



The Queens Award for  
Voluntary Service

## SAILING FOR THE DISABLED



Manx Registered Charity  
No. 325

MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT MANX  
BLIND WELFARE SOCIETY, ONCHAN

PRESENT:

**Patron:** Sir Miles Walker

**Personal Members:** Arne Dahn (Chairman), Neil Johnson (Vice chairman), Gerry Morley (Secretary), Paul Atkinson (Treasurer), Carole Quayle (Committee Member), Peter Crebbin (Committee Member), Marion Bolam, David Bridson, Lesley Callister, Ian Clark, Monica Clark, Alan Cope, Richard Downing-Green, Ken Johnson, Nicola Kelly, David Killey, Keith Lawrence, Christine Norris, John Norris, William Paterson, Oliver Riddell, Charles Shimmin, Don Wilson, Graham Wilson

**Corporate Members:** Burroughs Stewart – Gordon Leach

APOLOGIES:

**Personal Members:** Joe Baltazar, Margaret Brierley, Stuart Brierley, Sarah Louise Carroll, Monica Davies, Irene Gardner, Gillian Johnson, Kath Killey, Peter Lowe, Roy Maddrell, Steve Morley, James Penn, Martyn Perkins, Joyce Quilliam, Frank Sanderson, Adrienene Sanderson, Alistair Wood

1. The Chairman Arne Dahn welcomes Sir Miles Walker and all present, thanking especially the new members for attending this meeting.
2. Minutes of the AGM of 16 September 2016 were **agreed** as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
3. There were no matters arising.
4. **Changes to the Constitution**  
Paul Atkinson reads out loud the proposed changes to the Constitution. Members received the proposal prior to the meeting.

Membership has been a point of discussion for a long time. A weakness in the current structure was always the trial sails, guests and community groups. The present constitution does not detail any individuals that sail with us who are not a Personal Member. The revised clause will provide the charity with a more accurate administration.

David K asks how many times people will be able to make use of the Day membership and is there a risk of misusing this. Paul A replies Membership will be reviewed after a year.

Arne D explains that people were always invited for a taster session. In the new situation there is no difference. If people sign up for a second sail they will be given a membership

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form and asked to pay the membership fee. If they are not willing to apply for membership they will not sail with us again. In the past we tried to get the skippers pass on information of who is on the boat but this was not always accurately executed. Also the Group membership asks for a more careful administration.

**Suggested new wording;**

Clause 15.

*There will be four classes of membership:*

- a) *Personal Membership:*
  - i) *18 years & over*
  - ii) *12-17 years for persons with a disability or who is the sibling of a member with a disability.*
- b) *Corporate*
- c) *Community Group Membership*
- d) *Day Membership*

*A Personal Member 18 or over is eligible to hold any office within the charity, subject to meeting the criteria to hold that office.*

*Corporate Membership is open to Companies who wish to support the Charity on an annual basis.*

*Day Membership shall be granted to individuals who are not Personal Members and who wish to sail with the charity on one of the following basis:-*

- i) *An individual associated with a Community Group;*
- ii) *An individual with a relationship with a Corporate Member;*
- iii) *Other persons who will be carried on the Charity's vessel in connection with recognised situations endorsed by the Committee and consistent with the aims of the Charity e.g. prospective members who are considering joining the Charity.*

**NEW CLAUSE:**

Clause 18.

*Day membership shall be granted at the absolute discretion of the Crewmaster, who will record the names of Day Member. The list of Day Members will be periodically reviewed by the Committee. There will be no membership fee raised for Day Membership.*

NB – All other clauses to be renumbered

**It was proposed by Gerry Morley, seconded by Monica Clark and voted in favour by 28 members (including 5 postal votes) and voted against by 3 members (including 2 postal votes).**

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5. **Setting the Membership subscription**

See previous. The Membership fee will remain the same until Membership is worked out in more detail.

6. **Chairman's Report**

Arne D asks Paul A to read the Chairman's report:

*I thank you all for making the time to attend this AGM showing you have an interest in our Charity. Thank you for coming. My report is very much as last year:- Those who have attended the last two AGM's have heard it before!*

*The Committee for the past year has worked hard to maintain the momentum of the Charity. I, as Chairman, thank the Committee and those volunteers working outside the committee, for all the hard work, energy and time they have given to our Charity. Since election last September your Committee has worked to move the Charity forward to put in place funding, policies, procedures, socials and sailing to allow the continued development of our Charity. I believe the Committee has fulfilled their obligations.*

*At this AGM, you, the members, may choose to agree or disagree. You now have a chance to change those things you can change and accept those you can not!*

*This Committee and indeed future committees know there is more work to be done and I am sure they are open to suggestions and proposals on any specific aspect that you feel needs addressing.*

*Sailing! We had a slow start to our sailing season, as you would expect over the winter months. This summer was much improved on last year, enabling POM III to fulfil the sailing programme with just a few cancellations.*

*With the support of our volunteers, made up of 12 skippers and mates, 6 female and 13 male crew/carers, enabling 65 members with disabilities to sail, completing 178 sails. In addition we offered 136 members of the community the opportunity to enjoy sailing with us. Total sails by enabled sailors 314.*

*In addition to this we have continued with Sail training and Awareness training which is important to the safe running of our Charity.*

Arne D adds the following: The number of berths has been steady over the years. A problem at the moment is motivating more individual enabled members to sail. Thoughts should go into this the coming year.

