

NATIONAL SONATA ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the AGM: SATURDAY 12th AGUST 2017, 17.30 Strangford Lough Yacht Club.

- 1. Members present:** Joe Cross, (Chair, standing down) Sharon (Brokenshire (Treasurer) Chris Bentley (committee member) Ian Smyth, Steve Brown, John Waters, Steve Goacher, Gareth Martel, Kevin Cross, Richard Furness, Paul Hopper, A Stevens, Luke Hopper Charlotte Penny, Lucien Stone, Jonathan Hewat, Stuart Mc Gimpsey. Victoria Wright.
- 2. Apologies for Absence:** Catherine Hartley, Martin Hartley
- 3. Minutes of last meeting:** Joe read these out and it was agreed by those who attended that they were a true representation of the meeting.
Proposed: John Waters,
Seconded: Richard Furness
- 4. Matters Arising:** None.
- 5. Chairman's Report:** JC reported that this Nationals had been well attended with 11 Sonatas attending from the Mainland even though the ferry costs were expensive. (SLYC Coordinator said that in past years they had managed to make travel cheaper as they had received sponsorship). Regional events had been poorly attended this year. No Northerns or Easterns. The Southernns at Seaview Yacht Club were excellent in challenging conditions, very hospitable venue but, sadly, only 5 boats took part. Three Sonatas took part in the RTI under IRC, the IRC Group that includes the Sonata Salver. He mentioned that some of our fleets were decreasing and this was something that needed to be reviewed.
JC thanked the members for all the support he had received over the past 3 years, but he felt that with his increased work and other commitments it was time to stand down. He proposed that the Southernns should be held at Poole YC next summer 2018.
Seconded: Steve Goacher.

6. **Treasurer's Report** SB reported that membership was marginally down again this year. Boat sales remained about the same. However, overall we our overall Cash in Bank is up. We do need members to make a decision as to how we will spend the money.

Added to the books we have Minim (Sonata). In a garage in Cornwall, a decision needs to be made as to its best use.

The mast belonging to the association is an asset worth £2396 plus VAT.

SB – A copy of the Balance of the accounts 2016 will be attached to your e-mail.

Proposed: John Waters

Seconded: Chris Bentley

7. **Membership Secretary's Report:** CH: Membership has dropped from 71 to 53. It seems that people are only joining to do events. Steps need to be made to address this. CH is prepared to continue as membership secretary.

8. **Election of Officers:**

Chair: Chris Bentley

Treasurer: Sharon Brokenshire

Class Secretary: Catherine Hartley

Technical Officer: Steve Goacher

Boats for Sale: Steve Tribe

Committee Members: Tom White, Dave

Matthews(Sunderland), John Putt,

(Christchurch)

Thanks to Martin Hartley who has decided to stand down as Technical officer after many years of supporting the class as a One-Design, and leading the way with technical issues.

As nobody else was willing to stand, CB has agreed to stand as Chairperson for one year only. In which time the Class needs to find a successor. Kevin Cross said that it was important to attract another young person to ensure the future of the class.

Proposed: Kevin Cross

Seconded: Richard Furness.

Date and place of Nationals and AGM 2018: Medway Yacht Club. Date to be advised. Southernns, PYC.

AOB: Steve Brown from PYC said he would be prepared to help with storage if anyone wants help to come to the Southernns next

summer.

JC **proposed** that from 2018 a bursary of £200 should be made available to any Sonatas that want to attend any Sonata events that require crossing the Irish Sea.

Seconded: CB

Steve Goacher remarked that the Class should consider professional help in publicising Class events. (Other classes do). This would raise the profile and attract more members.

There was a brief discussion about the format and length of events, particularly the Nationals. There are considerations on all sides.

CB mentioned that there needs to be an ongoing discussion about NSA rules on ever improving technical equipment for yachts.

Meeting concluded at 18:25.