

Carrick Castle Boat Club

An Annual General Meeting of the club was held at the Village Hall, Lochgoilhead on Wednesday 16th May 2018 at 18.30 hrs.

The meeting was attended by: Jim Graham (Moorings Officer) & Anita Graham, Jai Cowper-Smith (Chair) & Vonna Cowper-Smith (Treasurer), Douglas Locke (Secretary), Bill Miller, Graham Mathie, Jules & Trish Cadie and Sinead Sheridan of Clyde Marine Planning Partnership – 10 people.

1) Welcome & Apologies:

The Chair, Jai Cowper-Smith (JC-S) welcomed everyone to the meeting saying the attendance was very low maybe due to the good weather for a change. Apologies were received from Euan Avery (Non-Residents Representative), Ian Nicholson (Committee Member), Dorothy Nicholson (the Nicholsons were at A&E) and Gordon Craik.

2) Minutes of the last AGM on 7th April 2017

These were approved (proposed by Bill Miller and seconded by Jim Graham) and signed by the Chair.

3) Overview of the Carrick Castle Boat Club in 2017

The Chair, JC-S asked the Secretary, Douglas Locke (DL) to review the last year. DL said it had been another very quiet year mainly due to the poor weather in the last summer for the second year running as could be seen by the number of visitors mooring uses of 58 & 58 against 92 in 2015. He went on to say that the membership remained at 35, the same as the previous year. He said that all other aspects of the year would be covered in the rest of the agenda.

4) Group moorings inspections

Jim Graham (JG), Moorings Officer confirmed that the number of moorings owned by members (38) and the club (2) totalled 40 in 2017 (the same for 2018). The visitors' moorings and members' moorings requested for servicing by Cunningham Moorings were to be serviced from 15th May but now from 21st May 2018. JG advised that 28 moorings were to be serviced out of 38 private moorings plus the two visitors' moorings.

5) Visitors moorings & usage

Moorings Officer's Report: The usage of the visitors' mooring in 2017 totalled 58 uses compared to 58 in 2016 (92 in 2015) - 2 didn't pay although 1 may have as the cash box had been broken into. Gross receipts were £565.00 and net after PayPal charges and WiFi costs were £515.64 of which 42 paid by PayPal, 13 by cash, 0 by cheque and 1 by bank transfer. A surplus of £515.64 was made and allowing for insurance charges of £113.64 (12 months), £402.00 would be carried forward for future maintenance or replacements.

6) Public Liability Insurance

JG explained that the Public Liability Insurance now deals direct with Zurich Insurance with the same cover that was from them via The Highland Council Insurance Department covering any risks involved with the visitors' moorings and the committee member's responsibilities, costing £113.64 pa.

7) Update on the website

The secretary explained that the new website is almost live on the usual domain name and will be viewable on it next week - currently the old website is still showing. In the meantime, the new one can be viewed at www.carrick-castle-boat-club.co.uk/admin. The reason for the new one was as a result of the content management system (CMS) having been hacked. This did not cause our website to be hacked as it was password protected however it was the system of being able to update the website that meant our provider had to make it static until a new system could be put in its place to allow us once again to update 'in house'. The CMS system affected hundreds if not thousands of website systems of which we were just one. The new website is now Smart phone friendly making payment for visiting vessels by PayPal much easier and this also allows Facebook to be viewed from the website. The cost of all this considerable transfer of content and work involved was agreed at £750.00. Facebook is updated separately when appropriate.

8) Members Discount Scheme

Members were advised again that two chandlers offer members a 10% discount on many items on production of club membership cards – GaelForce Marine in Hillington and Duncan Chandlers in Glasgow. Other discounts are available.

9) Muster for 2018

The Muster for this year is planned for Sunday 12th August 2018 at 12 noon at Swine's Hole, Carrick Castle with a barbecue on the beach with members taking their own food and refreshments. An MOB practical activity will be optional on the day.

10) Accounts for 2017

Vonna Cowper-Smith, Treasurer gave an insight to the accounts of the club. The club is well financed as a not-for-profit organisation and has an operational and contingency fund with a current bank balance at 16th May 2018 of £2,288.22 once the new website has been paid for (£750). All its assets are fully owned with no debts. There were no questions and the accounts were accepted.

11) Membership Fees for 2019

The committee recommended that the annual membership fee should remain at £15.00 pa for 2019 and this was voted on and approved by the members. *(Subscriptions and Crown Estate Mooring Fees will be due for payment by 3rd December 2018 one month after receiving the invoice (see Article 8 in the club's Constitution).*

12) Election of Officers

Following the club's Constitution, all committee members retire annually. Jai Cowper-Smith agreed to remain Chair. A vote was taken and Jai and the following officers were re-elected unanimously by the members attending. Douglas Locke (Secretary); Jim Graham (Mooring Officer); Vonna Cowper-Smith (Treasurer); Euan Avery (Non-Residents Representative) and Ian Nicholson (Member).

13) Defibrillator update for Carrick Castle

JG invited Graham Mathie (GM) from the Carrick Castle Community Trust to update the members on this important piece of medical equipment. GM advised that the location was to be on the wall outside the flats at the car park and was progressing to be installed in the near future. The club would be advised of progress.

14) Any other business

- 1) Bill Miller was thanked for recording the boats usage on the visitors' moorings with photographs.
- 2) It was agreed that the talk for the next AGM in 2019 should be on Porpoises in the Clyde by Clyde Porpoises that also cover dolphins, whales and seals and this will be requested by the Secretary.
- 3) Members were asked if they would like a VHF DSC Radio Course to be arranged as it is known that some members do not currently have radio licences. This was to be e-mailed separately to the members after the meeting.
- 4) It was agreed to purchase a megaphone so that the Mooring Officer and others who need to contact make contact with vessels on the visitors' moorings can do so when there is no radio contact.
- 5) It was agreed that the steps down to the beach should be upgraded where visitors mostly come ashore and where a number of members regularly do so as well and that the handrail should be replaced. Jai & Vonna, owners of the beach agreed that the club could do this and the committee agreed that quotations should be sought for the work to go ahead. A post with life saving equipment will also be purchased for this site.

The AGM part of the meeting ended at 19.15 hrs and was followed by refreshments (sponsored by Stephen McNab and prepared by Anita Graham with the club's thanks).

Sinead Sheridan of Clyde Marine Planning Partnership then gave an interesting presentation on Marine Planning in the Clyde. The Partnership is made up of 23 different organisations with the aim of getting unified agreement on the future planning structure for the Clyde. For more information visit www.clydemarineplan.scot.

Jai Cowper-Smith, the club's Chair gave a vote of thanks to Sinead for coming to talk to our members and to all for attending the meeting.

The meeting ended at 20.15 hrs.