

# **THE DRAYCOTE WATER SAILING CLUB LIMITED LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL**

Notice is hereby given that the fifty forth Annual General Meeting of the above Company will be held in person at the Clubhouse and online on Wednesday 8th November 2023 at 7.30pm when the following business will be transacted: -

1. To read the Notice convening the Meeting
2. To approve the Minutes of the fifty third Annual General Meeting
3. To receive the report of the Committee
4. To hear a report on the progress of the Club's Development Plan
5. To receive and consider the reports of the Directors and Statements of Account for Draycote Water Sailing Club Limited and DWSC Trading Ltd for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 together with the Balance Sheets as at that date and the Accountant's Report thereon
6. Special resolution of the Club Members – Honorary Membership Election of Rodger Webb & Malcolm Lewin.
7. Presentation of the Commodore's Cup
8. To hear of the Committee's appointment of President & Vice Presidents
9. To elect Officers
10. To elect Members of the Committee
11. To appoint an Accountant and authorise the Committee to fix the remuneration

**(NOTE:** All Club Members and Associate Members have the right and are encouraged to attend the meeting. Only Club Members [Ordinary Members, sailing Family Members and Young Person C Members aged 18 or over at the start of the membership year] are entitled to vote and proof of Membership may be required at the meeting.)

## **End of Meeting**

### **Any Other Business**

Note – Any matters raised under Any Other Business cannot form part of the official business of the meeting and thus may not be proposed as formal motions. This item is included purely to afford members an opportunity to submit written questions and receive considered answers. Matters raised on the night may be allowed at the discretion of the Chair, but it is unlikely that a considered response will be possible unless they are submitted in writing beforehand.

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE  
William Whittaker  
Commodore**

## COMMODORE'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2023

Following the disruption during Covid-19 of continuous rule changes, coupled with what seemed like endless shutdowns and planned reopening which brought uncertainty, it was hoped we would have a period of stability. Sadly, this has not been the case. During 2022 we had the start of the Ukraine war and with it a significant increase in utilities cost. The clubhouse infrastructure due to its design is not energy efficient. Whilst work over recent years to improve the insulation has occurred, we still had considerable work to do. This became pressing when the cost of electricity increased fourfold. As many of you have seen mitigating action was implemented through the installation of the solar panels. This action was undertaken quickly and decisively as the electricity costs were unsustainable. Christine Silver worked her magic once more and secured government funding from Coventry City Council. It was always the plan to implement solar panels, and we wanted to implement double what we have, but we were restricted by the National Grid's ability to handle such a large input. We are now embarking on a review of the Club infrastructure so we can better harness cost efficient ways of heating and powering the clubhouse, with the anticipation of the plant needing to be replaced in the medium term.

The Club improvements don't stop there. The team continue to maintain and improve the clubhouse, cost efficiently. The boat park has been of particular focus, ensuring that its upgraded and designated parking clearly provided. We are however in the short-term working on a restricted site due to the dam works being carried out by Seven Trent. These will continue well into 2024 and the land we have lost temporarily is being officially rented. We are in discussions with Seven Trent on how we receive this land back so the Club benefits whilst at the same time the environment is considered.

2022/3 continued to be a successful year on the water! Club racing continues to have good turnouts with new members joining. Regular open meetings continue to book our facilities, with ever increasing prestigious events planned for 2023 such as the ILCA Inlands, NSSA National Championships and Topper National Series. This is supported by the growing popularity of the Draycote Academy led by Dave and Steve Irish. This brings members to the Club and contributed to significant results on the water across many fleets such as the Toppers and ILCA's.

