

OGA - GMC Meeting Minutes
Waterbeach, Cambridge, 21st March 2018

Present: Alistair Randall (President), Sue Lewis (Secretary), Tony Kiddle (Treasurer), Mary Gibbs (Membership Secretary), Pete Thomas (Sailing Secretary), Ben Collins (France and Solent), Patrick Vyvyan-Robinson (Youth Fund)

1. **Apologies: None**

2. **Minutes of previous meeting held in May:** Minutes agreed as accurate.

3. **Matters arising from the minutes:** No matters arising not already covered by the agenda

4. **Matters arising from the ACM and AGM not covered by the agenda:**

Alistair informed the GMC that one OGA member (EC) on reading the Minutes and seeing the accounts after the meetings had posted publicly on Facebook comments implying criticism of the financial management of the OGA, without specifying the areas of concern. Sue and Pete had also seen the comments being Facebook "friends" with that member. Depending on that member's privacy settings, it is possible that only their "friends" on Facebook saw the post. However Sue, for example, has 89 Facebook "friends" in common with that person and believes them almost all to be OGA related - so the reach of the message will have been quite extensive in the East Coast Area and amongst Dutch and Belgian OGA members. It was felt this was an inappropriate way for criticism of the Association management to be expressed. The GMC felt it should not be ignored and that the GMC should take the member to task and ask them to elaborate on their concerns directly to the GMC, privately, so that they might be answered and/or addressed.
Secretary to write to the member concerned.

SL

5. **OGA55 – Plans for the OGA55 event on Isle of Wight August 2018**

There was a **meeting at the Folly Inn on 9th March** where representatives of the GMC, the Solent Area and the East Coast Area met with representatives of a number of relevant organisations. Minutes of this meeting are appended to these minutes.
Alistair summed up the meeting as having been a great success with plans now well advanced for both the small boat week and the main weekend event.

Tony updated the GMC on plans for **the small boat event** which are to be communicated to members who have expressed interest and publicised on the website, including details about camping grounds, loos, accommodation, safety arrangements and (flexible) programme.

Actions:

Tony to co-ordinate transportation of the new OGA tent first to the BCA event and on to the Folly.
Pete Thomas to prepare individual risk assessments required by the various authorities.
Various ferry discounts are known to be available (the best being by travelling late in the day) so these will be publicised to participants.

TK
PT

Tony updated the GMC on plans for **the main weekend event for all boats** which are likewise to be communicated to members who have expressed interest and publicised on the website, including details about berthing, welcome reception, ferry shuttle service in the Medina, registration for Fun Day events, racing and detailed programme.

Actions:

2 Masters of Ceremonies needed to commentate the Fun Day – Patrick and Ben to discuss
Ben to co-ordinate informal music for the Friday night
Ben to contact Bob Aylott re photography

BC
PVR
BC
BC

Registration: There will be a full online booking form for this event with payment online at the time of booking. Richard Jacobs (SOL) is kindly working on this. Hopefully ready for testing soon with a view to going live in 2nd or 3rd week in April.
The Saturday Dinner has a capacity limit of 200 but once dinner is over a further 200 people can join in for the prize-giving etc. It was agreed that members having expressed interest online will be given

a head start on bookings. They will be notified first that online registration has opened and publicity to the rest of the membership will be delayed a couple of days.
A further incentive to book early will be to have boat name included on the back of event polo shirts

Budget: Tony presented a detailed budget based on 150 boats attending (NB 200 registered for the Cowes event in 2013) and on a pot of £15,000 which has been set aside for this purpose over the last few years. To balance the budget he proposed a modest entry fee of £40 for the small boat event, £40 for the main weekend event and £60 to those participating in both.

For the entry fee participants will be invited to the welcome reception, will receive a goody bag (sponsored by Boatshed Yacht Brokerage Group), a souvenir mug, an event flag and possible other gifts to be supplied by potential sponsors. (No brass plaque).

Items we'll be subsidising: Camping, water taxi, B&B at Medina Valley centre
The GMC approved the budget.

