



# Staunton Harold Sailing Club

Minutes of December 11th, 2023, Committee Meeting

Paul Williamson, Liz Simons, Terry Forbes, Paul Munro, Nick Waters, Lesley Foskett, Becky Priest, Charles Saunders, Larry Wells, Sarah Liddle, Simon Forbes, Grahame Newton, Nick Williams, Di Pepperdine		
	<b>1. Apologies</b>	
	Tim Gray, Andy Foskett, Ann Nugent, Amy Pepperdine. Nick Kinson, Mark Harden, Greg Wilson, Nathan Smith	
	<b>2. Minutes from last meeting</b>	
	The minutes of the meeting in Nov were made available to the committee and approved. The meeting was virtual using zoom. Minutes approved. Dec meeting chaired by Paul Williamson	INFO
	<b>3. Health and Safety</b>	
	H&S annual meeting and site walk-round to be arranged. - <b>ON-GOING-including woodland area behind trailers.</b>	INFO
2112	Benches need moving round in the gents changing room as obstructing the fire door -post decorating-done	Closed
2099	Solo Paddlers-VHF radios and aquapac pouches purchased. To be sited underneath the sign on desk <b>Ongoing. ---Need to educate and advise paddlers and include Sarah in the discussions</b>	NW/AD
<b>2041</b>	<b>4. Commodore's Report, Management &amp; Planning Sub-Committee</b>	
	<p>Here is my report, I have had several comments addressed to me since the AGM, I have attempted to summarise them and include the full comments as attachments. If anyone would like me to include any more prior to the meeting, please let me know.</p> <p><b>December 2023 Commodore's report.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Joe Penhaul Smith gave a very interesting talk on sustainable sailing.</b></li><li><b>2. The informal post AGM discussion was postponed from 3<sup>rd</sup> December due to bad weather. I propose that we hold it on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December as leaving it until the new season feels too late. I can't make it as I am away.</b></li><li><b>3. I would like to propose using the Zoom poll system for voting at General committee meetings. -agreed.</b></li><li><b>4. We had several post AGM suggestions that I suggest we look at, decide if we want to pursue it and allocate to the appropriate sub-committee.</b></li></ol>	Comm Report

5. Pete Gray has submitted a member's suggestion to reinvigorate fleet racing, he was going to raise this at the Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting but has forwarded a PowerPoint version. I have attached it and summarised below...presented by Pete G at the Dec meeting.

Pete's summary, Q&As:

This is a long-term concept encouraging people to move towards fleets...several years.

Which fleets is self-determined-currently we have 200s, 2000s, lasers but concept is to hand the task to the fleet captains.

At other clubs there are defined times when there is fleet racing/other times handicap.

Why fleet race? Its the purest form of racing when competing against same on the water, community support within a fleet,

Good, exciting fleet racing might entice people to come to SHSC.

Foundation of the club was fleet racing quite formally; challenge is the progression towards...

- a. 6 or more of the same class boats registered at the club constitutes a fleet.
- b. Fleet racing at any time of the year to suit the class.
- c. Host an open meeting as part of the traveller's series.
- d. Times to be designated as fleet only racing – format to be decided.
- e. Have 3,2,1 start sequence.
- f. Increase non fleet dinghy parking cost by 50%. —all agreed not appropriate
- g. Reallocate old trophies. -yes
- h. Give fleet captains more budget for training/socials etc or to buy a class boat.
- i. Introduce a fleet racing challenge cup with a scoring system that encourages more boats to compete.
- j. Work up pathways from juniors and rookies into fleet boats.
- k. Produce a guide to the classes at SHSC.

6. I have received the following comments based on Pete's proposal, again I have summarised these below and have copied and pasted them as written into a separate document

PW comments-summarised below, then comments from the committee discussions

- a. We should be prioritising getting all club members to race and the current suggestion looks to be detrimental to non-fleet sailors.
- b. Less racing time for non-fleet boats when it is suggested they should pay more seems unfair and may cause them to not renew their membership in the future.
- c. This would put more pressure on OODs, and we are struggling to get them at the moment. Which was one of the reasons for lowering the number of starts in the past.

d. It penalises those sailing non fleet boats when that boat may be the most suitable for them.

e. It is important to get juniors more integrated into the club before we could consider a pathway for them.

f. We need to give careful thought to the choice of classes if we go down this route.