On the commercial front, following the bumper courses we saw through Covid-19 staycations, we have seen a reduction in the summer of 2022 and expect to see this return to normal in 2023. The commercial income from training courses is still high and is aligned with other offerings such as SUPing and windsurfing. This commercial success is achieved by the Dave, Matt, Rebecca, Mark, Ethan and Andy who work hard to deliver a professional Club. The team are ably supported by the summer instructors, many of whom are products of the active youth and junior team headed by Jon Hughes. It was with great pride that Jon received his RYA Lifetime Achievement award from HRH Princess Royal at the RYA AGM in London, demonstrating how lucky the Club is to have the hard work Jon puts in year on year delivering both the Friday racing night and Saturday clubs with enthusiasm, including the visits to Jelly Baby Bay.

Going forward, whilst still planning to invest significantly in the Club's infrastructure in line with the Development Plan which drives this investment, over the next twelve months and beyond. The plan is to maintain the clubhouse and boat park with essential works. This would be coupled with the annual improvements in rescue boats, Club boards and boats. The Club is well placed to manage the fine line between increasing Club fees and balancing double digit increases in insurance, wages and utility costs because of the development plan and hard work for the staff supported by the committee.

Thank you to all our members for their support and participation over the last year. The Club will need continued support to see us through what is set to continue to be a difficult time.

William Whittaker  
Commodore

## TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH, 2023

The Sailing Club achieved an income of £478,252 (2021/22: £434,030) during the year. This represented an increase of 10% on 2021/22.

Commercial income continued to grow strongly, with an increase of 18% on 2021/22.

Membership subscriptions did increase on 2021/22, however this increase was only 2% despite the fee increase and the increase in membership numbers. During 2022/23 the club saw a change in the membership nature with an increase in youth and junior and individual members but a reduction in family membership.

	Club Income	Commercial Income	Total	Surplus
2023	214,064	264,188	478,252	-14,260
2022	209,276	224,754	434,030	41,901
2021	158,424*	96,716	255,140	33,262
2020	208,920	215,110	424,030	25,810
2019	197,395	192,653	390,048	25,387
2018	193,975	183,068	377,043	23,924

\* Reduced by £29,165 to cover the 2 months free membership in April and May 2021.

The Sailing Club made a deficit of -£14,260 (2021/22: *surplus of £41,901*) during the year.

Standout items which adversely affected the Sailing Club's 2022/23 deficit included a significant increase in electricity costs, the planned employment of an additional bosun and a further reduction in Government Grants received. Fortunately, the Club had an increase in commercial income to yet another highest level on record, the contribution from which helped the Club absorb these.

The Club continued to make significant investments in the infrastructure and equipment such as the solar panels and a new water heater/boiler.

Despite reporting a deficit this year, I am confident that the Sailing Club will return to a surplus in 2023/24. Income remains strong and the Club's investment in the solar panels have helped mitigate the increase in electricity costs.

Paul Huett  
Treasurer

# DRAYCOTE WATER SAILING CLUB

## Minutes of the 53rd Annual General Meeting held at the Clubhouse On Wednesday 2nd November 2022 at 7.30pm

### PRESENT

William Whittaker (Chair), Richard Botting, Paul Huett, Chris Silver, Norman Byrd, Jeremy Atkins and David Rowe.

Together with 30 other members.

### 1. APOLOGIES

Jonathon Baker, Harry Sayers, Rob Hunt, Richard Knight, Stephen Jeffs, Caroline Noel & Rodger Webb.

William Whittaker read the notice convening the fifty-third Annual General Meeting of The Draycote Water Sailing Club Limited.

### 2. MINUTES OF THE 52nd AGM

The minutes of the fifty-first Annual General Meeting held on 3rd November 2021 were put to the meeting. The minutes were proposed by Jon Hughes, seconded by Simon Odling and accepted by the meeting with no one voting against.

### 3. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

A PowerPoint presentation was given by the Committee to the members attending. The key elements of the reports of the Committee are as follows:

#### William Whittaker, Commodore:

Firstly, many thanks to our members for their continued support of the Club. We can't function without you and everything we do as a committee is for the members, it's at the heart of the Club's ethos.