Actions:

Sue to consult BCA organisers of Cardiff OGA55 event ref flags

Pete to design flag and circulate asap – to be bought in in 2 sizes for smaller and larger boats

Pete to adapt Ben's design for T-shirt and to supply artwork for boat names list

Sue to follow-up Ratsey and Lapthorn and Teamac Marine Coatings for "freebies" for goody bag.

Tony will set-up an online rota for volunteers to assist organisers

SL
PT
PT
SL
TK

Communication ref OGA55

Alistair has done all the groundwork on Mailchimp in setting up groups of people who have expressed interest in OGA55 – big boats, small bats, crewing). Once web pages have all been updated with details and costings as discussed and agreed then Sue will send BEFORE EASTER two e-mailings. One to those who have expressed interest online saying "thanks for your patience – info is all up and you're on the priority mailing list" and one to all other members saying "Info is all up, express interest now to get onto the priority mailing list for early notification of registration."

SL

Youth Fund – fundraising at OGA55 (see also item 12)

The opportunity must not be missed to raise funds for the Youth Fund at this event.

It was agreed that there will be the opportunity for participants to donate on the online registration form with options for £5/£10/£20.

Expenditure was approved for a pop-up banner for the Youth Fund to be used at such events and a flier will be printed for distribution at OGA55 and in the Gaffers Log.

No raffle but an Auction to be held at OGA55 event in aid of Youth Fund. Areas are to be asked for useful, serviceable or ornamental boaty items for the auction which Patrick will make up into Lots

Actions:

Patrick to supply text and images to Tony for design of banner (and flier)

Sue to email Areas to solicit donations for auction.

PVR
SL

6. **Treasurer's report:**

Tony had circulated draft accounts for Q1 Oct to Dec 2017. These figures are distorted by the fact that bills for the AGM/ACM were paid in advance but Paypal income was paid later. There will be an increase in bank charges due to the increased use of Paypal.

Balances at 19/3/2018

Current Account (community) £21,160.18

Events fund £15,801.35

Reserves account £30,465.65

Youth Fund £2,622.18

Paypal: £1169

Euro €3,243.46

The reserves account is now earning around £33 per month interest

The event fund for OGA 55 currently stands at 15,801 and as yet has not had any funds from this financial year.

A full 6 month profit and loss account will be presented at the quarter end by mid April.

7. **Secretary's report:**

1. **AGM/ACM 2019:** Sue has initiated the process of booking same venue next year. There may be an additional cost if we book the room next door (where the buffet was set up) as we

