undertaken by the Winter Work Parties.

Phil commented that considerable work had been undertaken by the winter work parties:

Enlarging the patio area which absorbed a considerable amount of the manpower available and included clearing the overgrown western flower bed and over-turfing the area with grass from the enlarged patio area.

Manufacturing, transporting and laying five extra sinkers at Limekilns pier, allowing mooring for an extra 4 (large) boats.

Re-making the steps up to the starter's box.

Other tasks undertaken

Moorings allocated for the forthcoming season.

Scheduling of lifts for crane in had been promulgated.

General

Costs for crane-in and mast stepping would remain the same as last year.

It was advised that all members review their boat security measures in light of the recent spate of thefts (generally diesel). They should particularly ensure that vessels were left locked in their absence.

Rear Commodore (Clubhouse)

(Russell Kelly).

Dampness

Decorations were completed last year. However some signs of dampness still show at the front door. Dennis seems to think that this is due to missing window mastic. We will check this and if required rectify in the summer months.

We have a rising damp patch at the Brucehaven Road door. It is intended to put a ventilated box around this to stop it being so unsightly. Since that decision Sean Cunningham has sealed and re-painted this area. We will wait and see what happens, but if it flakes again we will box it in.

Front Door

We have installed a lockable panic bolt on the Brucehaven Road door for less able members who would find this helpful whilst attending functions or meetings. Keys can be made available to members who require them.

CCTV

CCTV has been discussed at the meetings and it was decided to leave it in the meantime.

However recent thefts have occurred in the boat park. I am meeting a company next Friday with regards to spec and price. This will now be discussed at committee I think we should have some form of deterrent by crane out

Starters Box

The Committee has had discussions about the poor state of the starter's box. The president is investigating costs. We will possibly look at replacing this in the future.

Heating system

We are also looking at the possibility of coupling the new central heating system to our existing hot water system and taking out the old water boiler.

Again thanks to Sean, John and Moira for their on going assistance".

Rear Commodore (Club boats)

(George Scrivener)

Osprey's Engine

George reported that unfortunately that the engine was in need of a major overhaul and predicted that this would not be a cheap undertaking, citing that the cost of a new timing belt alone was some £80. It was however necessary to maintain the reliability and performance of the engine.

Coxswains

He intended to carry on the same scheme to train volunteer coxn's that being 'on the job' training by marrying up those who wished to train with those already experienced. This had proved to be effective over the recent past.

Mooring chains.

Given that the present chains were both worn and corroded and having concerns over the boat's security in a hard blow, he intended replacing and upgrading the existing mooring arrangements.

Anti fouling

George would be more than happy to allow other members to help anti-foul 'Osprey'

Treasurer

(Christian Scrivener)

Finances

I am pleased to advise that the club finances are healthy again this season, so therefore am happy to say that the membership fees for next season will only increase by the agreed standard rise of 2.5% per annum. Hopefully you will all be delighted by this news!

Crane-in

Like last year there have been no pre-paid deposits for crane-in, so I will be present on Saturday afternoon (16th) and all day on Sun(17th) to receive your hard owned cash (hopefully Eva will take payments on Saturday morning) £40 per boat lift and £20 for each mast. Please ensure that payments are made prior to your boat being lifted in or out.

Club Merchandise

Should anyone require club merchandise [fleece jackets, polo shirts and the like] then please speak to me about placing an order.

Social convenor

(Kirsty Maguire)

General

K. M reviewed social events including the recent Haggis Night and Pie and Pudding night (which everyone agreed had been great successes) but had concerns over the closeness of the latter to the former which despite the provision of excellent pies and puddings had no been so well attended. She also regretted the cancellation of the Mulled Wine evening which had had to be cancelled due to the foul weather. She looked forward however to the forthcoming Commodore's Party.

Dinner/Dance & prize giving

Kirsty said that she was yet to make arrangements for this event and asked that if anyone had views on an alternative venue to contact her.

Help & Support

Once again Kirsty asked for help in the preparation and execution of all club based events, especially the forthcoming Crane-in week end.

