

The Crouch Area Yachting Federation AGM

Held on Sunday 18 February 2019

at South Woodham Ferrers Yacht Club CM3 5WP starting at 14:30

Attendance:

Chairman (RAFCC) Ken Wickham
Hon Secretary (SWFYC) Doug MacEwen
Roach Sailing Assoc Clem Freeman
Roach Sailing Assoc Richard Bessey
North Fambridge YC Nick Parsons
Eyott Sailing Club Alan Brunning
Hullbridge Yacht Club Ken Joy

Apologies of Absence

RYA Planning and Environment Adviser Bob Calver
URYC Steve Harris

Also Invited

Crouch YC Royal Burnham YC Royal Corinthian YC Essex Marina YC
West Wick YC Wakering YC Narrow Seas Club

Questions raised by Richard Bessey at the start of the AGM are included under AOB about the CAYF constitution , the assembled AGM members agreed though not quorate the meeting should proceed. The minutes taken have to be notes, and any decisions taken would have to be ratified at the next AGM 2020

1. Minutes of last 2018 AGM

The 2018 minutes were accepted as a true record; proposed by Nick Parsons and seconded by Clem Freeman.

2. Chairman's report

Another year slips by and I still believe there is a strong need to have a constant centralised voice for the clubs at the RYA and CHA, thus CAYF must be kept going.

Again during the past year I have had contact with various outside organisations on behalf of the Federation. These meetings show we are still making in the back ground some significant progress in additional representation of the sailing and boating fraternity in the Rivers Crouch and Roach.

Again I must thank both Doug and Clem for their help and especially Doug with his efforts to have a newsletter covering the Crouch and Roach with relevant items of interest. Doug is also the Chairman RYA Eastern Committee and the Vice Chairman of the CHA. I sit as Chair of the Advisory Committee and as a member on the Estates and Finance Committee, this means we have a really good two way flow of relevant information from CAYF into the CHA.

This year I have again attended most of the RYA Eastern Regional Committee Meetings but unfortunately not the Affiliated Conference of the RYA Eastern Regional.

All this back ground work will help with issues we may have in the rivers and we require to help in resolving them, such as the scaling down of the RSPB site work at Wallasea Island.

The Havengore / MOD area closures has been yet again been an example, but alas it is still ongoing with the bridge being out of action for some months in the autumn / winter, we had many complaints from River users both leisure and commercial as has the CHA and we are to have a further "Minds" meeting with QinetiQ and their bosses the MOD in late February where several points raised in a meeting at Westminster late November were raised and agreed to be actioned.

The CHA are still looking seriously into the effects of wash on moored craft and river banks caused by speeding craft and the first two prosecutions for speeding were heard in the courts on the 31st January. With the indicated large tides we are now experiencing and the lack of surge tide protection by the reduction of protective works at Wallasea island, topping has become more a reality. Heavy wash from speeding craft increases the problem and the use of CCTV has helped off Essex Marina.

In the last year the Border Patrol and Essex and Kent Police have again raised the issues again under operation "Kraken", concerns are around illegal immigration and illegal drug transportation activities via our coastline. This is becoming an increasing concern to the extent that the Border Patrol have visited many clubs in the rivers and given presentations on their work. We have seen their activities in the Harbour and if seen any suspicious activity should be logged and reported by calling 101 using the words

“Operation Kraken” or anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or by visiting www.crimestoppers.uk.org

Finally I am prepared to stand again this coming year, that is if no one else wants to grab the challenge, but we really need to engage even more across all clubs and associations within the confines of the Crouch Harbour and I ask that all the individual clubs who do not wish to engage please rethink as we are becoming the recognised voice in the area once more.

I finish saying let's hope 2019 gives us far better weather than 2018, fairer winds and a far more peaceful time. Just enjoy your sailing, but please think of the many other water users as well when afloat.

Ken Wickham

Chairman

CAYF 2019

3. Election of Chairman

Ken Wickham was proposed as Chairman by Nick Parsons and seconded by Doug MacEwen and unanimously elected as Chairman

4. Treasurer's report

Clem Freeman reported that there has been no expenditure or receipts and the balance stands at £252.32 as last year. He reported that although the officers did attend a number of meetings on behalf of CAYF any travelling expenses to meetings was absorbed by them.

5. Election of Hon Treasurer

Clem Freeman was proposed by Nick Parsons and seconded by Doug MacEwen and unanimously elected as Hon Treasurer

6. Election of Hon Secretary

Doug MacEwen was proposed by Clem Freeman and seconded John Paul and unanimously elected as Hon Secretary

7. Election of CAYF representatives to CHA Advisory Committee (2)

No other nominations had been received and Doug MacEwen representing the River Crouch and Clem Freeman representing the River Roach who were both willing to stand were proposed by Ken Wickham and seconded by Nick Parsons.

8. Election of CAYF representatives to RYA Eastern Region Committee (2)

As no other nominations were received, so both Ken Wickham and Doug MacEwen were unanimously elected to the RYA East Region Committee.

9. Representation of Crouch and Roach Clubs to CAYF Committee

Nick Parsons again offered to sit on the CAYF Committee and was unanimously elected

10. AOB

10.1 At the beginning of the AGM Richard Bessey (RB) challenged the membership of CAYF being 33 separate clubs and organisation, in particular the organisations which he judged were affiliated organisations and thus were not entitled to vote at AGMs. DM replied that the CAYF constitution had been considerably revised and agreed at the AGM in 2013 and made no distinction between full membership and affiliated membership. It included both Clubs and organisations which enabled CAYF to give a wider representation and voice. RB offered to help with revising the CAYF Constitution, especially the role of Associate membership, this was agreed without any formal vote.

10.2 RB then pointed out that if there were 33 Clubs and associations in CAYF, the AGM was not quorate as 50% of the membership needed to attend to agree business. It was agreed that there was a poor turnout of members and perhaps a reminder nearer the date of the next AGM may encourage more to attend. After discussion it was agreed that even though the meeting wasn't quorate to carry on with the meeting as set out in the Agenda, but to refer to meeting as notes rather than minutes, to be ratified at the next AGM

10.3 RB asked the Chairman why the CHA Port User Group minutes were not publicised on the CHA Website. KW replied that the PUG had not met during 2018 and therefore there were no minutes to publish.

10.4 Alan Brunning, endorsed by Ken Joy and Nick Parsons asked that the following be passed onto the CHA Harbourmaster

- The CHA were to be congratulated on prosecuting and publicising two cases of exceeding the speed limit at Burnham recently.
- The CHA are to be congratulated on producing the 2019 Harbour Guide without cost to boat users, and for including a page publicising CAYF.
- The CHA should consider including charging a small plaque fee for kayaking, sailboarding and paddleboarding within the Rivers Crouch and Roach
- The CHA should consider a recommendation for at least 3rd party Insurance liability cover and promote awareness of simple rules of the road ie (man)power gives way to sail for kayaks, sailboarding and paddleboards.

The meeting closed At 15:40