A full year has passed since the Covid pandemic throughout which Dave & the team of staff really excelled. The site was mothballed and kept in good order with expenditure reduced to minimise costs to members. We held many small meetings to constantly keep up with the rapidly changing legislation, and we were the first UK club to reopen. The team have also delivered a record number of training courses in both the last financial year and this summer season.

Our commercial income was hit during Covid reducing to less than £100k but we are now back to achieving pre-Covid levels, thanks to the staff for driving this. We saw a slight dip in membership income but mostly due to the 2 months free we gave to members to thank them for continuing to support us throughout the pandemic even when the club was closed. Our annual surplus is also back on track.

The income from these record summers has enabled us to invest in both new club equipment and the Clubhouse and site, which benefits members and is a direct result of the paid staff's hard work and dedication.

Roger Webb has stepped down from the Committee after 10 years as Treasurer. We thank him for the sterling job he did putting in lots of time and effort to the club. He brought in new processes and software and the Club would not be where it is today without his immense contribution.

This year we have seen 50 club members enter into world championship events. It's an amazing figure and many are a direct result of our Youth & Junior and Academy training programmes.

In March we were awarded Club of the Year by Rugby Borough Council, Harry Sayers most deservedly

won the RYA Lifetime Achievement award last autumn, and Jon Hughes is soon to collect his RYA Volunteer of the Year award for his dedication to our Youth & Junior groups. Thanks go to Jeremy Atkins for his help and support in pulling together the bids for these three awards.

In June we unfortunately had several RIB engines stolen one night. However, our excellent relationships with both insurers and engine hire company meant a swift pay out and new engines were quickly sourced and minimal impact to operations. Steps have been taken to improve security.

We have noticed a stark increase in utility costs. Insurance is up 15%, in part to the re-build quote increasing by £1m which itself is due to the increased costs of building materials. Or electricity bills have gone up four-fold since April this year, though thankfully we do qualify for the Government's Energy Relief Scheme which started from October.

On-site works by Severn Trent at Hensborough Dam have started and work in the lower car-park and trailer park continues.

It is going to be a tough 18 month for the club and we must ask members to be mindful of this and give their full support. We're preparing as best we can with schemes such as installing solar panels to reduce costs.

### **Norman Byrd, Rear Commodore Sail:**

DWSC sailors have done a fantastic job of representing the club, themselves and GBR at both national and international events this year. It's great to not only have winners but lots of attendees across the fleets. This increased level of entries is largely due to our wonderful Y&J and Academy schemes.

There has also been increased local success through the Northamptonshire Youth Sailing Series. This is a great series that introduces novice races to open meeting style events at various clubs. We compete under the Northamptonshire team as we're the only sailing club entry from Warwickshire, and we won the Club trophy and one sailor won their age category.

Within our Y&J juniors, we have seen an increase in Lasers, Toppers and Aeros being sailed.

Next July we will be hosting the NSSA National Youth Regatta which is the biggest UK regatta with 150-200 junior sailors. There will be onsite camping in the country park, all meals provided and evening entertainment. The event will need an enormous amount of organising beforehand and help needed for the duration. Running the racing is a big part, and we also need people to help with catering, looking after children, media, compiling race results and being beach masters. We need as many volunteers as possible, even if just for half a day. There will be a mid-week event that all club sailors can enter to. Previously at Weymouth, the juniors competed against Olympic entrants! Last year's event was held at Grafham, where we represented Northamptonshire again, and our sailors came away with 6 trophies. More details will be coming out closer to the time.

Club sailing has also continued to do well and Aeros continue to be our biggest growing fleet.

We have had a few instances of ODs not turning up to do their duty. Last year this was in part to Covid with some isolating but there isn't any excuse now that's behind us. We do only need 1 race officer but 2 is ideal. People missing race duties should be tracked by the fleet captains and other fleet members should step in to cover. No shows at short notice cause problems as staff can't always step in to cover, especially when we are hosting open meetings etc. The duty requirement is very low and not onerous at all. The instructions are very clear but do ask if you are uncertain.

