

Cemaes Boat Club
Minutes of Meeting held Tuesday, 22nd March, 2022

Present:

Richard Downs

Marilyn Downs

Steve Bray

Gerallt Jones

Peter Hammond

Mike Thompson

Jack Longman

Richard Walton

1. Richard welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

2. Having requested an invitation to speak at a Boat Club meeting, Mr. Keith Fitton attended and explained his proposal to build a café complex which would include an entertainment centre, museum and CHA boathouse at the far end of Cemaes Traeth Fawr. (This idea had been previously brought to the attention of the Boat Club a few years ago when Cemaes CIC was hoping to provide a Boathouse and Heritage Centre in the Capel Bethlehem project.) Mr. Fitton reported that he had approached the National Trust about the use of the land and that they were keen to support him. He also reported that he had spoken to Virginia Crosby, who may be a source of financial assistance through her position as MP.
Mr. Fitton also reported that Mr. David Williams had been, but was no longer involved in the project and that the current Maritime Museum owned by Mr. Birkett Evans was happy to be re-sited there.
Mr. Fitton showed some sketches of the proposal but a business plan was not yet available.
The meeting thanked Mr. Fitton for his attendance and explained that members would consider the proposal later in the meeting and respond to him in writing. However, he should be aware that Cemaes Boat Club was also pursuing its own agenda for a Boathouse that could be located on land at Neuadd Farm and as future winter storage was now available for CHA at The Firs there was no immediate rush for a boathouse to be completed.
Mr. Fitton left the meeting at this point.

3. Apologies for absence were received from:
Norman Mason, Sian Jones, Austin Stevenson, Alun Pari Huws, Simon Drakley, Mike Whitlam, Janet Whitlam, Elfed Jones.
4. Minutes of the previous meeting (15.2.22):
All who had attended agreed that the minutes were accurate. They are available to read on the website.
Proposed: Steve Bray Seconded: Mike Thompson
5. Matters arising:
 - Noticeboards
Richard reported that he had approached John Pritchard about installing the noticeboards as soon as possible and, generously, that this will be completed free of charge to support the Boat Club.
6. Treasurer's Report
 - Simon was unable to attend the meeting, but had previously reported that there was £2235-58 in the current account. A full report will be presented to the AGM.
7. Boatswain's Report:
 - Richard had spoken with Norman and Simon and reported that some welding tables and woodwork benches for use at The Firs were being donated from Horizon's Wylfa site. He recorded thanks to Gareth Mason for all his help with this.
 - Mooring lines – A week before the CHA launch, Norman will supervise the laying of the lines. He has purchased 100m rope for the running lines for the tender, China Pete. Jack has offered to bring down the tender from Peibron Farm.
 - Launch date – this is now planned for Tuesday 3rd May – and volunteers to assist with the various tasks will be requested.
 - Sailing dates - Mike Thompson has prepared the dates with some assistance from Alun Pari Huws. He asked for some help to check the timings and Marilyn offered to do this. As well as Saturdays and Sundays, some evening sessions will be included that can be used as training sessions in the bay. Marilyn will put these onto the website and prepare posters that can be put into the new noticeboards.

8. Secretary's Report

- Marilyn reported on the work she had done to explore the Noust Boathouse Project. She had contacted Kirsty Cassels, from HOME, who was involved in the original project and also the Welsh Royal Society of Architects. Both contacts had responded and offered to put the Boat Club in touch with architects on Anglesey who would be able to assist with the project and also help access grant funding.

It was at this point that the meeting discussed the possibility of working with Mr. Fitton's idea.

The proposal was reviewed, but it did not appear to have a financial plan to demonstrate that it could be financially sustainable.

It was eventually agreed that rather than working with another group, it would be far easier for the Boat Club to manage and pursue its own project for the Charles Henry Ashley.

Marilyn will send feedback to Mr. Fitton that it is an interesting idea and the Boat Club wishes him well. However, it was felt that this would not be a suitable partnership for the historic lifeboat CHA, which is such a valuable asset for Cemaes community.

It was agreed that Marilyn should continue to explore the idea of a community project similar to The Noust Boathouse.

9. Membership Secretary's Report

Sian had reported that membership numbers were:

Full members	28	Friends	8	Total	36
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Mike Thompson reported that Jack who works for Dafydd Owen has expressed an interest in the Boat Club and that he would support his possible membership.

10. Website / Facebook Report

Marilyn brought to everyone's attention the concerns that Simon had raised regarding the costs of the website. After some discussion, the meeting agreed that the website was a valuable asset that highlighted the Charles Henry Ashley and also acted as a historical record. There are currently 70 subscribers to the website who are also linked to the Mailchimp emails. This is a very easy way to contact a large group of members and supporters.

Peter Hammond praised the site for its accessibility and easy navigation and reported that he had found it very informative.

Marilyn will put on the sailing dates and update ready for the 2022 season.

11. Future events:

- Dilwyn Morgan - Friday, 13th May at The Gadlys from 5.00pm
Marilyn has confirmed that arrangements with the catering manager, Carl. The function room at the Gadlys will be free of charge and the menu will be 'Cumberland Ring, Creamed Potatoes, Savoy Cabbage, Onion Marmalade and Jus'. This will be at a cost of £12.95 per person.
The 'Noson Allan Fach' application has been successful and this means that the cost of the speaker will be supported by the Arts Council and Local Authority, and will cost the Boat Club only £40.
50 people will fit in the function room, and after discussion it was decided to charge £18 per head.
During the evening we will hold a Raffle. (Marilyn will source prizes).
The intention is to make this a special promotion to attract new members and donors and promotional material needs to be available. Mike Thompson will provide a short introduction about the CHA.
Publicity needs to be wide with posters, leaflets, Website News, Facebook and social media posts, newspapers, TV outlets, etc.
Marilyn showed a draft poster and Gerallt has assisted with the Welsh translation. Marilyn will put this onto the Boat Club Facebook Page as soon as possible.
Marilyn will check that the Gadlys can provide a microphone.
- Jubilee Celebrations (June 2nd and 3rd)
It was agreed that CHA should be 'dressed' with appropriate bunting and flags.
- Lifeboat Day – August 14th
Steve Bray reported that the RNLI have asked that if we have a CHA stall, that we pay their charge or give them a contribution.

12. A.O.B.

- The Firs
Steve Bray reported that himself, Simon and Norman are keyholders.
We will need to move all the equipment over from Peibron Farm as soon as the boat is out.
The funding proposal to Cronfa Padrig will be considered at their meeting on 19th April.
- Coxswains
Mike Thompson requested that we should actively try to secure additional Coxswains and train more people to undertake this role to add to Alun, Simon and Piers.
He suggested possible candidates to be trained were Jack Longman, Steve Bray and Keith Muscott.

- Blocks for rowing
Marilyn asked that footrests could be made so that anyone with shorter legs could row more effectively and reduce the risk of back injury
- Boat Jumble 16th April at Mona Showground.
Jack Longman reported that this might be a good event to promote the CHA. Mike Thompson offered to assist Jack to have a small table where membership forms and leaflets would be available, plus any available stock for sale. Marilyn will get this ready to hand over at the AGM.

13. Date of next meeting: AGM Tuesday 5.4.22 – 7.00pm The Vigour

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

MD/30.3.22