Secretary

(John Hoyes)

The secretary confessed to having left his notes at home but gave an off the cuff review of events, but undertook to place the detailed notes in the minutes, these are:

Membership

At the previous SGM we had approximately 87 members. and 55 boats

This year we have fewer members but more boats, i.e. 85 members and 65 boats

The membership- comprising:

A1s	15	Family Member –No boat	£765
A2s	51	Family Member –Boat owner	£8517
B1s	0	Cadet Member (Non Boat Owner)	£0
B2s	6	Cadet Member (Boat Owner) Plus all dinghy sailors)	£330
Cs	7	Associate Member.	£226
D1s	3	Honorary Member or Honorary Life Member(Non Boat Owner)	£0
D2s	2	Honorary Member or Honorary Life Member	£232
Es		Corporate Member	£18
Potential Income for year 2011 - 2012			10,088

FEES FOR 2010/2011:

A1	A2	B1	B2	C	D1	D2	E
£ 50	£163	£17	£54	£37	Free	£113	Negotiable(£17)

PROPOSED FEES FOR 201/2012 with 2.5% increase):

A1	A2	B1	B2	C	D1	D2	E
£ 51	£167	£18	£55	£38	Free	£116	Negotiable(£18)

BAR LICENSE

After jumping through all the required hoops last year to obtain the bar license then earlier this year (11th March) we passed our first compliance visit by a Licensing Standards Officer. New this year is the Proof of Age Requirement. This primarily affects those bringing young persons into the Club and those liable to serve them. These requirements are set out in documentation displayed in the entrance hall. All members are encouraged to make themselves conversant with them.

WEB SITE

I would like to thank those, specially Mandy Harris and George Scrivener for the work they put in establishing the site and the base from which Nan Whetton is continuing to develop it.

You will, no doubt, have noticed a change in the way that information is now being distributed by direct use of links to the subject matter. Also that and all ephemeral information is now being provided by those Club officers who have responsibilities for Cruising, Racing and Social activities. Unfortunately, it is not cost effective to do a mail shot to those without email for every event or flyer produced, but I will endeavour to ensure that copies of all emailed documents are posted in the club in hard form.

GUIDE LIGHT

Most of you will be aware that various members (especially Ian Girvan & George Scrivener) contributed to the development and placing of a mobile 'phone activated guide light to identify the pier end at night. During the short time it was in operation last year, it appeared to have been a worthwhile undertaking and we hope it continues to be so again this year and thereafter.

C.C.T.V.

I have received reports of both damage to a boat and theft of diesel from another and had been questioned over when the Club was liable to install security cameras. I undertook to raise the matter at the meeting.

Agenda Item 4 Confirmation of (Designate) Alexander (Sandy) Thomson in the post of Vice Commodore/Racing Convenor.

The Commodore informed the meeting that since the inability to fill the post at last year's October A.G.M. Sandy had subsequently come forward (albeit with some arm twisting) to volunteer to undertake the duties of the rôle.

Denis then asked if there were any other volunteers, receiving no response he then asked for a proposer which Phil Whetton declared himself happy to do and with the Commodore seconding the motion, Sandy Thomson was duly elected to the post. *Nem. Con.*

Agenda Item 5 Members' agenda items

The Secretary confirmed that no items had been received

Agenda Item 6 A.O.C.B.

Security

The Commodore, reflecting on the number of times this had been raised during the course of the meeting, thought it necessary to raise the matter as a separate topic, subsequently suggesting that we should consider our options including C.C.T.V. This suggestion concerned Eva Brockie for reasons of privacy. Phil Whetton then proposed a barrier be fitted at the top of the road, while Nan Whetton suggested that advice from a police crime prevention officer be sought. Russell Kelly reported that he had already arranged to meet a firm specialising in area security and intended getting an idea of getting an idea of proposals/specifications/cost. He also undertook subsequently to arrange a meeting with a crime prevention officer.

After a general conversation ranging from public rights of way; annoying the neighbours with security lighting; the efficacy of road barriers and the methods of securing them, the commodore

closed the discussion by encouraging Russell to undertake his proposals and which, after having been discussed in committee any conclusions and/or recommendations would then be put to the membership.

There being no further business, the Commodore closed the meeting at 20:22.