

Minutes of the PLSC AGM, 2pm on 11th January 2009 in the club house

Present: 30 members including flag officers.

Apologies for absence: Mike Overs, Cate Whiteside, John Wallis.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the previous AGM and matters arising.
3. Commodores report.
4. Treasurers report.
5. Rear Commodore's report.
6. Membership secretary's report.
7. Elections of Officers:
 - Commodore
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Rear Commodore
8. Any other business

Minutes of last AGM: No matters arising so accepted as a true record.

Commodore's report– Harry West

The year started as usual with work parties clearing the area and pulling out trailers and trolleys to be disposed of by reclaiming or scrapping. The weather this year has been wet, but the level of the lake has remained high. The Junior club week went well with some juniors being worn out by the end, which proves they worked hard and I hope enjoyed them selves. We had several Scout sailing days as well as the usual holiday sailing courses. The weather was definitely wet and windy, with one course extended to cope with it.

We had another good year on the RYA Powerboat Challenge. Steven Curtis once again having won through the regional final, went to the National final at the Southampton Boat show, and came back with a New Honda Rib for the Club. We are the first club to have won 2 boats in this competition, and I think we are lucky to have such talented young people. Don't forget, it was Steven's sister Katrina who won the first one in 2005. We had a day of competitions organised by Paul Carrington to celebrate the delivery of the new boat. The competition was to drive a course similar to the competition; some found it harder than they thought, particularly as each run was timed.

During October half term week, we held a Powerboat Instructors Course which was very successful. We now have another 5 P/B instructors, although only two new to the training team as some are Sailing Instructors.

The Laying-up Supper was a little different. We changed venue to Little Paxton Village Hall, and had a Fish and Chip Supper or some variation to taste, followed by Salsa Dancing led by

a dancing teacher. I think it was enjoyed by all those who joined in, and entertaining by those who watched.

Each year I have said we have some terrific young people in our Club. Each year they help with running courses and come and try days. They work very hard but it must be enjoyable as they keep coming back and others want to join them.

I have also noticed a number of new and regular sailors on the water, keep it up people, next year I could be joining you.

To finish I would like to thank all those who have helped over the year. Burt Cooke for all his hard work keeping the Clubhouse and surrounding area in good order. Where would we have been without him. Cate for supplying the galley, Gareth for running the website, and various sailing events. Pat as Secretary keeping on track and Richard for looking after the funds. And the rest of the committee for their work and help in organising events and running the Club, because without you we would not be here.

Treasurer's report – Richard Conway

Another year, another surplus. How boring; but a treasurer's dream!!!

Last year saw another rise in membership income which is the core measure of the strength of the Club. It will be interesting to see whether the credit crunch has a negative impact on the Club as people cut back on discretionary spending and the no. of new people coming into the area slows along with the no. of new build houses in and around St. Neots. A more positive view is that sailing is a relatively inexpensive pastime which may attract more people as they search out "value for money activities". We shall see.

The result for 2008 was down on 2007 but this is not unexpected as we faced higher costs of utilities and rising food prices reduce the surplus from the galley where we held prices unchanged during the year. This is despite Kate's work in increasing the amount of food bought from wholesalers without which, we would have seen a much larger fall. Galley income in 2007 was also much higher than in the previous year. For comparison, 2006 and 2008 galley incomes were almost the same. The new committee will need to review prices before the 2009 season begins.

The rise in Insurance costs is misleading as we moved from annual payments to monthly payments in 2007 which reduce the amount booked that year. We are on fixed terms with our insurers with the next review due in 2009/10.

The RTE continued to generate significant surplus for the Club but now that Harry is reducing his involvement, this may reduce the income from this source. We remain committed to providing courses aimed mainly at juniors in the school holidays and retaining our links with the Hunts District Council.

In line with the decision, made in 2006, to build up Club reserves in preparation for a possible move when our lease expires in 2014, membership fees rise for the 2009 season to £70 for single members and £100 for family members. Once again, there will be no increase in boat berth fees.

Andy asked if the increase in membership income was due to the fees going up or the increase in numbers? About half the increase is from more members (5 from last year).

Q: Could the weed treatment cost be reduced by finding someone else to do it?

A: We have been talking to Hunts and they have stockpiled 3 years worth of the chemical as it is being banned in future.