-need to allow choice, boat to suit your physique/new boats. Numbers sailing are lowish anyway so care engendering this,

Could good open meetings with lots of home boats encourage.

-we would like to see accurate figures from clubs that are restricting their classes as regards participation

-fleet captains are the foundation for inspiring their fleet. Start here. Give FC support to kick this off.

suggest soft approach in guiding people joining/buying boats.

-success with comets on Saturdays

-numbers are low, why are more people not sailing? -over to FC again

-small numbers in a class can be demoralising if you are always last, can be fun racing against others on handicap so need both

- through training side -role of suggesting which dinghy, crew roles and retention.

-offering training in a fleet is a definite plus.

-as a beginner coaching, reassurance that's its safe to start racing. Every few months would be great.

-communities for beginner sailors-rookie club but what next-need strong fleet captains to adopt them. NP works with Paul M re this. New members info does suggest ask first before you buy a boat

Consensus is there is a positive feel to promote our bigger number classes, first step to encourage fleet captains to act and sailing committee need to discuss. Important not to be detrimental to others or handicap racing and no financial penalties.

PW will feed back to Peter Gray.

7. It has been proposed that Pete Gray takes over from Tim as Rear Commodore Sailing.

a. I have had comments that this is not a good idea so soon after the AGM and we should stick with Tim for the time being.

Comments:

Need to follow due process if there is a role change, i.e. resignation then back to the membership, nominations, vote.

PG could be invited to committee when certain topics are being discussed specifically encouraging fleet racing and be the lead in this for the sailing committee.

Need to know if the reason to change is just focused on the fleet racing concept or the whole role. Note the RC sailing role is not small and is best shared

