

Combined Comet Class Association

Annual General Meeting

Cotswold Sailing Club

Saturday 28 May 2016

Chairman David Talbot

MINUTES

1. Apologies were received from Bill Gott (treasurer) Brian Wilkinson (Duo 136), Keith and Hazel Lawson (Trio 443) and Glyn Rawson (Peak Dinghies Ltd). 11 members were present.
2. The minutes of the last AGM (21 Aug 16) had been on the CCCA website for some time. There were no comments or amendments and Chris Mayne proposed that they were accepted as a true record, seconded by Bill Carlton and unanimously agreed by those present.
3. Reports
 - a. Association officers:
 - i. Treasurer (Bill Gott). Income in 2015 totalled £511 (sponsorship by Noble Marine and small amount of interest from bank account), expenses were £733 (remodelling of the CCCA website and internet costs £525, RYA Affiliation fee £120 and Trophies £88). The balance in the CCCA account as of May 2016 was £4677 (compared to £5379 in Jul 15) This reflected to costs of the 2016 dinghy show (£568) which will appear in the 2016 accounts. Full report attached.
 - ii. Secretary (Bob Horlock). The membership register had been updated but was work in progress with much to be done. Attendance at the RYA Dinghy Show 5/6 March had been organised. Peak Dinghies had provided Trio 500, the CCCA had paid for the stand and some display material. A discussion ensued on the merits of attending next year's show. It was agreed that if a new boat was available to display then the CCCA may go but it was felt that there were other and cheaper ways to promote the boats supported by the association. It was noted that 24 members had joined the CCCA Facebook group within a few days of being notified of its existence. The CCCA constitution and Trio class rules required amendment and this would be discussed later in the AGM. 7 Trios had attended an excellent Open meeting at Shustoke on 7 May 16. This unfortunately clashed with an Open meeting organised by Sutton Bingham the same weekend which failed to attract any Trios, Versa or Duos. Full report attached.
 - iii. Chairman (David Talbot). David hoped that the sale of Trio 500 would see the start of the Trio class expanding once again. He thanked the clubs that had staged events during the last year and thanked the committee for their hard work. See attached report.
 - b. Builders:
 - i. Versa, Zero and Duo (Andy Simmons). The Duo moulds were destroyed some time ago and so no more could be built. No Versa or Zeros were being built although the moulds were still in the old store that will not be available for long. The moulds are for sale but Andy had only had one enquiry. Andy had moved premises 2 months ago and was busy sorting out the new workshop. He was still building boats as he had had orders for 4

Comet single handers this year. Andy was able to supply spares for the Duo, Versa and Zero and would do repairs to all the CCCA supported boats.

- ii. Trio (Glyn Rawson). Peak Dinghies took over the Comet Trio one year ago. The demand for spares had steadily grown and all Trio parts are available and should remain so. The unique parts; foils, mast and boom etc have no supply issues. Trio 500 was displayed at the Dinghy Show and some interest followed that presence. Trio 500 has now been sold. A few spinnaker chute kits have been sold and feedback has been positive. Full report attached.
4. Adoption of Accounts. The adoption of the accounts was proposed by David Talbot, seconded by Brian Weatherley and accepted by all present.
5. The changes to the CCCA constitution to reflect the change of builder from Comet Dinghies to Peak Dinghies Spares Ltd were detailed in the agenda. After discussion they were proposed by Simon Doliczny, seconded by Brian Weatherley and accepted by all present.
6. Changes to the Trio Class Rules
 - a. The changes to the Trio Class Rules at Para 2 to reflect the change of builder from Comet Dinghies to Peak Dinghies Spares Ltd were detailed in the agenda. After discussion they were proposed by Dave Thomas, seconded by Simon Doliczny and accepted by all Trio owners.
 - b. The changes to the Trio Class Rules at Para 17 to introduce a second Portsmouth yardstick for Trios sailed in handicap racing without a spinnaker were detailed in the agenda. The supporting case had been prepared by Phil Davies and publicised on the CCCA website for some months. Phil was not at the AGM to present his case. There had been no feedback from the publication of the supporting case on the website. After discussion in which it was thought that the proposal would cause more problems than it would solve there was clearly little support at the AGM for the change to the class rules and the amendments were not adopted. It was recommended that if individuals wanted to pursue this matter with their own clubs then this was a better way forward.
7. Election of Officers and Committee
 - a. Chairman. David Talbot was re-elected unopposed.
 - b. Secretary. Bob Horlock was re-elected unopposed.
 - c. Cruising Secretary. Bob Presley was re-elected unopposed.
 - d. Treasurer. Bill Gott had tendered his resignation. David thanked him in his absence for all his work over the past few years. No one had yet shown any interest in taking over the role and no one at the meeting volunteered. The post remains vacant at present.
 - e. Newsletter Editor. John Sturgeon reported that he had had great difficulty in getting people to write articles. The meeting agreed that 'Luminous Tails' had run its course and the post of Newsletter Editor was abolished.
 - f. Versa Captain. John Sturgeon stated that he thought it would be better if the Versa Captain came from a club that had more than one Versa! He was happy to continue until a suitable replacement could be found.
 - g. Duo Captain. Stephen Linton was re-elected unopposed.
 - h. Webmaster. Steve Ashford was re-elected unopposed.
8. Venues for Inlands, National Championships and Open Meetings for 2017.