In terms of participation, we are seeing a growing gap between race 1 and race 2 on Sundays. One Aero sailor has suggested changing the way racing is run and this will be discussed at the next fleet captains meeting. Mike Deane also put forward a proposal previously which was discussed but not considered to be viable. Fleet starts do need regular attendees to ensure your fleet keeps its start. There isn't a formal rule of what is required but we do keep an eye on the averages for any consistently low turnouts.

## Questions

Chris Dickinson: Should there be a penalty for anyone not doing their race duty?

W.W. – This is something to be discussed at the fleet captains meeting. It is worth reminding members that we only ask racing members to do race duty, and only 1 or 2 per year. In comparison, Rutland has 6k duty requirements for their members, and most clubs ask members to do various duties such as cleaning, bosun and galley work.

N.B. – We also had our Y&J committee running 2 races this summer which again means less duties for members.

John Tippett: Is it just racing members to do duties, and can we ask non-racers to also help?

W.W. – It is open to non-racers to help with race duty and we did recently have a couple who are no longer members come back to help out.

N/B/ - We must remember that non-racing activity in the club actually outweighs club racing which is just a small portion of club activity.

Sergio Pagliarini – is there a particular reason why people aren't turning up? The instructions are easy to understand though maybe people aren't aware of that and are put off, could they be promoted more?

W.W. – There's no clear reason but it will be picked up with the fleet captains.

William Whittaker – Many thanks to Norman for all his help in the Rear Commodore Sail role. The NSSA event we'll be hosting and the implementation of the Y&J committee are thanks to you.

## **Christine Silver, Rear Commodore House:**

Last winter we saw the boat park renovation start with the Laser and Ff15 areas completed, plus the rigging area by the patio. This project will be continued this winter with more areas of the boat park to be done.

The women's changing room refurbishment was officially opened by the Mayor of Rugby, and a suspended ceiling has been fitted in the wet bar to help reduce the noise echo in there.

Over the next year, we plan to:

- Install a new hot water tank as we only have one operational at present.
- Continue boat park works.
- Fit solar panels to help reduce our increased electricity bills. We've had quotes and plans to fit 80 but this has been reduced to 40 due to a report from the National Grid. This reduction may impact the grant we are due to receive to help fund the installation.
- Myself and Caroline Noel are looking into ways to improve disabled access and to make the club greener with environmental initiatives.

## Questions

Chris Dickinson: The drains in the men's changing rooms often get blocked, is there a solution?

W.W. – They are regularly cleaned through to avoid blockages but essentially, they were made too small and shallow in the refurbishment which is a result of the incredibly hard floor.

## **Dave Rowe, Club Manager:**

### **Draycote Academy**

Our Draycote Academy is well known now but it's worth mentioning the details again. It is a massive part of the UK junior sailing scene and attracts members from across the country. It brings the club lots of positive press as many of the sailors go on to compete and do well in events, and we're sure

there's more success to come. All Academy sailors have to be club members which is a benefit to the club as well. This year we accepted 60 sailors but there was large demand and we had to turn many away. We didn't want to accept anymore as we have to balance the impact of additional training with the needs of the club, especially at weekends.

Many thanks to Steve Irish who heads up the Academy coaching alongside Jess Lavery who runs the 420s group.

### **Staff**

We welcome back Andy Felthouse to the role of bosun. Andy worked for us some years ago before moving abroad for a while. He now covers the weeks that mark is away so we once again have a permanent bosun.

Georgia left us before the summer to work in Greece, and Ted Ball stepped into the sailing instructor role over the summer holidays but has gone now to do his yacht master training.

Many of you will know Diana Romrig who works in the bar and wetbar, and she has now been taken on as a permanent member of staff. We're working on improving the quality of the food offering by limiting the number of items on the menu and focusing on good quality food. For example, some foods are now only served at breakfast and then the lunch menu starts. We have received some comments about this but we simply can't offer all the food options all of the time.

