

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Hurley Owners Association
Royal Plymouth Corinthian Yacht Club, Plymouth
6 March 2010**

Present: Tim Sharman, Mike Sheridan, Rod and Donia Coomber, Bruce and Vicki Carter, James Hester, Howard and Sue Cogan, Ian Calderhead, Keith and Janet Fisher, Tom Eaves, Michael and Jenny Harrison, Kevin Mitchell, Phil Biggs, Phil Kirby, Jerry and Jean Barker, Mike Bryant, Bob Crocker, Tony Littlewood

Apologies : John Udy, Tony Harris, Simon Horn, Benjamin Harwood, Nick Vass

1. Minutes

The minutes of the AGM held in Torquay on 29 February 2009 were agreed to be a true record of that meeting. The following actions had been placed.

- a. The committee was asked to consider ways in which the capital assets of the association could be put to good use by, for instance, merchandising. As a result rally flags and burgees had been purchased and work was in hand to compile and publish a history of Hurley Marine.
- b. The website password had been changed and members had been duly informed.
- c. Tim Sharman now has the majority of the archive material. With regard to sail number lists, there is so much of it that the task of scanning would have to be given to a commercial firm.

2. Chairman's Report

Tim Sharman said that he saw the report as a sanity check that the Association was meeting its aims and objectives and he was satisfied that this was the case, Excellent rallies were being held, the archive was coming together, the website and newsletter were doing well and James Hester and Bruce Carter had joined the committee. We needed to be realistic about what the organisation could achieve because of the widespread membership, but he congratulated the South West area on their magnificent record of rallies and social events.

3. Treasurer's Report

Having tabled the accounts, Mike Sheridan made the following comments. Production costs of the Newsletter were now much reduced because it was largely on the website and only a small number had to be printed. The contra entry of £23.81 was an error of his and had now been fully corrected. The committee expenses had been higher this year because of the longer distances travelled to meetings. The value of stock had not previously been included in the accounts. The rally flags had been written off because they were intended not to be sold, but to be held by the organisers of rallies as desired. Broadly speaking the Association had a cash balance of around £2900 which was gradually growing. To use some of this to good effect Tim Sharman and Nick Vass were starting work on a comprehensive history of Hurley Marine which would be published in due course. The accounts were accepted unanimously.

4. Membership

At the last AGM there had been 227 members – on the same date this year there had been 231. This apparently unchanged figure concealed the fact that there had, over the year, been 56 new members and 52 had not renewed – mostly because they had sold their Hurley or given up sailing.

5. Elections

James and Bruce, new members of the committee in the past year were happy to continue and Donia, while not requiring any greater responsibility, was content to write up the minutes of meetings.

However, Tim and Mike did wish to relinquish their responsibilities.

Mike was happy to continue producing the newsletter, but felt that he had been treasurer for quite long enough – especially since the role of membership secretary had been combined with that of treasurer.

Having taken on the task of writing the Hurley history book, Tim was concerned that there might be IPR issues – copyright in the material would rest with the association, but he and Nick as authors/compiler would also have rights and this could generate a conflict of interest if the Chairman was also the author.

Volunteers for these tasks were invited to contact Tim and/or Mike.

6. Rallies 2010

A vast array of rallies was planned for the South West area ranging from Falmouth and/or Fowey rallies to a trip to the Scillies or to Dartmouth and Guernsey. Although Tony Littlewood had produced a list, these events tended only to be actually 'organised' a short time in advance.

In the Solent a rally to Lymington was scheduled, but the details, including the date, had not been finalised yet. Tide times would have to be factored in so that prospective participants from points west and from the eastern Solent could get there at sensible times.

Mike Sheridan had tried in the past to get a group together on the Medway, but without success to date. He would consider having another try this year.

There had been much discussion in committee about whether the Association needed to have insurance to cover the organisation of rallies. The RYA legal experts had been consulted and were, in as near general terms as such people can be, inclined to say that it was not necessary. However, it was thought that the principle of individual responsibility should be enshrined in the Association's rules. Tim had drafted a paragraph which could be added to the rules and Rod agreed to check whether the legal experts would consider it appropriate before publishing a new set of rules on the website.

Action Rod Coomber

7. AOB

Blaxton Boats own the mouldings for most of the smaller Hurleys. It had been suggested that we might register an interest in the mouldings for smaller items like rudders so that, in the event of their going out of business, we might be able to acquire them for the use of members. James Hester had looked into this with an insolvency practitioner who thought it would be possible to register a charge or a chattels mortgage and agreed to take his investigations further.

Action James Hester

The database of members included home phone numbers and e-mail addresses. Someone asked whether it would be possible to include MMSI numbers as well so that participants in rallies could call each other. The general opinion was that it would be easier to agree a radio channel at the start of the event or to exchange details among the participants.

8. The meeting closed at 12 noon and was followed by an excellent lunch. There was a significant consensus that next year's meeting should be held at the same venue.