	<p><b>Could/should the spreadsheet element of RC sailing be tasked to someone with that skillset and time</b></p> <p><b>Vote-for PW to feedback as above 12 in favour 1 abstain.</b></p>	
2083	<p><b>Community Interest Company.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. I will retire Howard from the list of Directors and add Liz on the Companies House website, hopefully on Monday if I have all the info they require!</b></li> <li><b>2. Lease discussions between the various solicitors are progressing, albeit very very very slowly. Issue is apparently that STW wants to be involved and are querying items that NT and our solicitor were happy with.... ON-GOING</b></li> </ol>	<b>CIC</b>
2093	<b>Accessible parking idea being developed. TF to liaise with MH and others re grant options once site is agreed and costed</b>	<b>MDC</b>
	<b>5. Environmental report</b>	
	<p>The Environment &amp; Sustainability Working Group met on Saturday 2 December to review the progress made to date and discuss the development of the Groups plans for 2024. The areas covered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Recycling</b> - exploring the possibility of 'donating' recyclable waste to a local charity that might be able to gain income from this.</li> <li>● Exploring practical <b>alternatives for boat props to replace tyres.</b></li> <li>● Explore practical <b>alternatives for jetty 'fenders' to replace tyres.</b></li> <li>● Explore practical <b>alternatives for replacing plastic grass boat berths.</b></li> <li>● <b>Reviewed the CapEx plan</b> to see where the Group can add value. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Initial thoughts to be discussed with Planning &amp; Management group, hopefully ahead of January Committee meeting.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Review <b>how the E&amp;S Group collaborates with the Committee and sub-groups</b> including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Planning &amp; Management Group:</b> Meet with the Group to discuss the how we further embed/integrate E&amp;S approach into the way the club naturally operates to ensure it doesn't become a side activity.</li> <li>○ <b>Communications:</b> Meet with Ann to discuss our thoughts on communicating E&amp;S activities/progress/issues with members</li> <li>○ <b>Winter working groups:</b> Meet with Terry to discuss and agree a plan regarding any E&amp;S requirements.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>BioBlitz:</b> National Trust are proposing the Spring Bank Holiday (Monday 27 May 2024) as their preferred date for the BioBlitz as this usually attracts more visitors across the whole Calke Abbey/Staunton Harold site. The E&amp;S group are happy to support this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Committee originally suggested the earlier May Bank Holiday Monday - <b>is the Committee happy to agree to this new date? -agreed. Can we include a Try a boat sessions-yes</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>INFO</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ E&amp;S Group to meet with the NT Events Team as well as the Club's Social Committee in January (dates tbc) to discuss &amp; develop the extent of the Clubs involvement for the day. We will keep the Committee updated.</li> <li>● <b>Club Charity of the Year:</b> The Group discussed potential charities that might be appropriate to propose to the Committee, we hope to submit these ideas within the next few days.</li> </ul>	
	<b>6. Secretary's Report</b>	
	<p>NEW - NT contractors came on 30th October to replace the four wobbly gate posts and the damaged railings. Gates need adjusting and we suspect more work will be needed in future as quite a few posts are also loose. I've raised this with NT but no response. Suggest we add adjusting the hinges to the winter w/party list – INFO.</p> <p>Sub-committees agreed and format of meetings outlined</p>	<b>INFO</b>
2111	<p>AGM on 27th November. The meeting went well on the whole with all the reports adopted and resolutions agreed. We had a couple of unanticipated points which we will discuss elsewhere. We had a very brief informal session at the end. Planned face-to-face informal session on Sunday 3rd December had to be cancelled due to snow. Can we rearrange for Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb , food, free beers, SUP session?</p>	<b>NW</b>
	<p>After we've had the informal session, I will circulate the comments to the committee, and we will review them at the following committee meeting. Mark Stevens raised a good point about voting at the AGM, which the M&amp;P sub-committee has been discussing. The main points to arise from it are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can Club Members vote themselves onto the committee. Yes, club rules give every Club Member a vote, and at UK General Elections politicians vote for themselves. We will think about voting for the Directors and/or Club Officers, then the rest of the Committee rather than all 24 in one go next year.</li> <li>2. We need to modify the answers on the polls so that two club members sharing the same zoom call have both votes registered. Hopefully we won't get three members on the same call as this will become too complex...</li> <li>3. Proxy votes need to be available before the meeting so the scrutineer (the zoom host can count them)</li> </ol> <p>No rule changes for the above; we'll add a note to the agenda to clarify this.</p> <p>We noted that there is an element of trust in any case, as non-voting members cannot be identified on a zoom poll if they vote. As most votes at club AGMs have been near unanimous this hasn't been an issue. If we have a controversial issue to vote on in future, we will have to arrange a face-to-face meeting to be sure that the voting is accurate – committee agreed.</p> <p>Note numerous apps available for voting we could use.</p>	
	<b>7. Treasurer's Report</b>	
	<p>Memberships fees: Q1 (Oct 1<sup>st</sup> to date): £3676.24 (includes LGS subscription £1660)</p> <p>Selected highlights: Payments: Kater4: £217.01 Dove's garage: £255.74 Engraving Trophies: £65.50 Fireworks + sparklers: £1842 + £217.78</p>	<b>INFO</b>