### **Club**

Following on from the RIB engine thefts, Matt has worked on an improved security system which links all the engines to an alarm.

Matt has also installed the new weather station and set up screens in the bar and wetbar giving instant readings. The system wasn't cheap but much needed and a more visible improvement for members compared to other projects such as new water tanks.

### **Replacement Scheme**

As part of our rolling plan to replace large equipment to ensure we continually have the latest and best quality, we have:

- Had a new tractor delivered.
- The Committee boat 'Jam Sandwich' was sold off and a new one delivered that is much better, including having a cabin for weather protection.
- Bought a new RIB
- Will be investing in new windsurf kit for both members to hire and to be used in training courses.

Work in the trailer park has started with the whole area being strimmed and rusted trailers being scrapped. We've been asking members for months to identify their trailers with tags but there are still several usable trailers that aren't identified and these will be scrapped if not sorted.

As well as the continuing boat park improvements, we'll also be breaking out and relaying the FF15 slipway as the concrete is breaking up. And car parking areas near the club is to be tidied up and more official spaces marked out to reduce people parking where they shouldn't. There are many times when the boat park loop is blocked and cars are parked on the slipway making operating very difficult. It also means that an emergency vehicle would not be able to get through if ever needed.

W.W. – members need to be mindful of how they park and encourage others to do so, too.

**William Whittaker, Commodore:**

The last year has seen a lot of time consumed with dealing with STW and their various site proposals. It has been more time consuming than the lease negotiations a few years ago!

### **Trailer Park & Lower Car Park Development**

The work being doing in the trailer park was as a result of STW wanted to take over that area as part of their plans to increase site parking as they saw a huge surge in site visitors through Covid.

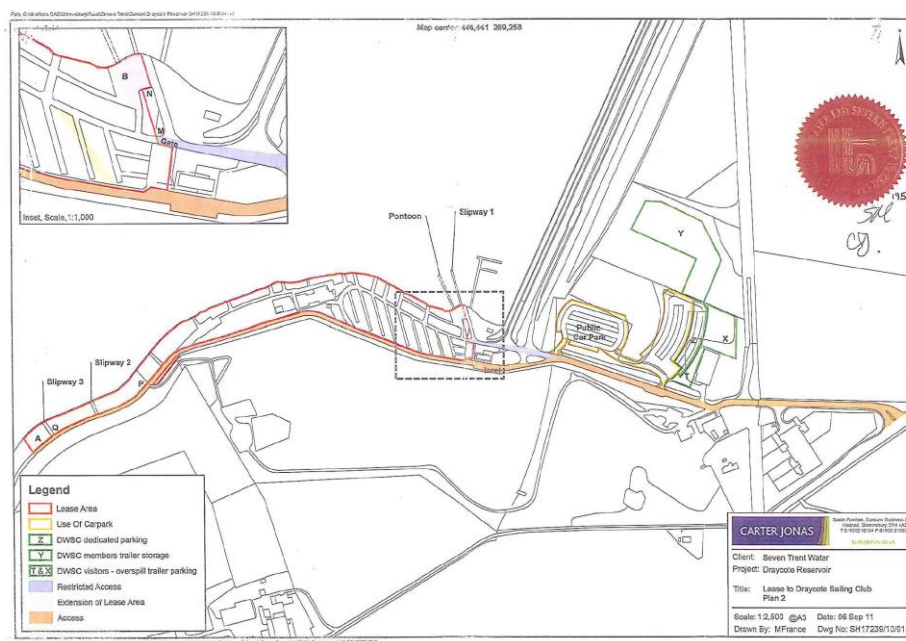
They approached us with plans which we rejected, firstly as their plan for a new car park would have gone out on to the main road, but also as we reminded them that we own the land as part of our lease which the developers were unaware of. Our lease does state that they can reclaim the land but must provide us with suitable alternatives. We have put forward suggestions which they have not agreed to.

