

MINUTES OF VIRTUAL OLYMPIC MEETING ON 8 JULY 2020

Present: Clive & Di James, David & Hazel Atlass, Dave Brough, David & Patricia Fisher, Dave Kee, Gordon Cooper, Janet Faulkner, Jean & Tony Martin, Jeanne Constable and Phil Broughton.

1) INTRODUCTION

Dave Brough welcomed everybody to the meeting and confirmed that the main purpose was to decide on the repainting proposal that had been circulated in advance and the method of funding if we decided to proceed.

2) REVISED 2020 BUDGET

Phil outlined the changes that it had been necessary to make to the current year's budget and highlighted the following points:

- Major welding work had been needed to the front well/gas locker costing £6500
- After taking the boat out of the water the hull survey had revealed a problem with the stern gear which had been repaired at a cost of £700.
- Income from non-participants would be drastically under budget because of the lack of trips resulting from the coronavirus pandemic
- All non-essential jobs would be placed on hold to reduce budget pressures.

Following questions the 2020 revised budget was agreed.

3) FUTURE BUDGETS 2021-2023

Dave B reported that the discussions that he, Dave Kee and Phil had initiated with members prior to the meeting had shown there was general support for the repainting of the boat by a professional painter. After a brief discussion it was confirmed that we should proceed with the project on that basis and engage the painter recommended by Phil. The meeting turned its attention to how the estimated cost of £8500 should be funded and whether this should be in one go or by use of a loan for part of the expenditure. The amount to be charged to non-participants in the scheme was also discussed. After detailed consideration the following steps were agreed:

- Annual share costs to be increased from £430 to £500 with effect from 2021
- Members to make a one-off additional contribution of £900 a share in January 2021
- Recommended daily charges for non-participants to be increased from £10 to £20 from January 2021. **Action: All.**

4) PAINTING SUB-GROUP

It was noted that the painter was able to schedule the work for February 2021 and that the job would take five weeks. Prior to that it would be necessary to meet him on site to agree a detailed specification. There would also be issues to be decided including the replacement of the side hatch and possibly the front door. One issue on which the meeting was very clear was that the colour scheme should remain the same. To deal with detailed matters it was agreed to set up a Painting Sub-Group and Clive, David A, Dave K and Phil were appointed. **Action: Phil**

5) STATE OF THE BOAT

It was noted that the surveyor had stated that the hull is in good overall condition. Phil reported that the alternator is working well and that following some electrical work it is now starting to charge the batteries. The engine started first time after being idle for three months. However, the service batteries had been run down to nothing over the winter and most are unlikely to recover. Replacements will be needed and provision for this has been made in the revised budget. The marina will need a couple of days' notice before putting the boat back into the canal and the water tank will need filling to stabilise the boat before it is moved. **Action: Phil.**

Dave K recommended that whoever took the boat out first should do a careful check of the gas connections in the front locker since this area had been subject to disruption. It was also noted that the gas safety check agreed at the AGM was now on hold but that there might be somebody at Swanley Marina who could do this for us.

6) CRUISING THIS YEAR

It was noted that the 2020 cruising diary is now obsolete because of the lockdown. Clive and Di indicated that they are planning to go ahead with a week at the end of July. Phil is also planning a trip. It was agreed that anybody wishing to reserve a week should make a fresh booking with Jean. **Action: All**

Dave K presented information on the current coronavirus regulations and which canals are open (copy attached to these minutes). The position in relation to groups using canal boats is currently not totally clear and should be checked by any prospective user in advance of a trip. It was agreed that to minimise the risk of infections there should be a 72 hour gap between bookings. **Action: All who use the boat this year.**

In the light of the decision to proceed with the re-painting of the boat at Swanley Marina it was agreed that this should be the end destination for cruising this year and that we should seek to keep it there over the winter. CRT would need to be informed that we will not require the Red Bull mooring this coming winter. **Action: David F.**