



**Minutes of the 58<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Folkboat Association**  
**held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at the Royal Lymington Yacht Club at 1100**

**Present:** David Fox (Chairman), James Hoare (Vice Chairman),  
Nicky Henderson (Secretary/Treasurer), Chris Baldwick, Jim Tennant, Stephen Mead,  
Tony Smee, David Gredley and 21 members.

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Stuart Watson; Simon Osgood; Phil Jenkins; and a large number of apologies from members which have been received by email.

**2. Minutes of the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

The Minutes had been made available to members. The members accepted them as a true record of that meeting by a show of hands. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Martin Le Gassick and seconded by Stephen Mead.

**3. UK Folkboat Association AGM Chairman's Report**

After a good spring and summer with winds either too much or non-existent we started Folkboat Week full of optimism. Sadly, in the middle of the week our President Robin Walters died. It seemed most fitting that this should happen at this time. Interestingly ever since I took the chair, he had been chasing me to put the Walcon cup back into being. Now I feel a duty to try and come up with a plan for some sort of International Event. Any thoughts on this would be very welcome.

On the water a successful season of races were held. Our thanks should go to the local class captains. Chris Baldwick and Martin Le Gassick who push us out to go racing even if we don't really want to.

On the cruising side, Philip Jenkins has got in touch with the cruisers and has already organised a successful meet with more to follow this year. Of course, Nordic's can go too. This will definitely improve the situation for those who do not want to just race.

The major events of the year are Folkboat Week and the Nationals.

Both were very well supported and surprisingly in the Nordic division produced the same winner and runner up. Congratulations to first position Crackerjack and Tak, 2nd who both had the same results at both events. At Folkboat Week the cruiser division

had hotly contested races with Folkdance the winner and Kingdom Come closely second.

However, looking down the top 10 boats it is really good to see some new names occurring having moved up the fleet. This only promises to give us some really close racing at the top of the fleet. This means that boats like me that have our own battles in the middle of the fleet have hope to keep on trying. Don't write us off just yet! Other events, like Cowes Classic that gave us our own start line this year, have slowly grown in popularity.

The Round the Island this year was a slow race, Stralende, the winner taking 11.06 minutes, was still hotly pursued with Crackerjack and Mistral finishing within 7 minutes of them. Just for the record Stralende has won the last 4 years. They obviously have learnt something!

Can I please remind you all, that we get some commission from insuring with GJW direct. This really helps our finances and keeps our subs down.

Finally, to the Committee that have supported Nicky and I so strongly all year long. They have all worked hard to put the best interest of the Folkboat Association at the top of all our endeavours.

A huge **Thank you** to them for their efforts.

#### **4. Secretary's report**

As you know Took over as Secretary from Tony Blachford on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018 and was given a very comprehensive hand over, for which I would like to thank both Tony and Debbie. I took possession of a hard drive, some 10 or so large boxes of archive material and a tin box with a card index of every Folkboat known to the Association. The tin box has proved to be invaluable! I hope to get this information transferred to a detailed data base this year. As I am sure you are aware a data base is only as good as the information in it. I would appeal to members to please inform me of any changes in their details or their boat.

Also, if you come across a boat that you do not know, please note the name, number and any other details you can and even persuade the owner to become a member.

Another appeal: I am in the throes of preparing the Yearbook for the Website. I have some contributions but am looking for more and photographs. If not for this year, please keep it in mind for next year.

I have struggled with the website and the Committee have kindly said I can have a day with our website builders in the hope that I can become more proficient.

The number of Nordic Folkboats in this country is fairly static, due to the cost of importation, exchange rates and no doubt Brexit. Quite a few boats have changed hands over the winter. We have had a few new members and I know of a few more coming.

The British and cruising Folkboat numbers are definitely declining, it is a lot more difficult to keep in touch with what happens to these boats. Unfortunately, I have heard of several boats that have come to the end of their sailing lives. As we all know the cost of maintaining a wooden boat is close to prohibitive and a labour of love. Let's hope that with the heightened interest in classic boats and a more active section in the Association the trend can be reversed.

I would like to thank David Gredley, who has dealt with anything remotely technical for me. Also, thanks to the Royal Lymington Yacht Club for the use of their facilities and the Royal Solent for coming to my rescue when my printer let me down.

#### **5. To receive a statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.**

The 2018 income and expenditure sheet was circulated to all members prior to this meeting.

The Treasure talked through the accounts;

As you can see Subscription income has dropped. Due perhaps to the change of the Secretariat at the same time as subs were due. Members might not have been chased as vigorously as they might have been.

Alliance Trust income was higher as the last quarter of 2017 came in after the 31<sup>st</sup> of December. So, there are 5 quarters income this year.

Racing Certificate income (Nordic Fund) was down because boats whose certificates were due only paid for one year. From now on income from this stream will be biannual, except for boats that are new to racing, change hands or have to be reweighed.

Insurance Commission was up.

The Alliance shares have risen a little again this year and now stand at £10,320.00.

Taking Income over expenditure with liabilities for 2018, we made a loss of £421.40.

Questions on the Finance Report.

Chris Baldwick asked what was being done about the £600 liability to Hallum Mills. This is a long-standing liability that has not been resolved for several years, it was a payment made to the Folkboat Account in error. CB offered to try and see Hallum Mills.

There being no other questions regarding the accounts, the accounts were proposed and accepted by the meeting with a show of hands.

The Secretary said she would like to thank James Hoare for auditing the accounts and Debbie Blachford for her excellent accounting program. James Hoare had indicated that he wished to stand down as Auditor and that Graham Coulter would be willing to stand. James Hoare proposed GC and Chris Baldwick seconded. GC was elected by a show of hands.