Rear Commodore – Mark Robson

The year got off to a slow start with no wind for the Valentine's race. Things did however pick up as the year went on. A good increase in the number of people taking part in racing with over 20 boats in some of the races.

In the 24 hour race we had 5 teams with the Solo team winning again in breezy conditions. In the Cambs Youth League we had 11 juniors taking part, with Johnny Leading coming 2nd over all, and as a team we were 3rd and improving.

During the latter part of the year weed once again became a problem. Hopefully with the cold weather it will be reduced for the next season.

Our thanks to Gareth for the great job he does with the results, and keeping the Web up to date. He also runs training days which have proved to be a great success, just look at Pat and his results for the season!!!

The number of Club sailing boats has remained the same, and were well used throughout the year. Power boats have increased by 2, one new electric boat and thanks to a good win by Steven Curtis in the Honda Rib Challenge we now have another Rib.

Bert and Harry have done a lot of work around the club, improving the galley and carrying out various repairs to the outside of the buildings.

Finally our thanks go to Harry who is stepping down after three years as Commodore and several years as Senior Instructor. Amongst his many contributions to the club Harry set up and ran the RTE for many years.

Membership Secretary – Steve Leeding

Membership

At the year end the 2008 membership count is 166 membership cards issued (161, 161, 162, 148, 132, 124, 102 cards were issued in previous years back to 2001), so a small growth on last year.

Last year we split the membership work between John Pratt and myself, this worked well so another thanks to John.

The number of member cards added through training is 60 (57, 60, 61, 62, 40, 33). The number of training members who then go on to rejoin the next year is up to 9 (10, 7, 8), of note none of the single training members rejoined again.

Note the Huntingdonshire District Council Courses do not count towards club membership.

A quick exercise shows that our regular membership number is actually stable at about 100, the rejoining training members are important in keeping the membership at a level to make the club run smoothly.

Standing Down

I have now had this role for 8 years so I will be standing down from the Membership Secretary post at this meeting.

Election of Officers

The following officers were elected.

Commodore	Andy Anderson, proposed Pat Overs, seconded Gareth Russell.
Secretary	Pat Overs.
Treasurer	Richard Conway.
Rear commodore	Paul Carrington, proposed Gareth Russell, seconded Pat Overs.
Sailing secretary	Gareth Russell.
Youth training officer	Vacant.
Membership secretary	Peter Millie, proposed Jenny Overs, seconded Richard Conway.
Social secretary	Vacant.
Newsletter editor	Gareth Russell.

General committee currently has the following members in addition to those above:

Cate Whiteside, John Pratt, Mark Robson, Steve Leeding, John Stanness.

Nigel DeRoeck and Robert Turner both volunteered to join the committee.

All voted in en bloc.

Any Other Business

Nigel and Tony from Essex thanked members of the committee for making them welcome and for the facilities.

There being no other items of discussion the meeting closed at 2:45pm.

The new committee agreed to meet on the 24th Feb at 7:30 in the clubhouse.

Appendix

PAXTON LAKES SAILING CLUB + RTE ACCOUNTS 2008

<u>31/12/2007</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>31/12/2008</u>
7,636	Memberships	8,340
1,551	Galley	860
279	24 Hr Race	110
5,629	RTE	4,878
656	Youth training	825
115	Grants/Donations	150
809	Open Meetings/Visitors	650
459	Bank Interest	572
23	Social Events	
17,157	Total	16,384

OUTGOINGS

-2,000	Rent	-2,000
-2,938	Weed Treatment	-2,938
-1,486	Utilities	-1,797
-1,502	Insurance/RYA Subs.	-1,902
-690	Cleaning	-728
-1,397	Maintenance	-1,377
-339	Club boats (inc Rescue boat)	-597
-49	Cams Yth League	-148
-460	Trophies	-656
-112	Postage/Photocopying	-217
-140	Sundry	0
	Social events	-94
-11,113	Total	-12,454
6,044	Net surplus/shortfall	3,931

RESERVES

8,347	B/F	14,391
6,044	Net surplus/shortfall	3,931
14,391	Balance c/f	18,322
870	of which Key reserve	1,040
13,112	made up Deposit a/c	18,184
1,188	Current a/c	97
91	Petty cash	41