Due to this, and also a reduction of site visitors since covid no longer providing the demand for parking, ST have paused the project. However, they are still applying for planning permission for that land so we must be prepared for the project, or another idea, being proposed to us in the future.

In the meantime, they will be tarmacking and painting white lines in their lower car park and have said they will do ours too so the site is more presentable and a consistent look.

It is useful to remind members what land we own with this site map.

The areas outlined in red and green are ours, with the green areas being secured by Phil Hunt as part of a land grab in the 2011 lease negotiations as ST were happy for the land to be a trailer park. It's proved valuable to us and works in our favour to have so much land.



### Questions

Paul Roe: Open meetings are very busy and often the lower car park is full, especially with campervans. Sometimes there is nowhere for members to park, what solution could there be?

W.W. – White lines in the lower car park will help to get more cars in and for people to park neater.

Paul Roe: Can we ask ST if we can park in their car park for large events?

W.W. – Not really as they will say it impacts on their visitor parking capacity.

### **Richard Botting, Vice-Commodore** **Dam works**



Following the near dam collapse at Hebden Bridge in 2019, a clause of the Reservoirs Act was invoked that meant all embankment dam reservoirs must have a drawdown facility to be able to lower the water level. This is a legal requirement and October 2023 is the deadline for works to be completed.

ST started talks with us in February with lots of meetings, plans submitted and site walk-throughs. At first, they were keen to keep the circular road open by using farmer's land for their works and compound and communication with us went quiet. However, the deal with the farmer fell through and ST again reached out to us with a plan to use our land. The contractors were unaware that their proposal involved our land and talks continued until we have come to the current agreement.

Communicating this agreement to members has been at short notice, this is because talks took a long time and we didn't want to put out information early that could be speculative or false.

ST have licensed the use of areas A&B as their works compound office and materials sites. While we do use some of the parking in area B, it won't impact us much. These areas will be returned to us in October 2023.

Areas C & D are not our land and they will be used for parking. These areas are what we could potentially negotiate for in future if ST do wish to reclaim our trailer park.

Areas E & F will be made good for DWSC use during the works as compensation for the compound sections being used. They will be graded down to the high-water level in a surface similar to that of the lower car park. These will be short disruption in November and December while this is done. Once the works are finished, these areas will be re-surfaced, possibly with Grasscrete or something similar that is bio-diverse, and the end result will be of great benefit to the club.

While the dam works must be completed by October 2023, ST will likely be on site afterwards as they'll need time to rebuild and improve the site environment again.



The drawdown scheme itself involves laying 3 pipes 150m into the dam between race marks A & M. The pipes will be visible at the current water level, and will have approximately 1m of water covering them at high water level. Due to the siphon system being used, the pipes must be submerged thus why they will extend so far into the reservoir. They will have buoys around them marking the area as a no-go zone as the water will not be deep enough for boats, especially those with foils, to safely pass over

the pipes. The buoys will be on a slack system allowing them to drift out to form a larger exclusion zone at lower water levels. The zone will also be increased when the siphon system is tested. The size of this zone will affect our sailing area and will be discussed with ST as part of our lease agreement.

The works will involve using divers and barges to install the pipes during which the water may be zones off further for safety.

There are lots of details still to be confirmed but this information is the basis of the plan going forward.

### Questions

Will the water level be affected throughout the works?

R.B. – Not really as it is currently similar to the level they need. ST have to manage the water level carefully as while it needs to stay low for the works, the water supply side of ST want to increase levels so the reservoir fills over winter ready for next summer, and some pumping in has already occurred.

W.W.- ST are under pressure to get these works going quickly while the level is low. If works are delayed and pumping in doesn't happen over winter than we risk starting the summer season with already low levels that will drop even lower.

John Tippet: Who's responsibility will it be to maintain the buoys around the pipe zone?

R.B. – ST will be installing the buoy system but we may need to adjust them with the water levels just like how we adjust our own race marks. The final detail on this is to be decided.

