

# Carrick Castle Boat Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
at 7pm on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2007 at Carrick Castle Church, Carrick Castle

- 1) Liz Evans, Chairman, welcomed the members to the meeting.  
In attendance – Liz Evans, Douglas Locke, Robert White, Claire France, Forrester Cockburn, Alison Cockburn, Mick Watts, R McArthur, Callum McArthur, Steve Gibbs, Bill Miller, Nigel Richardson, Jane Richardson, Kevin Henville, Elaine Langlands and guest speaker Willie Melville.
- 2) Apologies were received from Jim McKenna, Chris and Hilary Atkinson, Clare & John Fyfe, Mike and Joyce Stretton and Jack Lavender. Belated apology from Kieron Mawer due to road closure on way to Carrick Castle.
- 3) Liz Evans gave an overview of the Carrick Castle Boat Club. This year there have been major changes in the Clyde area with the area coming under the Scottish Executive's Coastal Protection Act 1949 (section 34) Moorings. The Clyde area now conforms to the same regulations as the rest of Scottish waters. The Committee have had to sign an Agreement, as Trustees, with The Crown Estate and Douglas Locke, as Mooring Officer, has had to sign a further agreement with The Scottish Executive to allow consent for the Carrick Castle Boat Club's members' moorings. The club has had to pay £25.00 to The Crown Estate for the new Agreement. Despite the committee not charging for their time with work being done for the club voluntarily, the costs have gone up with costs associated with obtaining a speaker for the AGM and hire of venue. Costs have been saved by the use of e-mail to circulate information to members where possible. Therefore the committee wish to propose an increase in the annual subscription and introduce a joining fee of £1 to legalise membership. The club has an excellent web site that contains information for the members concerning, mooring locations, regulations, social events, latest news and useful links. Thanks were given to Claire France and Douglas Locke for developing and maintaining the website. Currently there are twenty-six members and one affiliate member and thirty moorings that have been allocated. There is a waiting list of two that can now be accommodated following the increase of allowable moorings to forty-three. This will be dealt with following other issues in the agenda. Robert White and Douglas Locke had a meeting with Darren Hirst, Administration Manager and P J Korbel, Marine Officer of The Crown Estate where it was explained to them the changes that would affect the club members. This will be dealt with further in the agenda.
- 4) Douglas Locke, Mooring Officer, explained that The Crown Estate had approved the increase the number of moorings permitted in the Licence from thirty to forty-three and amended the licence with a new eight-page Agreement costing £25.00. This had followed the club's application to the Scottish Executive for consent to increase the moorings' allocation that took nearly three months for approval to come through. Under the Coastal Protection Act 1949 (section 34) Moorings the application had to go out to consultation with many parties including the MCA, MoD, ABC, RYA and others. The RYA made comment that there were no objections subject to the anchorage areas not being used for moorings, in particular Swine's Hole and the designated anchorages shown on the chart. The Crown Estate also reiterated this and with an old mooring still in Swine's Hole, The Crown Estate will be removing that one this year. The Scottish Executive Consent is valid to 19<sup>th</sup> March 2013 when it will have to be renewed. Some of the major

changes The Crown Estate have implemented are as follows: - 1) Mooring allocations issued to members must have a mooring laid within six-months or the allocation will be withdrawn. 2) The Crown Estate will no longer permit moorings to remain unused. 3) They will 'police' the moorings with up to four visits per annum to check all moorings. 4) Moorings that do not contain a Crown Estate mooring tag will be subject to a fine of up to £50.00 for each and every time a mooring is visited and there is no tag affixed to a mooring. 5) These are in addition to other regulations, maintaining, servicing, insuring and marking mooring buoys. The draft Constitution to be discussed covers many of these issues and more and has been approved by The Crown Estate. It was explained to members that the committee as Trustees undertake the work on a voluntary basis and are obliged to carry out the directions of article contained in the Agreement with The Crown Estate. The Crown Estate's and the club's financial period now runs for complete years and members have to pay the club their fees by 15<sup>th</sup> December annually so that the fees can be paid to The Crown Estate by 31<sup>st</sup> December. The membership of the club is now comprised of 26 members with 30 moorings and 1 associate member without a mooring.