	<b>8. Membership Report</b>	
	<p>We've had four confirmed resignations.</p> <p>We should send a note to all members to check their membership details and update as necessary. Emphasise when monthly and annual subs will be taken. I'll liaise with Andy and Ann.</p> <p>Will we be changing room codes for 2024? Terry/Di to action</p> <p>Will we upgrade club keys this year or leave another year. -leave these</p>	INFO
	<b>9. Rear Commodore (Sailing), Sailing Sub-Committee &amp; Duties</b>	
	<p>No report but Sam has finalised the google drive sailing calendar now-LF will look at sorting the trifold.</p> <p>See fleet racing discussions above.</p> <p>Question for RC sailing -plan for SHSC when Interclub is at Swarkestone? -ask Tim.</p> <p>LS has submitted results to the RYA for PYs</p>	INFO
2113	TG ? technology to record starts and finishes when busy-for the future	TG
	<p>All covered for 2023.</p> <p>Meeting LW and GC soon and will sort.</p> <p>LF will chat with LW re 'what's good'.</p> <p>LW -exploring community development of dutyman as its fairly dated.</p> <p>LW looking at modernising/developing our own phone-based system, easier swaps, management of nonattendance. Include tracking of non-scripted duties</p>	DUTY INFO
	<p>Affiliation situation with WSA still unresolved. WSA are in discussion with a number of other organisations as part of the liquidation process. We will present further information as the situation becomes clearer.</p> <p>Questionnaire has been issued to SUP members to help gather information to enable planning for 2024. Unfortunately, our SUP members meeting to discuss plans had to be cancelled and will now be rescheduled (likely New Year) along with the winter paddling workshops that were planned.</p> <p>Need to work with Sarah re radios etc for 2024.</p> <p>Some paddle board members would like to have a go at sailing-use the 2024 discover sailing or we have a sail/sup day.-PM/AN will think first</p>	SUP INFO
	<b>10. Boat and Dinghy Bosuns' Report</b>	
	Not much to add to last month's report. I will shortly be contacting Adie about winter servicing/de-scaling as the more heavily used Ribs are showing signs of reduced coolant flow - weak tell-tales.	BOSUN INFO
	Nothing to report. The usual boat maintenance will be undertaken at the work parties.	BOAT BOSUN INFO
	<b>11. Rear Commodore (Building &amp; Maintenance) Bar and Galley</b>	
	<p>WORKING PARTY DATES 28<sup>th</sup>Jan, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Feb</p> <p>Mower in repair stage</p> <p>Needs list of tasks for WP. -gents showers, -header tank has been removed so pressure lower not practical to replace feed pipe, could consider storing cold water? Would need to be professionally chlorinated/header tank in start box. -M&amp;P discussion</p>	INFO
	<b>12 Principal of sailing school, Training and Sailing subcommittee</b>	
	<p>The focus remains on planning the 2024 programme.</p> <p><u>Power</u></p>	INFO

	<p>Dates for 3 courses locked in the diary. Possibility of a 4th (midweek) course being discussed with Nick W for mid-year.</p> <p><u>Dinghy</u></p> <p>2 adult and 2 junior 'learn to sail courses' locked in the diary. Over the next 2 weeks I'll create booking forms, tickets and update webpages before approaching the waiting lists to get some early bookings. Review marketing in the new year once initial demand is understood.</p> <p><u>Others</u></p> <p>Over winter we need to lock in further dates for tasters / rookie club / advanced modules for adults &amp; juniors / Assistant Instructor course / Dinghy Instructor course / junior racing &amp; 'squad camps'. But much of this is dependent on demand / supply conversations.</p> <p>Also working with Ann on updating the 'Find a Club' pages with the RYA.</p> <p>Approached by commodore and senior sailing instructor from a small club to come for some professional development. Benefit to both. Introduced by Chris Cousins. Register them as a temp member -no charge as benefiting us.</p>	
	<b>12. Youth Sailing, Junior Squad and On Board</b>	
	<p>12 juniors took part in the junior autumn series during September and October. Mix of toppers, oppies, Fevas and mirror and miracle crews.</p> <p>Currently 3 juniors have taken part in main frostbite series, 1 topper, 1 Oppie and 1 mirror crew.</p> <p>I'm thinking about junior race series formats for next year. Also running a start racing course over a series of Saturday mornings before some of the junior spring series races. Also finishing this off on some of the squad type days that I'm working on with Paul M.</p> <p>There will be another morning of fun junior stuff before the club regatta to encourage newer sailors to take part in teams of mixed experience.</p>	INFO
	<b>13. Rear Commodore Social &amp; Social Sub-Committee</b>	
	<p>Successful Christmas event. Thank you to lots of helpers 90 guests £108 charity raffle fund raised.</p> <p>Next events Boxing day bash -Liz will coordinate. AN will promote. Start the season quiz and supper proposed March 2nd- Grahame and Lol. -will communicate with marketing</p> <p>Issues sometimes still with the zettle/pads.? can anything help. —Larry happy to help!! Working party Could we consider a glass washer?? as opposed to a dishwasher-likely 2k spend needed</p>	INFO
	<b>14. Marketing</b>	

