

Carrick Castle Boat Club

An Annual General Meeting of the club was held at the Village Hall, Lochgoilhead on Saturday 21st April 2011 at 18.00 hrs.

The meeting was attended by: Euan Avery, Roddy & Sheila Davies, John Donovan, Liz Evans (Chair), Jim Graham (Moorings Officer), Anita & Sam Graham, Douglas Locke (Secretary & Treasurer), Kieron Mawer, Mick & Angie Watts and Robert White (Vice Chair).

1) Welcome:

Liz opened the meeting by thanking all for attending.

2) Apologies:

Apologies were received from Forrester & Alison Cockburn, John & Nicky Abrahams, Gordon Adam, Christopher Atkinson, Keith Oliver, Edwina Piercy & Dave Cliff, Kevin Henville, Mehrdad Malekianpour, Colin Jones, Gary Gordon, Graham Mathie, Phillip Gilmer, John Buchanan, Claire France, Jim McKenna, Colin Nesbitt, Ian Stevenson, Jo Donovan, Jean Murray and Andy Young.

3) Minutes of the last meeting on 10th April 2010

These were approved (Proposed by Jim Graham and seconded by John Donovan) and signed by Liz Evans (Chair).

4) Overview of the Carrick Castle Boat Club

Liz gave an overview of the club's activities in 2010 mentioning the club had 38 members in 2010 compared to 31 in 2009 and 36 members for 2011. The two that had left the club no longer had moorings.

In 2010, there were 40 moorings registered with the Crown Estate in Carrick Castle including the club's 2 visitor's moorings. This had altered currently in 2011 to 39 registered moorings from a total approval of 50 moorings allocated to the club.

Liz advised members that the second visitor's mooring was now fully paid as was the cost of the new website. The website provides information for members and visitors and has a 'For Sale and Wanted' page where members can advertise nautical items without charge.

With regard to social events, there had been a well attended Club's 21st Birthday Dinner after last year's AGM when 16 members attended. This year, after the AGM, 10 members attended the club's dinner on the Queen's Birthday. Both dinners were at the Shorehouse Restaurant, Lochgoilhead.

There was the usual summer muster in 2010 on 15th August in Swine's Hole. 21 members attended with 3 larger boats and 11 small ones (canoes, kayaks and dinghies). The weather was hot and sunny and everyone enjoyed the barbecue on the beach and the kayak race.

5) Group moorings inspections

Jim Graham gave a report on the group moorings inspection and advised that Neil Cunningham intends to start servicing the club members' moorings on Monday 25th April. The servicing will take a few days to complete. 32 moorings are to be serviced this year which will be more than ever before taking advantage of the group discounted price. One new mooring is to be laid for a member in a previously allocated space and one mooring is to be removed.

The Crown Estate commented that the club did a good job in ensuring all the mooring buoys were correctly tagged with Crown Estate tags. The Crown Estate wants all moorings buoys to have the maximum weight shown on them and the name of the normal resident boat that uses each mooring. This will also assist the committee identifying mooring ownership. It was agreed that the Secretary would e-mail/write to all members to advise them that when a mooring is being serviced, Neil Cunningham should be asked to ensure the maximum weight of each mooring is shown on each mooring buoy to a weight that he feels is the correct maximum weight for each buoy at no extra cost. This will be done unless a member opts out

of this part of the service. For those who are not having their moorings serviced this year, those members will need to have a maximum weight shown on their mooring buoys. Maximum weights are required to be shown on all moorings according to the Crown Estate's mooring regulations.

Jim said he would go round all the club members' moorings after they had been serviced to check that all relevant tags were showings and report on those moorings showing maximum weights and boat names or not showing that information. Members should advise if there have been any changes to the names registered with the club for their boats.

The tags to attach to pickup buoys reading "Private Mooring - Please use blue visitors mooring or anchor" have been very successful in the past year again. If you lose one of these tags replacements are available at £5.00 each from the club. Jim displayed at the meeting all the club's mooring positions on Google Earth print outs.

6) Visitors moorings & usage

The Visitor's Moorings usage in 2010 recorded 39 visiting craft, of which 33 paid the £10 mooring fee and 6 did not. A detailed list of usage was handed to members at the meeting. Those that did not pay are documented on the 'Name and Shame' page on the Visitor's Mooring page of the club's website.

The visitor's moorings are now publicised in a wide range of media and guides and should continue to earn revenue, hopefully covering the operating costs. Wi-Fi continues to be available to the visitor's mooring area allowing online payment via PayPal.