- 5) The group mooring inspection scheme closes for this year at the AGM. There are 14 moorings that have been requested to be serviced as soon as possible by Neil Cunningham. The detailed list will be sent out by post to him on 21<sup>st</sup> April. Members were reminded that boat names and maximum weights should be marked on their moorings. One mooring in 2006 had shifted by visitors' two overweight yachts using a club member's mooring. It was mentioned that there is no come back on a visiting yacht or yachts if there is no maximum weight shown. Members were asked to be vigilant and where possible photograph visiting boats using club moorings. Douglas Locke would be in attendance all day on the servicing day to see that member's moorings were serviced as requested. The subject of visitor moorings was raised and will be dealt with under any other business.
- 6) Robert White had put together a Draft Constitution in conjunction with the other committee members and with the approval of The Crown Estate. Copies had been circulated in advance to all members either as an e-mail attachment or with a paper copy delivered by hand. At the meeting everyone was given a copy so that the entire Constitution could be discussed. Three additional points had been raised by the committee following the signing of the Agreement with The Crown Estate and these were that the mooring were not to be used for commercial purposes, the maximum length of a vessel allowed on a mooring was 24 metres and that the committee were acting as Trustees to The Crown Estate. Following detailed discussion, the Constitution was passed unanimously by a vote by all the members. The Constitution will be printed and copies of The Crown Estate's Agreement and Consent for Moorings by the Scottish Executive will be circulated to all members either by e-mail or to those without e-mail by hand or post.
- 7) The MoD will not permit the Carrick Castle Pier to be used by any third party users.
- 8) Following three very successful musters and barbeques on the beach at Swine's Hole in 2004, 2005 and 2006, it was decided to hold a further one on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2006 at 12 noon, again in Swine's Hole. All members are welcome.
- 9) Claire France was thanked for her work on the club's website and Douglas Locke for updating the news items on a regular basis. Members were reminded to look at the web site on a regular basis. Members, who have e-mail, receive club news through the e-mail List Server.

- 10) Other social activities were left to members to suggest an event to one of the committee members.
- 11) The accounts for the club were presented to the members and approved. These can be viewed on the web site. The club has made a profit to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 of £241.40. This last period Douglas Locke has spent about four full days in the year on club administration work. The members thanked Douglas for all his hard work that was much appreciated.
- 12) It was decided by a unanimous vote that the club membership fee should increase with immediate effect to £10.00 per annum for 2007 and 2008 and that a £1.00 Joining Fee be charged to new members and to existing members when they receive their next subscription and mooring fees at the end of this year. The Affiliate member's subscription will remain at £5.00 per annum. This will legalise the membership to the club. Membership fees would again be payable by 15<sup>th</sup> December each year.
- 13) The members re-elected Liz Evans as Chairman, Robert White as Vice-Chairman and Douglas Locke as Mooring Officer/Treasurer.
- 14) In any other business the subject of having a Visitor's mooring was addressed. In general this was felt to be a good idea if the club could get any grants for the mooring. The committee will investigate the possibility of getting a grant from the Argyll and Bute Council, The Crown Estate and perhaps A.I.E & the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park.
- 15) Willie Melville of RNLI Oban then talked to the club about the history of the RNLI and as it is now. He then showed the members two films about the RNLI on a large screen and gave members a booklet called Sea Safety The complete Guide with a DVD. A collection was taken and £77.27 was raised in cash, plus the club gave a donation of £50.00 by cheque to the RNLI making a total of £127.27. Willie Melville was thanked for coming to our small club and he thanked the generosity of the members, quite overwhelmed by the total received for the RNLI.

The meeting lasted for approximately 2 ¼ hours.