Robin Verso: The windsurfers were very concerned that these works would impact their ability to use the water in terms of access, parking and launching. We wrote to William with lots of questions and he responded with a very detailed reply. Dave has also taken the time to walk through the site with us to reassure us, and we do thank them and the committee for taking the time to do this and their great communication.

W.W. – Many thanks must go to Richard Botting for his invaluable help in dealing with ST. I asked him to join the committee last year for this project as he has great experience in civil works.

We will continue to discuss and negotiate with ST and will communicate any developments or changes to the members at the earliest opportunity. We hope this project will enable us to develop the site to our benefit. There is potential for us to have far better waterside access and we could be on par with Weymouth for usable water front

Paul Anthony: What access will we have?

R.B. - Windsurfers will have priority in front of the laser boat park. We are hoping areas E & F will be completed by the Draycote Dash though probably not, though it will at least be usable. Once that stage is completed, the circular road will be closed. Site visitors will probably be stopped at the visitor centre.

Nev High-Stephenson: Will we see an increase in lorries?

R.B. – Yes, ST have hundreds of tonnes of materials to deliver, plus machinery, barges and pipes. It is hoped that it will mostly be done during the week when the club and site is quieter. However, if they run behind schedule then there is the possibility of weekend and evening/night work being done. ST will be manning and controlling site access to keep everyone safe.

R.B. – It's worth adding that the increase in heavy lorries and machinery will inevitably damage the top road which is already showing signs of movement and wear. We will potentially see pot holes in

the road so do drive and walk carefully. ST have completed full surveys of the site and will make good any damage caused. There is also potential for the retaining wall behind the club to be damaged and need rebuilding.

#### **4. PROGRESS OF THE CLUB'S DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

##### **William Whittaker, Commodore:**

The main objectives of our plan and updates on these are;

##### **1) Increase Income**

We have missed the target for this year to increase income from membership. This is key to ensuring commercial income does not tip the balance away from membership. Commercial income has been boosted by two summers of exceptional course sales and this year's target has already been met. We must ensure membership and its' income is a priority. Jeremy Atkin has taken on the marketing role and plans to drive membership are being developed.

##### **2) Enhance Club Management**

We welcome Paul Huett on board as the Treasurer. Paul is an accountant by trade and his knowledge and experience means we can really take a deeper look at our accounts and ways to improve financial reporting and understanding for the club.

##### **3) Address Lease & Site Issues**

These targets are on-going though it must be noted that some projects have been delayed due to the ST dam works taking up so much time.

#### **5. PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS**

##### **William Whittaker, Commodore on behalf of Paul Huett, Treasurer.**

##### **Income/Expenditure**

Looking at or unadjusted accounts figures, we are pleased to see that turnover has returned to -pre-covid growth levels. Membership renewal went well this year and commercial income is at a record high and again is higher than membership income.

Training and rescue costs have increased, much of which is due to implementing Covid specific and one-off procedures and systems such as increased cleaning, despite other site costs such as admin being kept down during that period.

##### **Overall Financial Performance**

The annual surplus has increased to £41.9k which is the largest for some time.

##### **Where are we after the first 6 months?**

While membership income has increased slightly, it is not as high as we had hoped. We have seen a significant increase in utility costs which will affect the surplus ongoing. Our electricity has more than trebled and we hope the solar panel installation will help to offset some cost.

Again, it's been an incredible summer for training courses but we have seen increased costs related to this such as staffing and equipment.

We are preparing for the costs to be increasingly challenging and we must take action to minimise these.

##### **Questions/Comments to the Committee**

Chris Dickinson – Why isn't membership income high, should we be increasing fees or driving for more members?

W.W. – We need to drive for more members so that we don't increase the fees for current members. We're still not back to pre-2009 recession levels of membership when the club had circa. 700 memberships in comparison to circa. 450 now.

Jeremy Atkins – The development plan deliberately has a high and aspirational membership target so that it exceeds commercial and the balance of the club stays with members.

