

OGA Association Committee

Meeting of October 2, 2025 via Zoom

Agreements and Assignments

Attendees (19) : - Alasdair Simpson, Alison Cable, Andrew Kelland, Clare Thomas, Colin Stroud, David Bewick, David Patuck, Georgina Tall, Jeremy Cresswell, Julian Cable, Martin Elliott, Michael Leahy, Mike Beckett, Paul Masters, Pete Thomas, Peter Elliston, Richard Jacobs, Susanne Newbold, Tony Kiddle.

not present (5) :- Peter Tobin, Negley Groom, Scott Metcalfe, Jeremy Lambert, Grant Morris.

1	It was agreed that the references to a Yearbook be removed from our Rules to give us the freedom to change between a printed Yearbook and an online Member List without having to amend the Rules each time.	
2	It was agreed to add the text, provided by Georgina and based on advice from the RYA, that defines the financial liability of the Officers of the OGA, to the Rules.	
3	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Colin to provide the above proposed Rule changes to Jay for publication in the Winter Gaffers Log so they can be voted on by the Members at the January 31, 2026, AGM.	CS
4	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Regarding the possible change in legal status, a paper produced by Georgina was circulated prior to the meeting. Members discussed the possibility of changing to become either an incorporated company limited by guarantee, or a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Possible advantages and disadvantages of both options were discussed but no consensus for change was reached. It was agreed the OGA would remain an unincorporated organisation for now, and that the GMC will continue to investigate the options and gather professional views. Area Officers to seek views from their members or committees to enable a decision to be made at a subsequent AC. It was noted that the final decision would have to go to the national AGM for ratification	GMC Areas
5	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - The GMC will add additional advice into the Handbook for OGA Officers regarding food allergy risks and contracts with catering companies.	GMC
6	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - All to spread the word among your Areas that we need to find, before the end of 2026, a Treasurer to succeed Tony and a Small Boat Secretary to succeed David.	All
7	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Alasdair to provide costs, to the next meeting, for the proposed 2027 AGM/ACM at the Windermere Jetty Museum, organised by the NW Area.	AS
8	It was agreed that all Barclays Direct Debit subscriptions could be transferred to Go Cardless payments.	

9	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Paul to ensure the proposed flip-book viewer is usable on all screen formats, to address concerns by Mary and Alison.	PM
10	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Three Areas (NW, Scot. and EC), as a trial, to contact a manufacturer of new Gaffers, or Gaffer kits, with the objective of recruiting their customers as OGA members. Existing OGA leaflets and cockpit-cards to be used if required. – Jeremy, Julian & Paul	JL, JC, PM
11	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Alasdair to contact all areas for more ideas to support his proposal to promote other organisations offering gaff rig sailing with a view to increasing OGA membership and then to encourage others to support through a Gaffers Log article and online.	AS
12	<u>January 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - All Areas to continue to attract new members and communicate with their local clubs, harbour authorities, etc, and share successes and lessons learnt at future ACMs.	All
13	<u>January 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - In response to Richard, Jay and Peter highlighting the need to improve external communications, the GMC will continue to look for a volunteer External Communications and Sponsorship Officer.	GMC
	----- <u>Assignments on hold pending later implementation</u>	
14	<u>January 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Tony to include, when presenting annual accounts, the bank balances from 2 previous years and ensure the previous year summaries are complete, including special events, for example, the OGA60 event totals in the 2024 accounts.	TC
15	<u>January 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - The GMC will, in 2028, revisit the use of the online "Member List", instead of a printed Yearbook, to see if there is a need to go back to a printed Yearbook.	GMC
	----- <u>Assignments closed.</u>	
16	<u>January 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - All to frequently send information and photographs to Elly for website and social media postings. – completed, in September 2025 Elly reported improved input from the Areas.	
17	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - The GMC will make a proposal, for discussion at the next ACM, on the OGA becoming a company limited by guarantee. This initiative is being led by Georgina. The OGA is currently an unincorporated association which means (i) it is not a legal entity or body, (ii) all its committee members are personally liable to any actions done by other members or legal actions taken against the OGA, and (iii) the OGA cannot be the owner of any assets or property i.e., bank accounts, trademarks, Gafflings etc. By becoming a company limited by guarantee would mean that all committee members' liability would be limited to £1 and the OGA could own property. – Georgina.completed, proposal presented on October 2, 2025 and the agreements and subsequent assignments listed separately.	
18	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - As the NE Area Committee has been unable to recruit anyone to continue to manage and organise the Area it was agreed that the NE and EC Areas should merge, covering Dover to Eyemouth, and that the EC would take ownership of the two NE Gafflings. Paul to talk to Francis. completed, October 2, 2025 Paul announced the plan the combine the EC and NE Areas.	

19 **April 2025 AC Assignment:** - The 2026 AGM/ACM will be organised by the EC Area, to be held in either Colchester or Harwich. - Completed, on October 2, 2025, Paul gave a final update on the arrangements for Harwich.

The meeting ended at 20:46

The next AC Meeting will be on January 31, 2026 at Harwich and by Zoom

Colin Stroud
Association Secretary
October 19, 2025