

Minutes of the Northern District MYA Steering Committee

Burwain Sailing Club

13/11/16

Present

Derek Priestley (DP)
David Thomas Rotherham (DT)
Brian Quinn Rotherham (BQ)
Roy Stevens Scarborough (RS)
Neil Thornton Scarborough (NT)
Colin Mason Scarborough (CM)
John Sharman Burwain (JS)
Norman Rowley Keighley (NR)
Chris Spalding Keighley (CS)
John Tushingham Keighley (JT)
John Brierley Llandudno & Birkenhead (JB)
Eric Hardman Leeds and Bradford & Keighley (EH)
Sam Gill Leeds and Bradford & Keighley (SG)
David Carr Vinteer MYC, Leeds and Bradford (DC)
David Foster Furness MBC (DF)
Robert Wheeler Blackpool and Flyde MBC (RW)
David Stewart Ashton Quays RYC (DS)
Damian Ackroyd District Councillor (DA)

| Item | | Action |
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| 1. Welcome from the MYA President Derek Priestley | | |
| | Derek Welcomed everyone to the MYA newest club and highlighted the aim of the meeting | |
| 2. Election of Officers | | |
| | 1. It was highlighted that communication is of utmost importance to ensure the continued success of Model Yachting in the Northern District | All |
| | 2. The option of splitting the region into 2 areas with 2 publicity officers was discussed. | |
| | 3. Make more use of the MYA website knowledge base although it was realised locating the desired information can be difficult. | All |

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| | <p>DP highlighted that this however has come improved a lot over the recent years</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. It is difficult to know what other events are happening in the district and more use of the Northern District Website should be made 5. Concerns were raised over the formation of class associations leading to a Southern focus 6. Nobody in the room put themselves forward for the position of publicity officer even if there was an East West Split of responsibilities. Three other candidates were discussed who were not present at the meeting 7. CM stated that publicity at grassroots level is struggling with the majority of the 27 clubs not been represented 8. The success of the Jubilee cup was highlighted as a success but it is only competed in the Eastern side of the district although it is now beginning to incorporate midland district sailors. It was stated that this could be because it is a friendly sailing event where the standard of sailing is not too high making it more attractive to sailors who are put off sailing with elite sailors. There was disagreement in the room over this point however 9. JB highlighted that the regional events were very friendly when compared to dinghy sailing with top level advice being easy to obtain. 10. CM stressed the importance of using publicity materials to recruit ex dinghy sailors to the sport. DP pointed out that these materials have been produced by John Newton and they can be found in the MYA knowledge base. 11. JT highlighted that dinghy clubs have been keen to include model yachts. Some of these new "Dragon Force clubs" have not affiliated to the MYA (DP). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o All clubs encouraged to publicise and report on events o Regular emails shots to all ND members o Pre load all events onto ND website o Regular 2 weekly MYA communications from MYA events database for next month of events o Clubs to send publicity to John Bush to incorporate into ND website | <p>All DA DA</p> <p>All</p> |
| <h3>3. MYA Update</h3> | | |
| | <p>DP provided an update on the inner working of the MYA. It has been a difficult year with personality clashes and differences of opinion leading to the resignation of the chairman. However two experienced people have come forward. One possible development of the MYA would be to make it similar to the RYA where it looks after boating and not national events. Each class would have class association where they manage themselves. This approach has worked with other classes particularly the RC Lasers which have introduced 8 new clubs this year. There is however a big divide in the MYA over</p> | |

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| | one design racing. | |
| 4. Racing Programme | | |
| | <p>Northern District IOM Events 27/12/16 Fleetwood @ West Lanks 22/01/17 Keighley 05/02/17 Doncaster @ Askern IOM 19/02/17 Rotherham It is hoped that the series will encourage travelling between clubs</p> <p>There looked like there were going to be clashes with the Laser and DF series but it was highlighted that as more classes appear there will be more clashes.</p> | |
| 5. Promotion and Development | | |
| | <p>It is possible to apply to the MYA for funds to promote model yachting. Funds of up to £500 have been pre approved for publicity. Sport England re beginning to recognise model yachting as a sport. This is beneficial because once recognised it is possible to apply for Lottery funding.</p> <p>It was highlighted that the Model Flying association is recognised as a sport already and are receiving lottery funding. Scarborough flying club is also receiving grants from the council</p> | |
| 6 Website | | |
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It was further stressed the importance of sending John Bush material for inclusion into the website 2. The MYA have a new person looking after the MYA website. It is hoped that a common theme will be developed for all regional sites 3. There was some confusion in the room expressed because old websites are still active and should be taken down so everyone is confident that they are accessing the latest information 4. It was pointed out that the Northern District website was using a free webhosting service. DA/JP stated that there would not be an issue in moving this to a paid for service | |
| 7 AOB | | |
| | <p>JT thanked Damian for all the work he has done. DA expressed that he has enjoyed doing the work and that over the last 20 years he has seen clubs develop, although the average age has risen to around 65. The clubs continue to be healthy and are retaining active</p> | |

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| | <p>members beyond 65 and even recruiting new members in this demographic. The new members are keen to start sailing and DA stated that the availability of the Dragon boats has addressed the issue of very long boat delivery times.</p> <p>DP highlighted that in the last 12 months that he has been able to participate; sailing at Malta with the Brits abroad IOM, sail locally on Wednesday afternoons, Compete in the Vane A nationals, participate in the IOM ranking races and Dragon classes as well as competing with Vame M and RAs. All of this is “handed to you on a plate and and it is up to you how much you compete.”</p> <p>JT highlighted that many people competing miss out on the social aspect and highlighted that the 2 day dragon events had been successful, fun events enjoyed both on and off the water.</p> <p>Scarborough said it would welcomed sailors to its club days . This was echoed amongst the other clubs in the room who would be happy to receive visitors on club days and not just at events.</p> <p>There will be no actual councillor. The district will send one of its officers or a representative who is best suited to the proposed council meeting agenda</p> | |
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