



**Start: 20.00**  
**Close: 21.30**

**Chairman: Ian Lynch**  
**Minutes: Steve Marsden**

**Attendees:**

Ian Lynch, Steve Marsden, Larry Wilkinson, Dave Wheldon, Stuart Armstrong, Shaun Houghton Birrell.  
Apologies received from John Anderson

**Chairman's Report**

This has been a successful season with a 59% increase in membership and 49 boats registered. This year there were 604 overall entrants in races as opposed to 275 last year. It is proposed to repeat the same program for next year with more emphasis on improving the communication, publicity and standardising the provision for social events.

**Treasurers Report**

Overall there has been little change in the financial position. Last year the bank balance was £1613 and this year it is £1730. Although there has been more income we have spent more. Our objective was to promote our events and encourage participation. Spending has been on prizes, trophies, promotion, printing, burgees, food and drink.

To enable an increase in promotion it is proposed to increase the fees to £20. This would enable a more equal contribution to the various club socials allowing a bigger input into food and drink for members. Fees had not increased for the last 4 years and £20 was still excellent value considering the discounts we were getting from Marinas.

CJ asked why we needed such a large bank credit. LW answered it wasn't such a large amount and there was a need to have reserves to cover a fall in membership or a default of a members payment. It was suggested that our balance sheet be available to view on the website. SM agreed to do that.

**Election of Officials**

Proposals were requested for officials. SA particularly wanted to stand down and the post of Vice Chairman was unfilled. No other nominations were received so IL, SA and SM were re-elected as Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

**Prize Giving**

Prizes for 2019. Offshore: Class 1 - Madhatter, Class 2 - Tarka of Tees, Class 3 – Fiasco of Wight.

Inshore: Class 1 - Madhatter, Class 2 - Boysie, Class 3 - Tarka of Tees.

Yacht of the Year: Glory Days

Best Newcomer: Minty

**Open Meeting**

There was general agreement that the program, racing and social was excellent and should continue.

ME – the 2 races for Inshore races at regattas didn't support the host clubs and leaving on the Sunday was disappointing for the club. He suggested that NECRA should consider doing their own regatta that would rotate yearly to each club and NECRA should put a lot of effort to making it special. Bank holiday might be a suitable time. LW – people no longer prepared to dedicate so much time to sailing, especially bank holidays when family took priority. JC – could the fleet sail the first race of a Sunday Regatta and have a later Offshore start? LW – boats would leave early regardless. ME/LW – there was a problem with different scoring between clubs and NECRA. One regatta put boats in different classes to NECRA.

SM – NECRA was joining in with club regattas and couldn't dictate classes or scoring but could ask clubs to

look at their class make up. Would be better if NECRA boats took part fully in all the Saturday racing but we couldn't compel only suggest.

DW – it was easily possible to combine any number of races into one result so NECRA could make any number of races count.

SA – there was a need to provide the equal provision i.e. prizes, food and drink available at every venue.

LW – there had been a good social gathering at both the Tyne Quay and Royal Quays. Did drink vouchers have any influence on participation or attendance at social?

SHB – increase in fees would allow more spending on social provision. Club reps should consult and bring views and recommendations to the committee meetings.

SM – did anyone object to fee increase to £20? Increase carried unanimously.

LW – how successful was the cruiser section? Two boats had joined as cruiser members and then started racing, which was one of our objectives. There was a need for a cruising secretary to organise cruising.

SM – should we start a cruising trophy? For most miles or attendance.

Hartlepool Marina was thanked for all their support and discounts. SHB – they are expecting to do similar offers in the next year. He was also open to discounts for wash-offs during the season.

**Next committee meeting:**

SM would call the next meeting as soon as we had dates for the Vernon Dawson and the Overnight to Whitby from WYC.