**Sussex Police Offshore Sailing Club**

**Annual General Meeting**

**19.00hrs Tuesday 12th February 2019**

**1st Floor Function Room, Sussex Yacht Club,**

**85-89 Brighton Road, Shoreham-by-sea, West Sussex, BN43 6RF**

**Minutes**

1. Apologies for absence. – Kevin Claxton, Julie Claxton, Paul Miller, Steve Fairmainer, Phil Russell, Peter Kennett, Donna Powell, Frank Hooper, Claire Trevis, Lee Floyd, Martyn Meekums, Phil Mears, Christine Novel, Lenny Wheeler.

Attended: Roy Jackson, Terry Clothier, Peter Ewen, Alwyn Evans, Anne Darling, Alan Haffenden, Cathryn Pedersen, Erika Owen, Graham Castell, Owen Poplett.

1. Minutes of previous AGM agreed. Proposed by Graham Castel, Seconded by Anne Darling and unanimously passed.
2. Matters arising from minutes. none
3. Commodore’s report..***SEE BELOW..***
4. Secretary’s report…..***SEE BELOW***…..
5. Treasurer’s report ….***SEE BELOW***….. accepted.
Proposed by Cathryn Pedersen, Seconded by Terry Clothier and unanimously passed.
6. Amendment to SPOSC Rule 3.X –
It is proposed to retain rule 3.X but add the wording in red shown below.

 Rule 3 X. Election of the ‘Officers’ and ‘Representatives’ of the General Committee shall take place every two years at the Annual General Meeting. If an officer retires or resigns from the Committee between two Annual General Meetings, the committee may co-opt a member to sit as that officer with full voting rights, without the need for an Annual General Meeting, but the post must then be put for election at the first Annual General Meeting following the vacancy arising. When an officer of the club is willing to stand for a further term, if following the appropriate notification to members seeking nominations or applicants, no other nominations or applicants are received, the existing officer will be deemed to have been re-elected for a further term.

Discussed and proposed by Alan Haffenden, Seconded by Erika Owen and unanimously passed.

1. Election of committee:
2. Commodore – Owen Poplett. – No Nominations
3. Assistant Secretary – Peter Ewen. – No Nominations
4. Treasurer – Alwyn Evans. – No Nominations
5. AOB – None notified to the Commodore by 12th January 2019.

There was a discussion about how to encourage younger officers and staff to join the club with members making various suggestions and pointing out that it is an age old problem.

Due to SPSA funds not being as healthy as they used to be, there was a discussion about membership of SPOSC when members are not contributing to the SPSA. It was pointed out that if a member wanted to go on one of the club charters then they did have to pay the SPSA membership fee. Retired members will be encouraged to sign up for the force lottery which helps fund the SPSA.

 The possibility of day sails was also discussed but it was accepted that there are financial and practical issues.

1. Close of official business and opening of buffet.
2. Presentation of Trophies.

Commodores Shield Terry Clothier

Roger Dice Trophy Alwyn Evans

Scuttlebutt Trophy Cathryn Pedersen

Portobello Cup Not awarded.

1. Opening of crew lists for future events.

**Commodores Report**

Dear Members,

During the past year, SPOSC members have again enjoyed some great charters. Hopefully you have been able to read about them in Scuttlebutt and seen the pictures on the website. As a club we are extremely privileged to have the excellent Scuttlebutt magazine, I know the time and effort that Terry Clothier puts into creating and editing it. We are also very lucky to have such a professional website, Dusty Miller puts many hours into maintaining and updating the site as well as the Facebook page, I hope you will all join me in thanking them both for all their hard work.

The committee have also been giving their time to effectively manage the club. I don’t like to single out individuals as the whole committee work hard, but the treasurer Alwyn Evans and Secretary Kevin Claxton do have to give up more of their time to perform their roles so efficiently. Without these people we would have no club to belong to and enjoy. I thank them all for their support.

Declining membership with the Sussex Police Sports Association has corresponded with a reduction in sailing funds. SPOSC received a reduced financial grant from the sports association in 2018 and we should be prepared for this to occur again in 2019. The good news is that the SPSA are now actively attending recruit training to encourage new membership. I personally gave the first of a number of presentations and about half the recruits signed up for membership.

A couple of years ago SPOSC decided to support members who wanted to gain Sailing qualifications. During 2018 we continued with this support and helped two members to obtain their radio licenses. We will continue with this support through the forthcoming year.

The committee has already drafted a 2019 sailing calendar and advertised Frostbite. All charters will be opened up at the February AGM so please come along and sign up to be sure of your place.

I would like to thank those members who skippered boats last year and organised charters. If you hold a Day Skipper qualification or above, please consider putting yourself forward for mentoring. Without skippers we cannot charter boats. You will get to choose where you charter from and where the sailing will take you during the charter, subject to club guidelines.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the AGM to discuss the club’s business and then for an opportunity for a catch up, sailing chatter and a few laughs afterwards during the buffet.

May we all enjoy fair winds and glorious sailing in 2019.

Owen Poplett

Commodore

Sussex Police Offshore Sailing Club.

