

Carrick Castle Boat Club

Celebrating 20 years of service to its members since 1989

Douglas Locke – Secretary/Treasurer

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Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at Cruach House, Carrick Castle on Saturday 31st October 2009 at 11 am.

- 1) Liz Evans, Chair, welcomed the five committee members to the first really formal committee meeting of the club. In the past, committee meetings had always been informal between the three committee members.
- 2) Those present were Liz Evans, Chair; Robert White, Vice-Chair; Douglas Locke, Moorings Officer and Treasurer; Jim Graham and Colin Jones.
- 3) A discussion was held by the committee members regarding a complaint received on 22nd August 2009 from a second-home owner in the village over their request to have a boat relocated from a mooring as they did not like to look at that particular boat. The boat in question was on a legal Crown Estate mooring, the owner having spent in excess of £2,000 to have the mooring laid with the approval of the committee. They also complained that they could hear the skipper making mobile phone calls. The committee acknowledged their complaint and will take measures to deal with any noise issues from all boats as that falls as a responsibility of the boat club stated in the Agreement with the Crown Estate. With regard to what boat can be on a mooring, the committee cannot discriminate boat types that are on legal moorings. The mooring owner has the right to put any boat (except commercial boats) on their mooring. The committee decided to communicate the club's legal position to the complainant. Action DL
- 4) With regard to an item on the agenda 'Should a number of moorings be reserved for local residents?' - The legal position with the Crown Estate is that moorings are available all that apply. The club is not allowed to reserve vacant mooring positions for local residents. Local residents can apply for mooring positions providing they have a boat and lay the mooring within 6-months of the allocation. Within the club's Constitution, local residents do get priority if a waiting list for moorings should occur. The current breakdown of the 50 moorings and mooring positions in Carrick Castle is as follows: - Local residents own – 15; 2nd Home residents own – 12; Non-residents own – 10; Carrick Castle Boat Club owns 1 and Vacant positions – 12.
- 5) The committee propose at the next Club's AGM that the one-off Joining Fee to the Club should be raised from £1.00 to £10.00. This is to cover the administration involved in setting up a new member with the club's paperwork, the Crown Estate and the mooring contractor. Action AGM
- 6) Following on to the complaint regarding noise from boats, the committee also received one other complaint that was a one-off occurrence when a boat's petrol generator was being used late at night. The Mooring Officer e-mailed

the boat owner and asked that the generator should not be used late at night and it wasn't thereafter. The committee agreed to advise all mooring owners that petrol/diesel generators and boat engines should not be run on moorings between the hours of 22.00 hrs and 08.00 hrs except in emergency. A request to keep voices down when talking on mobile phones is also to be made.