#### **6. Election of President**

The Chairman told the meeting that The Committee had considered long and hard about a new President. The person would need to be a Folkboat sailor interested in both racing and cruising, preferably with experience in race management; dealing with sailors and event management. The Chairman and Committee recommended Sally Kalis to the members. Sally was elected with a show of hands.

SK accepted and said she was honoured to have been chosen. She paid tribute to the past President Robin Walters.

## **7. Election of Officers**

The Officers of the Association apart from President are Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Technical Chairman, Secretary / Treasurer. These Officers are elected each year at the A.G.M. The following Officers are eligible for re-election or are willing to be elected. Chairman David Fox; Vice Chairman James Hoare; Technical Chairman David Gredley; Secretary / Treasurer Nicky Henderson.

These officers were proposed, seconded and then elected on block by a show of hands.

## **8. Election of National Committee**

The following were elected at last year's AGM and are willing to continue on the Committee: Chris Baldwin Philip Jenkins Stephen Mead Tony Smee Jim Tennant Stuart Watson And Simon Osgood (who was co-opted in 2018 after he was elected to the NIFA Committee.)

These Committee members were proposed, seconded and then elected on block by a show of hands.

## **9. Technical Chairman's Report**

### **ANTIFOUL DEVELOPMENTS**

Major change happening fronted by British Coatings federation

From June 2022 Biocides are being replaced by Fouling Releasers

Driven by push for cleaner less polluting substances and RN's specification for HMS Queen Elizabeth, new types of antifoul are being developed.

E.g. Hempel's 'Silic One'

Can be applied to existing antifoul after applying an epoxy tie coat

New coatings will be very slippery

More information on Hempel's website

Antifoul and FBs come up as an agenda item later

### **BOAT SALES**

At present boat sale information is sporadically recorded

Tony Smee and David Gredley are devising a boat sale schedule so that members can get comparison prices. This will require association members cooperation in supplying accurate information - It was the general feeling of the meeting that this is a good idea.

### **BOAT JUMBLE**

To advise that Lymington Sea Scouts hold a boat jumble each March

They sell your jumble and retain a commission and return the balance

This year's Jumble was held on 2nd March and I received £84 for some bits and pieces

### **UK FB ASS. CLASS REGS.**

Our UK Class Regulations need to be in line with NFIA and the new WSR, so they are in need of an overhaul. DG will form a small group to work on the rewrite.

The rewrite will be along the lines 'NFIA Rules apply except as follows...'

## MEASUREMENT CERTIFICATES/BOAT WEIGHING

Certificates are valid until any of Appendix E to the Regs. occur;

These are: boat unavailable for inspection for a year; boat has been subject to protest and found not to comply; boat has been altered, repaired or refitted so its weight may have changed; corrector weights have been altered; ownership has changed. This includes a change of mast and/or boom.

Therefore, if any of the above have occurred you must get your boat reweighed. We have a new class weighing machine of our own now, just contact me and we can arrange something.

Volunteers to deputise for weighing are welcome. (Please contact David directly.).

Simon Flack asked about what needed to be on the boat when weighed. DG explained that it is a fairly bare boat and referred owners to NFIA Rule 10. However outboard brackets may be left on as their weight can be taken into account.

NFIA Rule 13.2 has been under discussion. DG said that clarification would be sort from Simon Osgood.

### **10. Update on Aluminium Masts and Booms.**

Tony Smee gave the meeting an update on the availability of aluminium masts and booms. There are now two types available. The Danish mast, who's profile is more like the wooden masts, is now fully licenced, however they are batch built, so none are available for about 18 months. Performance is comparable and so is price. Folkboats are now being built again in Germany and spare parts are also becoming available.

### **11. Nordic Antifoul Rule Amendment (Attachments 3 a & b).**

The Chairman referred to the attachments, and how the Committee had come to its position. The UK Folkboat Association must abide by the NFIA rules and they have made their ruling, so we have a fait accompli situation. John Doerr had been consulted on the matter and after reading the Folkboat rules said the UK must concur with the International Authority. After some discussion from the floor it was decided to remove UK Folkboat Association Regulation 1.5 altogether. John Whyte proposed, and James Hoare seconded the proposal. This was passed by a show of hands.

### **12. Presentation of the Roddie Ainslie International Folkboat Trophy.**

The President gave the meeting the background to this magnificent new trophy.

Simon Osgood and Tom Case had met Sir Ben Ainslie at a dinner and chatted about Sir Ben's late father sailing his Folkboat to watch him race. Simon suggested a trophy in honour of Ronnie Ainslie and Sir Ben said he would be delighted.

The Trophy is to be awarded for the best performance in an International arena. Sally presented the trophy to Claire and Julian Sowry for their 6<sup>th</sup> Place overall and 1<sup>st</sup> in the last race in San Francisco in 2017.

### **13. A.O.B**

Claire Sowry asked if it were possible to hold the National Championships in Christchurch Bay, where it is less tidal. This would be looked into, however James Hoare pointed out that there would undoubtedly be at added cost to this.

The Committee were also asked if it could perhaps be tied to another National Championship.

The Chairman informed the meeting that Simon Osgood and his team would be representing us in San Francisco this year. He also asked members to think about the next opportunity to go in 2021.

With no further questions The Chairman thanked the re-elected committee and all the members for attending and closed the meeting.

Meeting closed at 12:50.

Nicky Henderson, Secretary

16th March 2019