	<p>Please could everyone provide me with items for the Herald by Thursday of this week latest, so that the Herald can go out next weekend.</p> <p>I am looking to include: -</p> <p>AGM - informal discussion - update re rescheduled date.</p> <p>Stand Up Paddleboarding - update re the rescheduled workshop.</p> <p>Working Party dates confirmed - any details of tasks.</p> <p>Blaster/ Midlands miniseries dates and any inclusion of Windsurfing.</p> <p>Also please note the following marketing/ general items for Committee interest/ awareness: -</p> <p><b>Youth</b></p> <p>I attended the recent RYA Onboard (Youth Sailing) meeting. Key elements from this included: -  - Sport England Grants £15k max available with robust proposal hitting strategic goals required. I had raised barriers to youth sailing including boats (overcome by SHSC with hire fleet). Clothing again (SHSC) hire store bridges the initial start but worth exploring 'steamers' for winter sailing due to the reluctance / economic challenge for parents to invest in these with growth outstripping use.</p> <p><b>Training</b></p> <p>Working with Paul re website pages / 2024 Comms support.</p> <p>Discover sailing great proposal from Paul to offer key sessions combining with Rookie Club in 2024.</p> <p><b>Racing</b></p> <p>Will be providing a bank of ad/ comms material to support the SHSC internal/ open 2024 programme.</p> <p>Will continue to follow progress / initiatives from RYA (through Ben Hodgson) and report back - note the October trial at the Birmingham Andrew Simpson Centre of short 'sprint' races.</p> <p><b>Stand Up Paddleboarding</b></p> <p>Lesley and I continue to support Greg and Sarah in their delivery of a 2024 paddler led programme.</p> <p><b>Social</b></p> <p>I have reached out to pizza and burger trucks re one Weds night a month April - September inclusive food van nights. Looking at cost/ value. E.g. not looking to progress a Mac &amp; cheese van who were going to charge £10 a portion start points (feedback is that this does not represent sufficient value at this price point to generate interest).</p> <p><b>Environment</b></p> <p>Noted the Comet WhatsApp group are researching alternative options to tyres as bow supports in the dinghy park. This includes trestle and tripod options.</p>	<b>INFO</b>
	<b>15. Sailability</b>	
	Dates in the diary for next year. Great achievement evening.	<b>INFO</b>
	<b>16. Events this month (before next meeting)</b>	
	end of frostbite	<b>All</b>



	<b>boxing day bash</b>	
	<b>17. Events Last Month</b>	
	<b>Frostbite series, SHST achievement evening, AGM</b>	<b>INFO</b>
	<b>18. AOB</b>	
2115	? way to extract data re names/boats to help sailwave set up—LS will ask AF	<b>LS</b>
2114	Zoom account dates to be planned	<b>PW</b>
2116	Prize giving next year?? When/format/prizes	<b>LF ask TG</b>
2117	Club charity ideas-one suggestion last night QMC baby unit, others forthcoming from environment group-Ellen Mccarthur/ Mental Health Trust. Comms awaited.	<b>all</b>
2118	Rules with dogs-current rules is no dogs in the clubhouse unless an assistance dog. BP raised this as there is a child/parent/dog discussion M&P	<b>M&amp;P</b>
2119	DP—Is it possible to invest in some “new toys” for the youngest of our members. Amy and I happy to source. —in principle yes but please could you state a budget	<b>DP</b>
	<b>19. Next Meeting</b>	
	The next meeting of the full committee will be <b>Monday January 8th at 7pm-</b>	<i>2120 next</i>

Signed on behalf of SHSC Committee:

Meeting finished Dec 11<sup>th</sup> at 2130

Next meeting Jan 8th 7pm. M&P as needed /virtual.