- a. Inlands. The proposal to share the Inlands with the Comet single handers at Burghfield was accepted although the CCCA classes would like to do the first 2 days only. There was no preference between the first or second May bank holiday weekends. Bob would liaise with the Comet Class Association and Burghfield to make the final arrangements.
- b. Nationals. The proposal to stage the Nationals at Exe Sc on the 1,2 and 3 Sep 2017 was accepted. Bob to confirm with Exe SC.
- c. Open Meetings. It was thought that Shustoke would offer to stage an Open Meeting in May 2017, Cotswold would offer to stage a one day open as would Hawley. Bob to formally approach these clubs and seek others to make a series of about one per month during the summer.

Bob Horlock
CCCA Secretary
7 Jun 16

REPORTS

CCCA TREASURER'S REPORT



Combined Comet Class Association

Income and Expenditure Year ending Dec 2015

	Dec 10	Dec 11	Dec12	Dec13	Dec14	Dec15
Chairman : Membership	£15	£15	£17.50	£17.50	Free	Free
Secretary : Trio	=50	41	32	27		
Treasurer : Versa		42	32	16		
Duo		13	8	5		
Zero		11	7	4		
Total	>130	107	79	52	?	?
INCOME						
Annual Subscriptions	1936	1605	1383	910	0	0
Bank Interest		1	1	4	10	11
Championship Income		170	0	0	0	0
Noble Marine	715	700	650	600	550	500
Total Income (£)	2651	2476	2034	1392	560	511
EXPENSES						
Dinghy Show (Wexandra Palace in March)	468	438	478	550	0	0
Luminous Tales (printing & postage)	14 eds 1602	(3 eds) 1112	(2 eds) 458	(1e-ed) 0	(1e-ed) 0	(none) 0
Internet (domain name, website)	90	125	20	20	24	525
RYA (Affiliation Fee)	190	190	195	185	115	120
Trophies (inc. engraving)	62	506	148	174	0	88
Total Expenses	2415	2401	1299	929	139	733
SURPLUS (£)	236	75	735	463	421	-222

Notes

1. Balance in Nationwide Account is currently (May 2016) £4677. (July 2015 was £5379.)
2. Noble Marine continue to support us, as we have their banner on our website and we refer to the National Championships as "sponsored by Noble Marine".
3. The web site was revamped at a cost of £500. Dinghy Show costs (in next year's accounts) were £568.

CCCA SECRETARY'S REPORT

Since taking over as secretary at the last AGM in Aug 15 I have concentrated on the following tasks:

1. Updating the membership list.
2. Organising the CCCA attendance at the RYA Dinghy Show in March 16.
3. Ensuring that the CCCA Constitution and Class Rules are up to date.
4. Arranging events.

Membership

Membership of the CCCA is problematical in that with no membership fee the membership is open to any owner of the 195 Trios, 218 Versa, 180 Duo or 98 Zero that Andy produced. Tracing all these owners is not a simple task but it has been started and needs the co-operation of every owner just to ask fellow owners of these dinghies to contact me by e-mail with their name, boat name and sail number. The lack of a defined membership means that the quorum for an AGM of 1/3 of the current membership cannot be defined. For now the work of the CCCA goes on but we are open to challenges on the decisions made.

Dinghy Show

For the first time since 2013 the CCCA had a stand at the RYA Dinghy Show at Alexandra Palace on 5/6 Mar 16. Glyn Rawson provided Trio 500, the first to be produced by Peak Dinghies. The CCCA paid for the stand and some display material (total cost £567). CCCA members manned the stand and my sincere thanks to all those that helped over the 2 days. There were lots of visitors on Saturday and lots of very positive comments about Comet Trios. The show was less busy on Sunday (Mother's day).

