

The Nineteenth Annual General Meeting  
of the Lymington River Scow Class Association  
held at the Royal Lymington Yacht Club on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016  
at 18.30 hrs in the Island Room



## **2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

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### **Present (from Attendance Sheets):**

Jeremy Austin, Sarah Bell, Felicity Boot, Stephen Boyd, Lesley Boyd, Claire Bridge, Fiona Bruce, Pel Bruce, Ian Burr, John Chaundy, John Claridge, Jane Cook, Zissa Davidson, Marigold de Jongh, John Evans, Roger Garlick, Jenny Garlick, Carolyn Howden, David Howden, Chris Knox, Nigel Lang, Joanna Lewis, David Matcham, Dan McCarthy, Meriel McCarthy, Brendan Nellis, Dorinda Nellis, Jane Pitt-Pitts, Tim Power, Wendy Stickley, Gordon Stredwick, Mike Urwin, Ros Urwin, David Weller, Jane Wilford, Jane Willard.

### **1. Apologies for Absence:**

Ann Blacoe, Harry Boyd, John Brealey, Jon Elphinstone, Anne Evans, Tim Harford, Jon Harvey, Jenny Helfrecht, Ian Lennox, Jennie Lennox, Jac Mavity, Roger Mavity, Dick Moore, Pam Moore, Amanda Ottway, Rory Paton, Andrew Pearson, Gillie Pearson, Dubbie Robinson, Robbie Robinson, Nigel Russell, Roly Stafford, Diana Stewart, Dunlop Stewart, Robin Taunt, John Turner, Bill Vance, Nicholas Walford, Sandy Walford, Chris Willard, Roger Young, Christina Young.

### **2. Minutes of last Meeting – Friday 25th September 2015:**

The Minutes, having been previously circulated to all members of the Association, were proposed by Claire Bridge, seconded by Mike Urwin and unanimously accepted as an accurate record by all those present.

### **3. Matters Arising:**

No matters arising.

### **4. The Chairman's Report:**

John Evans (JE) reported on the last twelve months and, whilst noting that membership remains at around a healthy 225, stated that the slowdown in new-builds has meant that the 15 plus new members who joined each year has fallen to just a few. Purchases of 2<sup>nd</sup> hand boats only partially replenishes numbers. The web site was up-dated and almost all our communications are now by electronic thus saving money and paper for the Association.

This year saw the publication of Gordon Stredwick's excellent History of the Scows – which the Committee was happy to fund the publication of.

JE thanked Keyhaven for the excellently run Nationals.

He noted that Scows raced for the first time in Chichester Harbour Week. For the technical our Scows raced there with a lower PY number than Chichester Scows indicating that they were considered faster.

A first was the 'friendly' racing put on by the Royal Lymington Yacht Club and Beaulieu River Sailing Club with a race at Lymington in July followed by racing at Needs Ore earlier this month. Both excellent occasions from the racing and social view.

JE thanked John Turner - for handing over an Association in such excellent shape, Gordon Stredwick - for continuing to provide guidance to the Committee and keeping a historical perspective on our deliberations, Jon Harvey- for both overseeing the publication of the Yearbook and working with Keyhaven on the Nationals, David Weller - for his meticulous and diligent work as Treasurer, Dan and Meriel McCarthy - for carrying out over 80 buoyancy tests this year and checking boats at the same

time for compliance with Class rules, Brendan Nellis- who has taken on the task of developing and up-dating our web site, Jane Cook - for her contributions to the Committee and keeping a watchful eye on pottering, Dorinda Nellis - who has worked tirelessly in support of the Association and the Committee and David Howden – who leaves the Committee and duties as Newsletter editor after three years and takes with him our thanks for all he has done for the Class. JE presented David you with a copy of Aimee Durnell's book "Secret Marsh."

The Chairman advised that Wendy Stickley is taking over as Editor of the Newsletter. And further advised that the Nationals 2017 will be hosted by Lymington Town Sailing Club on September 16 and 17.

With reference to the proposal to establish a Working Party to look at the future of the Class, JE ended his report by saying that just because a class is a one design class it does not mean that it cannot nor should not embrace progress.

*(Note: A full transcript of The Chairman's Report is available on LRSCA website)*

#### **5. Hon. Treasurer's Report:**

The Hon. Treasurer, David Weller (DW), reported on the accounts for the year ended 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016, which had previously been circulated after inspection by Tony Miles. DW thanked Tony Miles for once again very kindly inspecting and signing off the accounts.

DW advised that our surplus is £614 which is down £184 on the previous year.