The club needs to have a minimum of 40 paid visits per annum to cover the cost of operating the two visitor's moorings. The costs are made up as follows - Crown Estate mooring fees at £40.00 per mooring (x2 = £80.00); Servicing each mooring at £80.00 per mooring (x2 = £160.00); PayPal payment commission at £0.54 per transaction (40 x £0.54 = £21.60 - Note some payments are made in cash when no commission is payable); WiFi charge at £0.46 per visit (40 x £0.46 = £18.40); Contingency fund for five year replacement of riser chain, multiplait riser and shackles at £150 each (x2 = £300.00), Pick up strop at £75.00 each (x2 = £150.00) and replacement of information/payment tags at £25.00 each (x2 = £50.00 over five years). The contingency fund has to be spread over a five year period so each mooring has to save £250.00 (£500.00 for two) for replacements (£100.00 per annum for two moorings). However as the moorings have to recover these costs from last year, for the first five year period, the costs will have to be spread over four years (£125.00 for the two). The total cost therefore for operating the two visitor's moorings for the next four years will be £405.00 per annum based on current costs. The visitor's moorings are based financially on being self funding. Currently the contingency fund has a credit balance of £13.87 set aside from profit made in 2010. Note – the CCAA will, once the visitor's moorings start making a profit over these annual costs, receive 25% of any profit based on the total earnings of the two visitor's moorings following the helpful grant that was given to the club to establish the first visitor's mooring.

7) The Clyde Yacht Club's Association

After a show of hands it was unanimously agreed by the members not to join this association this year. This will be reconsidered in future years.

8) Muster for 2009 & social activities

The date for the 2011 Muster will be on August 14th 2011 at Swine's Hole at 12 noon.

9) Update on the website

Douglas explained to the club members that the website has information about the club and its moorings, as well as news of the wider sailing community. It has eight local walks now on it, information for visitors about the visitor's moorings, many photographs in the gallery, a 'For Sale & Wanted' page and latest news items appear regularly. It was suggested to members that they should look at the website at least monthly. Members commented that it was a very good website.

10) Members Discount Scheme

The Membership Discount Scheme that was introduced for members in 2010 shows the suppliers who are offering discounts of 5% - 20% to members on the website. Members reported that they had saved a lot of money using the scheme.

11) Other social activities

No additional social activities, other than the planned muster in August and the dinner that follows the AGM, were requested. Most members just wanted cheap mooring fees only obtainable through the club.

12) Accounts

Douglas asked for any questions about the accounts that were given to members for 2010 that left a credit balance on 31st December 2010 of £381.52 but there were none requested.

Douglas explained the content of the accounts summary and said that the full detailed accounts could be inspected if anyone wished but could not be published on the website as they contained the names of the members and payments. The accounts had been audited by Jim Graham.

After having paid the 50% balances for the second mooring and the website, the club's credit balance as at 8th April 2011 was £389.10.

13) Membership Fees

The annual membership fee for 2012 will remain as in 2011 at £15.00 p.a.

14) Election of Officers

Following the club's Constitution, all committee members retire annually. It was asked if anyone wished to join the committee particularly as Rob White, the Vice-Chair for the past seven years was retiring from that post. Euan Avery was elected as Vice-Chair, proposed by Jim Graham and seconded by Douglas Locke. Liz thanked Rob for all his committee work over years and was pleased that he agreed to remain on the committee as the Non-local Residences Representative as he had moved away from Carrick Castle but was keeping his mooring here. She also thanked Colin Jones for his work as the previous Non-local Residences Representative. As there were no other offers to serve on the committee all existing officers were re-elected. Liz Evans (Chair); Euan Avery (Vice-Chair); Douglas Locke (Secretary & Treasurer); Jim Graham (Mooring Officer) and Rob White (Non-local Residences Representative).

15) Any other business

Euan Avery asked if anyone had investigated the possibility of providing a pontoon for Carrick Castle. Rob White said that he had looked into this a few years ago and a floating pontoon similar to the one in Otter Ferry, Loch Fyne would have cost about £17,000 and then there would be the maintenance of it and Crown Estate mooring fees for four anchors. It was agreed that Euan could look into this matter again and report back initially to the committee and then to the members in due course.

Mike & Angie Watts brought up the problem of personal water craft (PWC) being used in Loch Goil. Keiron Mawer, commented saying that the current situation is that a licence has to be obtained to use PWC (jet ski's) in Loch Goil from the Queen's Harbour Master and that there is a 7 MPH speed limit on the loch (which can be exceeded with the licence) . It was agreed that all members should be advised of these facts. Euan Avery also commented that the bye law for loch closures during a MOD ranging were also no longer enforceable. The flying of a red flag at Douglas pier and Carrick Castle is shown only as a warning, that a ranging is in progress and for vessels to be aware and to avoid the range area. It was further advised by them that the current Bye Laws are currently being rewritten and when these are available the club would be sent a copy to advise its members. This information will also be added to the club's website.

The meeting ended at 19.15 hrs.