Constitution and Class Rules

The CCCA Constitution was last updated in Aug 05. A number of minor changes have been made since then and these together with the change of builder for the Trio have been wrapped up in the proposals to be put forward at this year's AGM. The Class rules are largely correct. There is one proposed change to the Trio Class rules to be discussed later. We have only been able to find a photocopy of the Duo Class rules. Does anyone fancy a typing job?

Events

Many thanks to Cotswold SC and to Brian and Dee Weatherly for organising this year's Inlands. 7 Trios competed at the Shustoke SC Trio Open on 7 May 16, only 2 trios from outside the club attended which was a shame since it was an excellent event blessed with good weather. Sutton Bingham also held a Trio Open the same weekend. The programme for next year will be discussed during the meeting.

Bob Horlock

CCCA Secretary

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

At the last AGM we were excited to see the shiny hull of Trio 500. Since then we have had the dinghy show where Trio 500 was displayed and it's sale will hopefully just be the start of the Trio class expanding again. I am looking forward to hearing from Andy if anything is happening with the Versa and Zero classes.

This year I have to thank all the clubs that put on events that we are invited to. In particular Cotswold, Exe, Shustoke, Hawley, Paignton, Sutton Bingham, Cransley and any others I have forgotten. We should also thank Noble Marine for sponsoring our events. It was sad to hear that Kingsmead S.C. that had put on many good events in the past, including 30th May 2015 were just given a few months' notice to clear their water and the club has been disbursed. Still on the Kingsmead website:

I would like to thank the committee. Bill Gott no longer has his Trio and has tendered his resignation as Treasurer. Bill has done sterling work keeping our books in order, issuing cheques as required and giving us easy to understand reports over many years. Thanks to Steve Ashford for keeping the smart new website up to date and creating the facebook page, which I hope will add an extra dimension to the association. Enormous thanks go to Bob Horlock. I am so glad he has recently retired and has given so much time to the class association. He has revamped the membership database, did a lot of organising for the dinghy show, and was then there for all days of the show. I hope that all the energy he is putting into the class will mean that there are more people participating and enjoying class events.

David

PEAK DINGHY - COMBINED COMET CLASSES 2016 AGM REPORT

It has been a year since we took over the Comet Trio from Andy and one year on I now know a lot more about the Comet Trio than I did 12 months ago. As you may know we have eight Trios at Ogston Sailing Club, where they have been used as training boats since 2002. I have to admit that when they arrived I had never heard of a Comet Trio, They were purchased with the aid of a lottery grant from Sport England and were an immediate hit with everyone.

Sadly, at Ogston, they have never broken out of the training boat role and people graduating from the learn to sail course are pointed in the direction of the Enterprise or Laser fleet. One advantage those fleets have is an abundance of cheap second-hand boats. A second-hand Trio for sale is a very rare sight and because they are built so well, they command a good price, but as we all know, they're worth it.

Over the last year the demand for spare parts has steadily grown and we are continuing to source parts from the same suppliers that Andy used. It's great that so much is made in the UK, much of it by small companies and I like to think that we are doing our bit for British manufacturing and supporting local small businesses that are being squeezed so much by global manufacturers. When I say local; that's; Derbyshire, Devon, Essex, Hampshire and Yorkshire to name a few.

It's also good to be able to report that all Trio parts are available and should remain so. Clearly, some of the hardware is common across many fleets, but the Trio has some unique parts; foils, mast and boom etc and there is no supply issue there. It's true that we are not

holding a great deal of stock of parts and so there may be a little wait sometimes, but as demand grows we will look to hold more stock.

Some of you will have seen the first Peak Dinghy Comet Trio; we brought the Hull down to Exmouth Sailing Club during the Nationals last year and then took Trio 500 to the Dinghy Show in March. We had some interest following the Dinghy Show and I am pleased to say that Trio 500 has been sold. We have also sold a few Spinnaker Chute Kits and the feedback from customers is very positive.

It's good to see all the work that various members of the Class are putting in to help promote sailing in a Comet Dinghy and I am sure that the number of people who own a boat from the Comet family will grow and grow.

I was late for last year's AGM and not hear at all this year. I had hoped to come along but family commitments have made that very difficult. I will try to come along to Trio events where I can and if there is anything you want to ask me, or if you have any suggestions, please let me know.

Thanks

Glyn

Peak Dinghy