**Secretary’s Report 2018-19**

Welcome to the 2019 Annual General Meeting of the Sussex Police Offshore Sailing Club. The first thing I must do is apologise for not being present for a second year in succession, this time due to a holiday in Barbados. I am happy to accept an action to work with the Committee to organise a date for next year when the whole Committee can be present!!

My main task as Secretary is to report on the functions of the Committee. We have worked hard on behalf of members, to reinvigorate the AGM, provide an improved sailing calendar, and ensure our club is well-run and active. To do this, we have already had 3 meetings so far this year. This will hopefully be added to by another meeting before the AGM date and also a meeting on the AGM day, immediately before the main meeting.

I am happy to report that meetings have been well attended with good representation from both the officers of the club and of area representatives. Minutes have been produced for all meetings, and ‘actions’ have been noted, acted upon and resolved or progressed in a timely manner.

As Secretary, I think it is important that officers also participate in the clubs events and training opportunities. In 2018 I participated in the Frostbite sail, and I have also put my name down for the 2019 Frostbite. This is a great opportunity despite the time of year, so I would encourage others to participate if they are available. I also went on a Flotilla holiday in Greece in Sept 2018 which was my first experience as a skipper. I hope that I can now repay the experience received from others and look to being a SPOSC skipper in future. I am also participating with a number of other SPOSC colleagues in another Greek venture this coming September, and I have also benefited from a VHF Radio course which the Club assisted in paying for. I would therefore join the Committee in stressing the benefits of club membership to members old and new, and I look forward to meeting you all ‘on the water’ soon.

Many thanks, ‘Happy New Year’, and good luck for a good years sailing in 2019!

Kevin Claxton

Secretary

Sussex Police Offshore Sailing Club

**SPOSC Treasurers Report 2018-2019**

Once again as Treasurer I am pleased to report that the clubs finances are in a healthy state for the coming sailing season with the ability to finance the SPOSC scheduled cruising & race charters for 2019 as well as any subsidised RYA Training.

In addition to the published SPOSC Calendar for the coming year, the Committee are always please to receive and encourage, additional requests for Charters. So ‘skippers’ please ‘look lively’ and either volunteer to skipper on a published charter or suggest an alternative that you wish to arrange.

For 2018, the club financed charters for Frostbite, UKFSC in May and France and Channel Islands trip in August. In addition two members were part subsidised and obtained their VHF/GMDSS Radio licences, an important qualification fo skippers to have to enhance safety on club trips. Training is also being arranged for members for RYA Sea Survival Safety and Diesel Engine, which will also be part subsidised by the club to improve our overall safety for skippers and members.

A Introduction to SPOSC Day Sail to encourage Police Staff to join SPOSC had to be cancelled due to extreme weather conditions. This wouldn’t have been the best experience for them (Force 8-9 winds!) and we hope to arrange this again in 2019. Several of those ‘newbies’ have opted to come on Frostbite 2019 which is great news.

**Cruising & Racing**

* Financially the club commenced 2018 season with a balance carried forward from 2017 of £540.
* SPSA grant as £4130 for combined Cruising and Racing Charters for year 2018-2019, a slight reduction in the previous year. (all SPSA clubs received a reduction due to decline in SPSA contributions)
* The total cost of Cruising and Racing Chartering amounted to £6889, part of which was financed from the previous season.
* Club Insurance £781
* Subsidised RYA Training Courses, £120
* The finances of the Club are such that we have sufficient funds to finance Charters from our 2018 funding into 2019 as well as any other RYA training courses.

Members normally pay £25 a day for sailing, plus the £1 RNLI contribution. Taking into account SPOSC’s current healthy financial position, for the 2019 season the Committee have reduced this to £15 per day. It is hoped that this will encourage new and current members to enjoy more and frequent sailing with the Club. This cost is reviewed at every AGM.

Our donation to RNLI this year from the £1 member’s contribution will be £110.

As we had a planned summer charter cancelled for lack of skippers, we agreed with the SPSA to not take up £1000 of our grant to assist other sections of the SPSA. This was done with the agreement of the SPSA that it would not reduce or compromise our 2019 grant application.

SPOSC Committee will make application to SPSA for the 2019-2020 Cruising & Racing grants of £4130, being the same as 2018

Rule 7 of the Club rules require the Committee at each AGM to ‘set a cap’ to limit the liability that each crew member may be liable for. SPOSC will pay the balance of any damage up to the excess. This is to be announced at the AGM. The figure for 2019 will remain unchanged at £100 per each charter and member.

In addition to the above finances, with agreement of the SPSA, SPOSC has accrued a fund of £5000 in order to pay all our own refundable security deposits when chartering.

Looking forward to meeting new and current members at the AGM at Sussex Yacht Club Shoreham by Sea on Tuesday 12th February 2019. Please come along to support your club and enjoy a social evening chatting through past and future trips.

Hoping you have a great 2019 sailing season.

 **Alwyn Evans**

**Treasurer and Vice Commander**

**Sussex Police Offshore Sailing Club**