



Minutes of WYA AGM
21 October 2013
Via Video Conference between
Plas Menai, Caernarfon
Sport Wales, Cardiff
Sport Wales, Carmarthen

Present (Plas Menai):

Dafydd Griffiths	WYA Chairman/Red Wharf Bay Sailing & Watersports Club
Laurence Roberts	WYA President/Company Secretary
Bob Lowe	WYA Director/Clwb Hwyllo Pwllheli Sailing Club
Bill Barry	WYA North Regional Chairman/Port Dinorwic Sailing Club
Manon Rees-O'Brien	Sport Wales
Mary Gowers	Clywedog Sailing Club
Keith Rollinson	Clywedog Sailing Club
Ken Newing	Port Dinorwic Sailing Club
Michael Carter	Llanfairfechan Sailing Club
Taff Osborne	Colwyn Bay Watersports
Phil Smith	Bala Sailing Club
Andy Teague	South Caernarfonshire Yacht Club

Present (Cardiff):

Bill Jackson	WYA Director/Llandegfedd Sailing Club
Huw Stiley	WYA Director of Finance/Saundersfoot Sailing Club
Ffion Lloyd	WYA Director
Andy Howard	WYA South Regional Chairman/Llandegfedd Sailing Club
Chris Basten	Sully Sailing Club
Ben Smith	Cardiff Bay Yacht Club
Paul Simes	Cardiff Bay Yacht Club
Idris Dibble	Cardiff Bay Yacht Club
Nigel Vick	Barry District Scout Council
Mike Hewlins	TATA Steel Sailing Club
Iain Williams	TATA Steel Sailing Club
John Roderick	TATA Steel Sailing Club
Dave Green	Llandegfedd Sailing Club
Mark Searle	Cardiff Yacht Club
Claire Ellis	Llangorse Sailing Club
Will Willett	Llangorse Sailing Club

Present (Carmarthen):

Brian Murphy	WYA West Regional Chairman/Fishguard Bay Yacht Club
Gwyn Phillips	Neyland Yacht Club
Gail Strawbridge	Fishguard Bay Yacht Club
M. A. F. Brace	Tenby Sailing Club
Martin Andrews	Saundersfoot Sailing Club
Malcolm Williams	Saundersfoot Sailing Club
Alistair MacKay	Tenby Sailing Club

In Attendance:

Steven Morgan	WYA CEO (Plas Menai)
Alistair Dickson	WYA High Performance Manager (Plas Menai)
Ruth Iliffe	WYA National Development Officer (Plas Menai)
Samantha Healy	WYA South Regional Club Development Officer (Cardiff)
Hester Walker	WYA West Regional Club Development Officer (Carmarthen)
Ceri Yeomans	WYA Office Manager (Plas Menai)

Apologies:

Ian Carswell	WYA Vice Chairman/West Regional Chairman/Teifi Boating Club
Andrew Pulford	WYA Director/Port Dinorwic Sailing Club
Dave Challinor	WYA Director/Red Wharf Bay Sailing & Watersports Club
Phil Davies	Lawrenny Yacht Club
Tony Meade	North Wales Cruising Club
Paul Kent	Conwy Yacht Club

Note: A proxy voting form had been received from Red Wharf Bay Sailing & Watersports Club appointing the Chairman of the meeting, Dafydd Griffiths, to vote on the club's behalf.

1. **Minutes of the AGM of 15 October 2012**

Approval of the minutes of the AGM of 15 October 2012 was proposed by Bill Barry and seconded by Bob Lowe. Carried unanimously.

2. **Matters Arising**

Ffion Lloyd has been appointed as a WYA director with effect from 17 July 2013.

The election of directors to the WYA Board should be a phased re-election, as opposed to block re-election, to ensure continuity, and a rolling programme of elections will be implemented. However, with only one new nomination at this year's AGM, this is not a requirement at present.

3. **Annual Review**

The 2013 Annual Review, containing the reports of the WYA officers, had been distributed to member clubs in advance. Chairman Dafydd Griffiths reiterated that five directors are to stand down with effect from this AGM: Bob Lowe, a former WYA Chairman, who has been involved with WYA for many years, Bill Jackson, who has also served on the WYA Board for some years, together with Ian Carswell, Dave Challinor and Andrew Pulford. Their invaluable input and commitment has been much appreciated.

The WYA will now have a Board that consists of only four directors, and it is therefore hoped that further individuals will be appointed in the foreseeable future – especially those that have specific skills that would enhance the Association's governance.

Director of Finance: Huw Stiley reported on the initiatives to modernise and improve financial management, with the installation of new accounting software and a CRM system.

CEO: Steven Morgan reported on the increase in staffing levels which has had a beneficial impact, especially in south and west Wales, with two part-time Regional Club Development Officers now in post. It is hoped that the possible funding cuts forecast for the next two years will not have a detrimental effect on staffing relevant to club development, nor on the provision of accessible courses for club members.

Regional Committees: All three chairmen (Bill Barry - North; Andy Howard - South; Brian Murphy – West) expressed their thanks to all the volunteers who have contributed to the regional committees, and assisted with CYRCs and other various events in and

around the region. Andy Howard also reported that there had been an increase in adult sailing in the south Wales area, together with CYRCs running successfully which has encouraged more clubs to want to take part next year.

Environmental Report: Bob Lowe reported that sailing's profile had been raised due to the consultations initiated by the Welsh Government - particularly Marine Conservation Zones and marine renewables projects. Bob, John Eddington and other volunteers have had a heavy workload this past year in providing comment and advice to the RYA on Wales-related issues, and their input is very much appreciated.

4. Election of Officers

Chairman: Dafydd Griffiths, Red Wharf Bay Sailing and Watersports Club.

Two-year term of office

Nominated by: Red Wharf Bay Sailing & Watersports Club

Seconded by: Clwb Hwyllo Pwllheli Sailing Club

Carried unanimously

Director: Mary Gowers, Clywedog Sailing Club

Two-year term of office

Nominated by: Clywedog Sailing Club

Seconded by: Llandudno Sailing Club

Carried unanimously

5. Approval of Accounts

The annual accounts to 31 March 2013, as prepared by Alexander Partnership, Tenby, had been submitted for approval to member clubs prior to the meeting. The accounts are unaudited, and it was clarified that under current legislation, for WYA there is no formal requirement for audit at present. If members wish for future audits, then a resolution will need to be passed at an AGM.

Approval of the 2013 accounts was proposed by the Board and seconded by Mark Searle, Cardiff Yacht Club: 15 for, 1 against, no abstentions.

6. Appointment of Accountants

The approval to again appoint Alexander Partnership, Tenby, for the preparation of the 2013/2014 accounts was proposed by the Board and seconded by Tenby Sailing Club: 15 for, none against and 1 abstention.

7. Any Other Business

The 2014 Big Weekend is scheduled for February and will again be held at Plas Menai. The question was asked why this should again be the venue of choice, as it was felt that it favoured north Wales-based members: A major consideration has to be cost, not least as this is then in part transferred to those attending. Plas Menai is the only centre in Wales to be able to offer the WYA all the necessary facilities, equipment, accommodation and catering all under one roof. Members were also reminded that as part of our Sport Wales grant aid, WYA had access to the facilities and equipment free of charge. This enabled us to heavily subsidise the conference for those attending. The “Green Scheme” offers a further subsidy for mileage for those travelling long distances, but nevertheless it was agreed that other venues pan-Wales will be investigated for future years. The regional committees will try to evaluate the opinions of their club members.

The Chairman thanked all those attending, and there being no further business, the meeting concluded at 1940 hrs.

The next AGM will be held in October 2014 – date to be confirmed.