## **6. REPORT OF THE JUNIOR COMMITTEE**

### **Jon Hughes on behalf of Millie Irish, Junior Commodore**

The idea of a junior committee is to inspire other junior sailors to sail regularly and be more involved in club and race events.

It's been a busy first year for our junior committee. They've run club racing twice and we've even had an all-junior race team for open meetings. They've also introduced the buddy system which is a great initiative to make sure sailing is social and not just competitive. The juniors make plans to sail with others socially outside of our Y&J sessions using their own WhatsApp chat, which is also a perfect place for new sailors to ask questions.

A second-hand kit sale was held recently which enabled new sailors to pick up kit and low costs while raising money for Y&J funds.

W.W. – Thank you to Jon for running another exceptional year of Y&J sailing, for your hard work and dedication, and your RYA award is very well deserved.

We also thank Norman Byrd who came up with the idea of a junior committee. It works well and we can build on the first year to further define the committee roles and activities.

We had 3 juniors apply to be on the junior committee and so they are all appointed. They are Hari Clark (aged 11), Jess Powell (aged 12), and Peter Astley (aged 14). We look forward to the new year with you all.

## **7. PRESENTATION OF THE COMMODORE'S CUP**

### **William Whittaker, Commodore**

W.W. – It is increasingly difficult for the committee to choose someone to award the Commodore's Cup as it usually is the same group of people who volunteer and help. In discussion possibilities for this year, we were astounded to realise that this year's winner had not been awarded it before despite being of such benefit to the club.

This year, we award the Commodore's Cup to Malcolm Lewin. Malcolm has been taking wonderful photographs for 20 years of club racing and open events, and they are very helpful to us in the promotion of our club. sadly, Malcolm can't be with us tonight as he is back in Cornwall but has sent us a video.

(Video played with Malcolm's word of thanks).

A round of applause for Malcolm.

## **8. APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT**

### **William Whittaker, Commodore**

We are very glad to announce that Harry Sayers and Jeremy Atkins have agreed to continue in their valuable roles of Vice-President and President. We thank them both for their continued support and - much needed - sound advice to the committee.

## **9. ELECT OFFICERS**

### **William Whittaker, Commodore**

There has only been one nomination received for each office, therefore no election is needed.

<b><u>OFFICE</u></b>	<b><u>NOMINEES</u></b>	<b><u>ELECTED</u></b>
Commodore	William Whittaker	William Whittaker
Vice Commodore	Richard Botting	Richard Botting
Rear Commodore Sail	Jeremy Atkins	Jeremy Atkins
Rear Commodore House	Christine Silver	Christine Silver
Treasurer	Paul Huett	Paul Huett

Many thanks to Norman for all his help this year, especially in securing the NSSA event for the club and implementing the Y&J committee.

## **10. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

### **William Whittaker, Commodore**

On the committee, we have 5 nominations for 7 places so they are all elected. Robin Warren, Caroline Noel and Sian Clark are continuing, while Rodger Webb steps down as treasurer and Paul Huett takes up that flag officer role.

We welcome Simon Odling to the committee this year.

It is worth noting that we now have three women on the committee but we do welcome more to offer a broader reflection of our club membership. Many of the current committee are longstanding, I myself have served for 11 years now for example. We must be proactive in welcoming new members to the committee as it takes time to learn about the running of the club, its processes and procedures, and projects such as the ST dam works take up considerable time. We need to develop our committee ready for the next generation, and we need new people with fresh minds to help move the club forward.

## **11. APPOINTMENT OF ACCOUNTANT & AUTHORISE COMMITTEE TO FIX REMUNERATION**

### **William Whittaker, Commodore**

Bernard Rogers & Co to be appointed as our accountants and the committee authorised to fix their remuneration.

Proposed by Joh Tippet, seconded by Jon Hughes. Approved by the meeting – passed nem com.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No questions asked.

**This concluded the business of the Annual General Meeting**