	only got the use of this last minute as it was not booked out. Entertainment was seen as having rather hi-jacked the evening and was not to everyone's liking. It was agreed that no formal speaker and no entertainment needed to allow maximum opportunity for socialising.	SL
	2. New Secretary needed: Sue has served 2 full terms and does not wish to stand again. Candidates for the post needed in plenty of time for election January 2019. Volunteers are also needed to handle Association trophies and advertising in the Gaffers Log. Areas to be asked to suggest candidates (not necessarily already on committees). 3. Trophy offered by Solent Area: During the discussions about awarding last year's trophies it was suggested that we should have a trophy with more flexible criteria so that we could make an award to a deserving member without struggling to meet certain very specific criteria. Solent Area have offered a trophy donated by Blake Simms called the HMS Hurricane trophy which they only rarely award. Now trying to contact Blake to get his OK. 4. Elder Gaffer proposal. Dublin Bay Area had written to the Secretary to ask about the criteria and process for awarding Elder Gaffer status to one of their number. Sue to write and explain Rule 7(v) which stipulates that OGA honours are for members who have made an exceptional contribution to the Association, in the case of Elder Gaffers "usually having held one or more Association Offices". The person nominated would not meet that criterion but might be eligible for Honorary Life Membership. There shall be no more than 16 of these at any one time but there are fewer than that now so DBOGA to be invited to put a case to the GMC to be passed on to the AC and ultimately the AGM.	SL
8.	Membership Update Mary had circulated an update which indicates that year-on-year membership is down by about 50 although we are not strictly quite at the limit of the period allowed for renewals. It is hoped that OGA55 will generate more interest and new members. We will offer the same deal to new members joining at Beale Park – Sue to notify Mike Stevens..	SL
9.	Review of membership rates for Eire and overseas This matter was raised at the ACM (see ACM Minutes Jan 18 item 8). The GMC was tasked with reviewing the membership rates paid by overseas members and by members of Dublin Bay Area. Sue to ask Beverley for information about postage rates with the possibility in mind of having 3-tier overseas membership rates for UK/Europe/Worldwide. The questions of how overseas members pay and whether all members should pay the same rate however expensive it is to send the Log were also discussed. GMC to make recommendation to AC after further discussion with cost info.	SL
10	Data Protection with regard to 2019 Yearbook (See ACM Minutes Jan 18 Item 7). The Secretary is to be the Data Protection Officer as not involved directly with management of the data - and is to be the keeper of agreements. Under new legislation, before we can produce a 2019 Yearbook we have to ask all members again for their permission to publish their data. This will be fairly straightforward at the point of payment (where new members join and existing members renew by Paypal) but more complicated where members have a direct debit in place for renewal. These members will have to be asked to sign their agreement. Proposal is to include an insert in the Summer Log which members will be asked to sign and then either post back or scan and email back to the Membership Secretary. In future Membership form needs to have a separate Data Protection form for new members to sign. Depending on the level of response from publicity of this in the summer Log a decision will be made as to whether the 2019 Yearbook goes ahead (potentially very thin) or is postponed to 2020. Sue to write a piece for the Log explaining all this and urging members to sign the form.	SL
11	New members database update: Tony reported that work is progressing and that he hopes to be testing it out within a month. It should be up and running before the next period of membership renewals.	TK
12	Youth Fund: (see also under item 5 on OGA55) Patrick had circulated a revised document covering all aspects of the Youth Fund and incorporating an Application Form for Youth Funding. Some minor amendments were proposed and agreed. Patrick will publish the new document on the website and update the Youth Fund pages accordingly. He will send the new document out to the Association Committee. Patrick had been in discussion with the East Coast Area about possible funding for Sea Scouts again but as this did not involve an OGA event he indicated that it did not meet the new criteria.	PVR PVR

13	OGA Class dinghy update: <i>Tony reported that construction has continued of the first OGA class dinghy. Sails on their way. The Dinghy Cruising Association have expressed an interest in publicising it and Tony will try to take it to one of their events so they can have a good look at it.</i> <i>So far, despite a lot of interest shown no one else has put the money up to make a start on one. Sue will prepare a press release with details of what steps people now need to take to get started. As a name for the dinghy Tony proposed simply "The OGA Dinghy" with a simple outline of the design (sails and keel) as a sort of almost star-shaped emblem.</i>	TK SL
14	Boat Register <i>Items which Pat has been requesting for some time have now been added (by Alistair) though Pat is still not able to do this operation herself. Alistair will tackle this issue. He will also see whether extending the Search capabilities (beyond just published boats) might fall into the category of small changes covered by the current arrangement with Xited.</i> <i>Beverley had proposed a review of the Boat Register prior to any further amendments being made to it (see ACM Minutes Jan 18 item 10). The GMC felt that it would not be a good time to embark on a review when there is due to be a change of Editor.</i> <i>Areas to be asked again to canvas for candidates for this role</i>	AR SL
15	Gaffers Log and website <i>Planning ahead for a handover when Beverley stands down in 2020 will also involve making provision for alternative arrangements for pre-press and print as Xited will also stand down then. Whilst Beverley has managed both Log and online very successfully it was felt that we should be open to the possibility that we return to having 2 different candidates for these roles as previously. Sue has one potential contact to handle pre-press and print whilst holding the hand of an Editor less well versed in the technology than Beverley is. Costings to follow.</i>	
16	Any other business: Date of next meeting: <i>There are to be meetings of those involved in OGA55 at the Folly Inn, River Medina venue for OGA55, but no date was set for another GMC meeting. GMC to liaise remotely on matters needing attention over the summer.</i>	

Sue Lewis - OGA Secretary
8th April 2018