Action DL

- 7) Dinghy storage – currently most boat owners leave their dinghies on the shore banks above the high-tide line. This has never been an issue and is not one at present. Boat owners are asked to keep these areas tidy.
- 8) Trailer storage – Two problems have occurred to two non-resident boat owners who parked their car and car and trailer in the public car park whilst away for a few days on their boats. It is suggested that if a vehicle is to be left for any period that the owner contacts the Mooring Officer and the Police to advise the situation. To alleviate any pressure to the car park the club is to enquire about alternative parking arrangements. Action LE
- 9) Carrick Castle Pier – No further news available – MOD do not want anyone to use it.
- 10) Water supply for visiting boats – Currently the only water available for visitors is from the public toilets. A tap connector with a metre of hose pipe would be necessary to fill a container.
- 11) An update on the current mooring positions and servicing was given to the committee. The club now has 50 mooring positions with 12 vacant positions. 31 moorings were either laid or serviced in 2009 by Neil Cunningham, the club's mooring contractor. The committee are aware that Neil is far too slow at invoicing for the servicing of moorings although generally quick for the laying of new moorings. He does not charge VAT. This saves members 15% currently and 17.5% from next year. Members are advised to remember that invoices will appear. The club regularly reminds him that members do wish to be invoiced for the work he has done. Members are to be reminded that all boats on moorings in Carrick Castle must have at least Third Party Insurance as stated in the club's Constitution and by The Crown Estate. In these days of litigation, members should be aware that claims can be very big particularly for personal injury and Third-Party Insurance cover now is generally for £3,000,000. The club will be asking in the future for sight of members' boat insurance certificates. Action DL
- 12) Visitor's Mooring – 13 paid up fees [12 x £9.46 (PayPal take commission of 54p) and 1 x £10.00 cash]. Four did not pay in 2009 – 3 of which were in September. Total earned in 2009 to date = £123.52. The club reached its £120.00 target for the year for mooring servicing costs and Crown Estate Fees. Last year (First year - April 2008 onwards) the mooring fees earned came to £83.67. It has been agreed that Douglas is to charge 46 pence per visit on the visitor's mooring to cover the cost of providing free WiFi Internet access to visiting boats at the mooring. The committee have also agreed to purchase a piece of hardware for the Internet access at the visitor's mooring that means that when visitor's access the free WiFi access they have to log in giving their boat's name and contact details and then takes them to PayPal to pay for the mooring fee of £10.00. After commission to PayPal and the Internet access charge the club will receive £9.00 per visit. The Private Mooring Tags (31 tags were purchased at £5.00 each by members) were a great success this year as there were no cases reported of any private moorings being used by visitors

without their permission. Committee members monitored through the season visiting boats' actions and whilst it was seen regularly that private mooring buoys were approached as soon as they saw the private mooring tag they all either used the visitor's mooring or anchored. Mooring owners are asked to check that their mooring buoy's continue to display these tags and if lost purchase a new one from the club at a cost of £5.00 each. Members are also asked to check that their Crown Estate tags are clearly showing on their moorings. The committee have decided to charge £5.00 per application to replace Crown Estate mooring tags to cover the cost of the administration involved. The Crown Estate wish members to be advised that the penalty they can impose for moorings not showing a Crown Estate tag is £50.00 per inspection. Jim Graham (01301 703709) is taking over the position of Mooring Officer with immediate effect from Douglas Locke (01301 703098) who will now become Secretary and Treasurer. This is to lighten the burden of Douglas having been doing nearly all the work for the club. The Mooring Officer will be responsible for all the moorings and the visitor's mooring.

Action JG & DL

- 13) Web site – The updating of the web site, with the exception of News and Gallery done by Douglas Locke, can only be done by Claire France. Since Claire is extremely busy with her own business, the committee have decided to obtain two quotes to convert the web site to a full CMS (content management system) whereby any committee member could update any part of the web site when necessary. Action DL
- 14) Musters and other events – The club in the past have had Musters with barbeques and also a dinner, however attendance has been poor. The committee would like to know from members if they would like such events in the future. A dinner to celebrate the club's 21st year will be held at The Shore House early next year if there is sufficient demand. The committee will consider approaching the Carrick Castle Amenities Committee to see if the two groups could join forces for a summer barbeque. Dates for the next AGM and other events in 2009 will be advised to members in due course. Action RW
- 15) Any other business – Duncan MacDonald wishes to sell his 5 tonne mooring as he has moved his yacht to the Oban area. The committee are to investigate with Neil Cunningham, what the cost of upgrading it to 10 tonnes and moving it to alongside the current visitor's mooring and exchanging the yellow to a blue mooring buoy, would be in order to offer a second visitor's mooring to visiting boats. Philip Gilmer is to be written to concerning his third mooring position allocation that does not have a mooring laid there. Member's invoices for 2010 fees will be sent out on 15th November and must be paid by 15th December 2009. Current bank account balance is £384.89. Action DL
- 16) The committee then did a shore line visit to view the best places for the additional 10 mooring positions the club was allocated by the Crown Estate from 40 to 50. The new layout will be shown on the club's website as soon as practical. Action DL/CF

The committee meeting closed at 16.00 hrs.