

**Combined Comet Class Association  
Annual General Meeting  
EXE S.C.  
Fri. 21st Aug 2015  
Chairman David Talbot**

**Minutes**

- 1 Apologies received from Steven Linton (Duo Capt), Martin Luce, Caroline McAusland, Godfrey Ayres. 30 members present.**
- 2 Last AGM minutes (published on the website Summer 2014) were accepted.**
- 3 Reports by Association officers:**
  - a. Treasurer: (Bill Gott) Membership is free so the total number of members is unknown. However it is important to keep up our email address database. The accounts were presented (attached) and it was noted that income was £560, expenses £239, giving a surplus of £321. The current balance is £5379. Noble Marine continue to support us (£550) as their banner is on our website and we refer to our National Championship as sponsored by Noble marine.**
  - b. Secretary: (Guy Farrant) The last Trio Nationals were held at Exe S.C. on 22-24 Aug.2014--22 entries consisting of 7 visitors and 15 home boats, and of the latter 2 were charters. Managed 7 races over 3 days in conditions ranging from very fresh to light airs. Won by Andrew and Caroline McAusland in Piglet. The Inlands were hosted by Cotswold S.C. over the 2<sup>nd</sup> May B. Hol 23-24<sup>th</sup> . 12 entries ( 5 home boats and 7 visitors) raced in light conditions. Won by Adrian and Tracy Padro in Mango Groove. Bob and Anne Presley organised and hosted a Salcombe cruise 24-26 July. Unfortunately the weather was very unkind with heavy rain and strong winds on the Friday and Sunday. But the Saturday was beautiful with lovely sunshine and moderate winds, ideal for a cruise up to Kingsbridge and later out to Salcombe bar. Guy has been secretary for the last 7 years and is now very stale. As stated and notice given last year, he has now resigned.**
  - c. Chairman: (David Talbot) Has been in post 15 years. Any contributions to Luminous Tales very welcome. The Duo Nationals were held at Cransley in blustery conditions resulting in 2 boats being holed. Numbers were down as it clashed with the Comet Open. The Versa Inlands were held at Cotswold SC and attracted the home boats and 2 visitors. Engraving of the 4 Duo trophies at £50 has been authorised. Steve Ashford was thanked for running the website. The new Trio builder is Glyn Rawson.**
- 4 Builder's report: (Andy Simmons) He has not built a Trio for 6 years. He has been busy with the handover to the new boatbuilder Glyn Rawson of Peak Dinghies, Chesterfield, and he asked that we all give Glyn our support. It was noted that the mouldings are sub-contracted to Woodwind Moulds in Lancashire. Andy can still do spinnaker chute conversions and any repairs but not spares. Sails are still via Rowsell. Andy has built a couple of Comets and is due to build**

another. Whilst Andy has sold the Trio to Glyn, the intention is to maintain the one design class and the designer Phil Morrison has the final control/sanction. Finally Andy thinks it is important to show any new Trio at the Dinghy Show.

5

6 Adoption of Accounts. Accepted.

7 Election of officers and committee:

- a. Chairman David Talbot
- b. Secretary Bob Horlock
- c. Cruising Secretary vacant
- d. Treasurer Bill Gott
- e. Newsletter ( John Sturgeon)
- f. Championship secretary vacant
- g. Versa Captain ( John Sturgeon)
- h. Duo Captain ( Stephen Linton)
- i. Webmaster ( Steve Ashford)

The only new nomination was Bob Horlock proposed by Guy and seconded by Fred Woodcock and voted in. All other officers re-elected en masse.

8 Venues for Inlands, National Championships, and Open meetings for 2015. Guy reported that with such small and unpredictable numbers of boats prepared to travel it was very difficult to negotiate with clubs in arranging fixtures. Potential clubs need reliable numbers and are not impressed with our record of 2008 Restronguet 13, 2010 Instow 15, 2012 Torquay 12. The only viable way forward is to join in with other classes. Personal contact very important. It was suggested that as Exe has the largest fleet of Trios and Exe is always popular, that the Nationals again be held at Exe next year, preferably during the school holidays. The record at ESC is 2004- 24, 2007 -26, 2009 -28, 2013 -24, 2014 -22, 2015 -22. Guy said the only sensible neap tides at ESC in Aug 2016 are 12-14<sup>th</sup>. A general discussion then considered the Inlands and suggested venues were Sutton Bingham, revisiting Llangorse, Rutland and Shustoke (if not the Inlands, at least an open meeting).

9 Any other Business. Bob Horlock proposed a vote of thanks for Guy for all his work as secretary. Andrew McAusland proposed a vote of thanks for Andy Simmons for all his past service and support. Fred Woodcock proposed that a recent drone video done at ESC should have a link on the website to help promote the class. Steve Ashford reported the website is being upgraded by Mark in Ireland. Adrian Padro said there is a demand for Trios which currently the second hand market struggles to meet. Chris Padro said sails should be available from any sailmaker, but the general feeling of the meeting was that the current one source protected the one design and avoided the need for class measurers and registration. Andy Simmons then introduced Glyn Rawson of Peak Dinghies who had just arrived at the meeting. Glyn took over Speed of Birmingham 5 years ago. He has a licence to build the Enterprise Mk2 (which was 2<sup>nd</sup> at the recent Nationals at Looe) and works with Woodwind Moulds of Lancashire. He has managed to repair Wozzle 450 which had previously been

written off after heavy damage. There are 8 Trios at his local club Ogston and he hopes to grow the class by building new Trios whilst going with the wishes of the class association. They will be built by hand off the roll compared to chopper gun. The last Andy built Trio was 495, so after 20 years it seems appropriate for the first Glyn built Trio to have sail number 500. The meeting closed.

- 10 Outside in the dinghy park, Glyn then showed and allowed inspection of the first new Trio bare hull (no fittings), which he had just trailered down from Chesterfield, fresh from the mould.