7. **Treasurer's Report**

Paul Atkinson states it is with pleasure he presents us this cut down version of the accounts on the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

He likes to make a special mention of the donations. Donations received via the collecting boxes are the highest result ever. A big thank you goes to Stuart and Margaret Brierley. Tynwald day was very successful especially by Peter's donation of the big bear. Further thanks go to Sir Miles for monies raised in lieu of his Golden wedding anniversary and also to Mike Crompton who raised over £2000 by running the London marathon. Marion Bolam suggests a formal thank you to Stuart and Margaret. Gerry M will take care of this.

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Paul explains the costs are slightly higher than previous year. The main reason for this is the boat getting older and increasing fuel prices.

Chris Wood raises the question why the boat is owned by Pride of Mann Limited. Paul explains the charity tries to keep the money aside for several reasons. Sponsors could have the impression that the Charity does not need any sponsoring having so much money in reserve. However, besides having high maintenance costs, the Charity decided a number of years ago to set up a Boat replacement fund. This has proven to be a very good decision, resulting in being able to buy Pride of Mann II and Pride of Mann III. Also now the money can be invested, which is beneficial for the Charity. There is a very strong association between the two charities and no problems have occurred so far.

David K asks what happened to the 100 Club. Paul explains we lost a few members due to inadequate communication and also the passing away of one of our members who participated with 5 numbers. Gerry M states the committee is working hard now to increase the number of participants by promotion via the website and Facebook. Arne invites all present to join the 100 Club if not already doing so.

**It was proposed by Neil Johnson, seconded by Arne Dahn and agreed by 24 members the Treasurer's Report be accepted.**

#### **8. Appointment of Independent Examiner/Accountant**

Paul Atkinson reported that he could recommend Grant Thornton again but would still be looking to find a company that would be able to maintain the standard but at a lower cost.

**It was proposed by Gerry Morley, seconded by Carole Quayle and agreed unanimous that Grant Thornton be appointed independent Examiner/Accountant of the Charity's accounts for the coming year.**

#### **9. Election of Executive Officers**

The Hon Treasurer Paul Atkinson requested that Sir Miles Walker take over the election. Details of those nominated had been advertised on the website as well as being detailed on the postal voting form sent to all members.

There was only one nomination for Chairman. **Nicky Kelly proposed, Richard Downing-Green seconded and agreed by 30 members** (Including 6 postal votes of a total of 32 votes) Arne Dahn was voted in as Chairman. **Sir Miles Walker declared Arne Dahn to be elected as chairman.**

Nominations were received for:

Vice chairman                      Neil Johnson – **David Killey proposed, Alan Cope seconded and agreed by 30 members** (Including 6 postal votes of a total of 32 votes)

Treasurer                              Paul Atkinson – **Keith Lawrence proposed, Marion Bolam seconded and agreed by 30 members** (Including 7 postal votes of a total of 32 votes)

Secretary                                Gerry Morley – **Graham Wilson proposed, Monica Clark seconded and agreed by 32 members** (Including 8 postal votes)

**The chairman declared the above duly elected.**

#### **10. Election of Committee Members**

Votes cast for Committee Members were:

Adrienne Sanderson, Carole Quayle, William Patterson and Peter Crebbin

**They were unanimously voted in and the chairman declared the above duly elected to the Executive Committee.** (A single postal vote was received against Adrienne Sanderson and Peter Crebbin)

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Gerry M informs everybody Tony Skillen is suffering from poor health and has decided to withdraw from the committee.

The chairman welcomes everybody on board. He points out the Charity needs changes in the future and new committee members are needed.

**11. Appointment of Shore Contacts**

The meeting agreed the following shore contacts: Crewmaster Arne Dahn, David Killey, Alan Cope and Keith Lawrence.

Alan Cope suggests the appointment of shore contacts could take place at another time than at the AGM. The skippers and mates meeting would be more appropriate. We agree but this needs a change in the Code of practise.

**12. Any other business**

Alan Cope would like the new committee to consider future Executive committee members should have been on the committee for at least one year. Being in control of the charity, the assets of the charity need to be protected. Paul A acknowledges a point is well made.

Margaret Brierley wishes to ask for more volunteers to come forward to help with exchanging the collecting boxes.

Peter Crebbin offers some hats and caps with SftD logo or charity name for sale. They can also be ordered upon request.

**13. Close of Meeting**

Arne thanks everyone for attending and invites all to join for coffee, tea and cakes.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

| Signed by:         | <i>Signature</i> | <i>Date</i> |
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| Chairman Arne Dahn | .....            | .....       |
| David Killey       | .....            | .....       |
| John Norris        | .....            | .....       |