

**Newhaven Gig Rowing Club  
Committee Meeting Online via Zoom  
24<sup>th</sup> March 2020**



**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Rachel Beardsworth, Mark Beaumont, Christina Cosgrove, Tracy Day, Caroline Dean, Jane Masey, David Swann, Mark Syrett, Phil Thompson

**Guests:** Dan Wittenberg

**Apologies:** Dexter Allen, Jayne Collins, Kate Masey

**Newhaven Development**

Jane has submitted a statement on our behalf to Lewes District Council and to Newhaven Town Council regarding the new development. She has had a receipt from Lewes council. When normality resumes, she will attend council meetings about this.

**Versadock/Tetradock**

Unlike the Versadock the Tetradock doesn't have rollers and is much cheaper than the Versadock. The concern is that because of the lack of rollers it is harder to use, it is important that juniors, older and less fit members will be able to use this. Mark S. intends to go down to Portsmouth to see the Tetradock working. If we choose Tetradock we could become a commercial agent thus increasing our discount and generating future funds, they are locally built in Arundel.

**Website**

David is responsible for updating our website by 17<sup>th</sup> January 2021, this includes information about club roles which Jane has passed onto David.

**Charity Financial Support**

It is worth committee members registering with bidding/funding sites so that we can all keep an eye out for things to apply for, Mark S. will email us details of sites we can register with.

Government central funding or other support for CIO's. Mark B. Will deal with this, see if there is something we can apply for. Mark S. is looking at the Third Sector website.

Mark S. has given feedback to Sussex Giving about the impact of Coronavirus on our charity.

By the end of this week we should know whether we have the money for a Versadock.

**Lewes Lottery**

We need to progress Lewes lottery and put this onto our website to generate funds. Mark S. will put this onto the website.

**Aviva Bid**

Rachel gets the Aviva email on Friday saying what funds are available. Rachel has kept stuff from last year, Jane will help Rachel with this.

### **Rampion Fund**

Mark S. is looking into this, their emphasis is on sustainability and the environment, our elm idea would be ideal for this.

### **Climb walk fund**

Mark S. is looking into this.

### **Charity Wills**

Some charities receive a lot of money from legacies left in peoples wills. Just under half of people haven't written a will. If we could find a suitable legal professional this is something we could look into doing, people leaving some money to NGRC in their will. Mark S. will look into this.

### **Recommencing Rowing**

We do not realistically envisage being able to recommence rowing until September, when we do get going again, we need to be ready.

### **Boat Storage**

We intend to store the boats somewhere during this dormant period. Aurora can be stored outside but Amelie needs under cover storage.

A friend of Mark B. has a farm in Peacehaven by the golf course where we can store the boats for free in a field, we would have to clear the space of brambles etc. first. There is no cover here, we would have to build a lean to/poly tunnel type structure for Amelie if we used here. Security could be an issue the land owner would not want to take responsibility for security.

Newhaven Fort and Wave are not options now as both are shut.

### **Events**

#### **Regatta**

Will Boden is organising our regatta, the first planning meeting is on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March via Zoom, a Facebook message has gone out to members inviting them to take part. We are asking Graham Precey to become our Euro Liaison Officer as we would like to involve French and Dutch clubs and are in the process of obtaining their contact details.

#### **Isle of Scillies Refunds**

Mark S. is dealing with this. The refund has gone back onto his card, we will get 80% back. Mark will put this into the club account then we will work out how to refund members.

#### **Newhaven Sailing Club**

Have a meeting on Saturday regarding organising a regatta type event in August. We would like to discuss the idea with them of having all water sports under one roof, one venue idea for this is Shakespeare Hall which was already closed before the outbreak.

### **Meetings**

Meetings for the time being will be done via the Zoom app which Mark S. will be taking over from Dan, meeting ID numbers need to be given to members prior to meetings. Date for next meeting is the 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm.

### **AGM**

Ideally, we would like this to be face to face but if necessary, it will have to be via Zoom in June. We will put it back as long as we can but the latest we can

hold it is July. Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June has been allocated for our AGM. Rachel will draft a communication to members.

### **Trustees Meeting**

Caroline, Mark S and Mark B. Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm via Zoom.

### **Accountants**

We have received quotes from the 3 accountants we approached all around £1000. Mark S. will get back to them and see if they can improve on this.

### **Finances**

We have £3207 balance in bank.

£1000 for cover in a separate account

3 people have donated their row dough saying they will renew when rowing starts again.

Our mooring is paid up until march.

If we get a rent break then our only outgoings will be mooring fees.

Jayne Collins is doing a fundraiser on Facebook via PayPal Giving Fund UK, this ends in May, Jayne will then transfer the funds to the NGRC account via BACS.

Boat restoration is £3000.

### **Clubhouse**

Mark S. to write to Nazila, regarding our situation, he will show Mark and Caroline this before he sends it.

Along the lines of not charging us clubhouse rent whilst the club is closed, keeping our moorings at the same price when we reopen. It is in her interest to keep us as a tenant as she can claim rate relief. Rate relief is done on the basis of us occupying our premises 100% of the time, and the percentage of the building we use. She wants us to apply for rate relief on the whole building, however, we will apply for 25%.

### **Row Dough**

We should reiterate to members that they can donate their unused row dough to the club, this is not money from cancelled rows but money they have in their row dough wallet. Caroline to do this.

### **Membership Fee Refunds**

If members leave after they have paid an annual membership fee of £60 whether they should receive any refund. We voted online and it was agreed that members would not be entitled to a refund if they left after 1 month's membership. From this point on an annual membership is just that, so if after 1 month you don't wish to continue you forfeit your annual £60 membership fee. Members can choose the monthly membership option for 10% extra in which case they can cancel their membership on a monthly basis.

### **New Members**

We are not accepting new members at the moment.

### **ERGO Machines**

We have had requests to rent out the Ergos, which could boost funds during dormant period.

We would need to sanitise them first.

Price, £30 for 2 weeks? Deposit in case of damage? £100 deposit?

Time limit, a couple of weeks each or for the whole duration of closure? Allow members to book for a few weeks then extend if they want to?

If there is demand how do we decide who has them? Prioritise full members.  
Prioritise members with 2 members in same household. Sealed bid? Facebook  
auction?

Allow people to collect or Dan to deliver?

### **Clubhouse Equipment**

Phil is worried about damp at the clubhouse effecting equipment, Caroline has  
agreed to go and collect things like the radios etc. and store at her own home.