Total income stood at £3,390, down £76 on 2014-15.

Subscriptions and measurement fees: At £2,230, these are up by £160 on the previous year.

Annual Dinner ticket sales of £1,140, down by £21 on 2014-15.

Your committee decided last year that £5,000 should be retained as a contingency fund to be used to ensure the future of the LR Scow. This amount was placed in a savings account in May 2015. Between that date and the end of February 2016 this attracted interest of £19.62.

Total expenditure amounted to £2,776, up £108 on 2014-2015.

Annual Dinner costs of £1,362 were £58 higher than the previous year. £1,140 was covered by ticket sales while wine at the dinner was covered by association funds to the tune of £222, £79 more than in 2014-15.

The Balance Sheet shows that our total equity remained healthy at £7,024.

The Association owns plugs from which new moulds can be made should the existing production moulds be damaged. The hull, buoyancy tank and foredeck plugs were subject to routine inspection by members of the LRSCA committee and John Claridge on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 and found to be in good condition

Since the end of February the finances of the Association have followed much the same pattern as previous years, with one exception. In May 2016 seven hundred copies of 'The Lymington River Scow – A History' by Gordon Stredwick were printed at a cost of £880. 200 copies were distributed to members at a cost of £207. The remainder are being retained for presentation to new members and for the promotion of the Scow and the Association.

David Matcham proposed that the accounts be accepted and this was seconded by Chris Knox. Accepted by show of hands.

#### **6. Election of Examiner of Accounts:**

It was proposed by David Howden and seconded by John Claridge that Tony Miles be elected Examiner of Accounts for the year 2016/17 and accepted unopposed.

#### **7. Election of Committee Member:**

Nomination received for vacancy on the Committee was:

Member: Angus Raby

Proposed by Jon Harvey and seconded by John Evans.

There were no other nominations and it was unanimously accepted by all those present that Angus Raby be elected.

**8. Proposal:** That a working party be formed to consider how the Class might encourage growth in and beyond the Western Solent and to examine the options for increasing the appeal of the Class together with any safeguards needed to protect it. Proposed by: Mike Urwin. Seconded by: Dick Moore.

Mike Urwin (MU) outlined the basis for his proposal and stated he enjoys Scows and wants the Class to continue and, whilst the Rules have been kept up to date, he noted that there has not been a wider review of the Class. He advised that if the Proposal is approved and a Working party formed it would be the intention to collect the views of the membership. JE read out a summary received from Dick Moore (DM) as the Secunder of this Proposal which included reference to concerns relating to how the Class can grow when orders are down and the dinghy parks are full together with a reminder that the Association has the objective of promoting the Class both nationally and locally. Following discussions the Proposal was voted on and agreed unanimously.

**9. Tell Tale Trophy Award:**

Not awarded as there had been no entries during the year.

**10. Trail Sail Trophy Award:**

The Trail Sail Trophy was awarded for the 1<sup>st</sup> time to Chris Knox for his account of trailing Goshawk (315) to Salcombe. This will be published in a future Newsletter.

**11. Next National championships:**

As stated in the Chairman's Report, the 2017 Nationals will be held at Lymington Town Sailing Club and the weekend September 16 and 17 has been agreed.

**12. 2017 A.G.M. & Annual Dinner:**

Due to the date of 2017 Nationals being so close to the time of AGM and Annual Dinner, it has been agreed by the Committee that next year's AGM and Annual Dinner will be held during the weekend of the Nationals at the Lymington Town Sailing Club.

**13. The Hon. President of the Association:**

The Hon. President, Gordon Stredwick (GS) thanked the JE and the Committee for all their hard work on behalf of the Association and stated that it always surprises him how considerable the amount of work done actually is. He particularly wished to add his thanks to David Howden (DH) as he produced 11 Newsletters which were made up of a total of 90 pages. He also thanked DH for his time looking after the Website.

**14. The Chairman's reply and close of formal business:**

The Chairman thanked the Hon. President for his comments and said that he enjoys his role as Chairman and appreciates the support he has received from the membership. JE then formally closed the official business of the AGM.

**Informal discussion:**

The following topics were discussed informally:

- The effects minor modifications that some Scow owners might make on Scows being a one class design.
- What the Class Measurers test and look for during Buoyancy Tests and what was recorded at time of new build.
- Where to source lists of 2<sup>nd</sup> hand Scows for sale.
- Dinghy Park reconfiguration and waiting list for spaces.

There being no further points raised, JE closed the informal discussion which was followed by the LRSCA's Annual Dinner.