Osprey Class Association

2024 AGM Draft Notes

The meeting was convened a few hours earlier than scheduled *i.e* 12:36 hrs as the Racing at the Championships had been cancelled for the day due to no wind

Attendees: Arthur Butler, Matt Rainback, Phil Angrave, Alec Mamwell, Roger Blake, Jamie Blake, Alex Willis, Michael Atkinson, Stuart Maunder, Kevin Francis, David Downs, Ros Downs, Peter Frith, Ian Little, Mike Scott, Viola Scott, Martin Cooney, Jon Batt, Richard Marshall, Timothy Kift, Janet Shenton, John Shenton, Dan Drummond, Tom Kift, Willy Crichton, Nick Willis, Carwyn Owen, Maurice Clarke, Dave Griffiths, Oscar Chess, Paul Bambridge., Simon Brewer, Jonathan Osgood, Stephen Sharp, Chris Butters, Ken Brown, Rob Burdekin, Ian Hart, Stewart Murdoch, Alastair Raynard, Peter Greig, Doug Rankin, Paul Rankin, Joe Cross, Tony Curtis, Robert Shaw, Phil Meakins, Paddy Lewis, Paul Heather, Tristan Southern, Andy Gibling, Adam Southern & Rob Southern

1. Apologies for Absence

Mike Greig, Wally Gardiner, Keith McDonald, Andy Brittain & Don Flannery.

2. Approval of minutes of 2023 AGM

Minutes approved - proposed by David Downs & seconded by Mike Scott and all agreed.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Chairman's Report

2023 was a very successful year for the Osprey Class celebrating our 70th anniversary. The 70th anniversary Championships at Hayling Island had a very good attendance and some very good sailing. The Class Association dinner at HISC was enjoyed by all with some particularly good and entertaining after dinner speeches. Events like these really help to raise the profile of the Class.

The 70th anniversary year culminated in the Round the Island Race in September. We were once again very fortunate with the weather with almost perfect conditions for the race. Our thanks to Lymington Town sailing club for hosting the event and all the work that various volunteers put in to make the race happen. Congratulations to Matt and Phil for winning.

Over the winter Ben McGrane and James Ross did the class proud in the Sailjuice Series and without some unfortunate problems with the boat may well have won overall.

The 2023 season was always going to be a hard act to follow and the poor weather especially in the early part of the summer has not helped.

The year started with the Dinghy Exhibition at Farnborough. Thanks to Mick Greenland for once again organising the Class Association stand, Mick Taylor for displaying his beautiful boat and all the members who helped to man the stand. While the new Class Boat was displayed on the Hartley stand and attracted a lot of interest. The costs associated with attending the show have steadily increased as the emphasis of the show has moved steadily towards a commercial show for all things water sports. There has therefore been a decline in the number of Class Associations taking stands and your committee are not sure that you are getting value for money from the show. Therefore, we have decided that we will not have an Osprey Class Association stand in 2025, but will promote the Class Association and all

things Osprey sailing from the Hartley Boats' stand. Your committee would be pleased to hear the membership's view on this and would welcome new class representatives to attend the stand on behalf of the class.

The season opener at Tata Steel unfortunately had to be cancelled due to very strong winds and this event will now be held at the end of the season as part of the Tata Regatta on October 26th & 27th.

Mounts Bay, HISC, Coniston and Poole open meetings provided some typically Osprey close racing but the turnouts were all a little down on what we might have hoped for. There were only nine Ospreys for the Tenby Regatta, but they dominated the sailing taking the top three places in both the round the cans racing on Saturday and the Round Caldey Island race on Sunday. It would be good to see a larger number of boats making the trek into Wales for this regatta which provides some excellent Osprey sailing conditions.

Blithfield and Tata look forward to welcoming the fleet for the last two events of the season; so keep the weekends of October 12th and 13th and 26th and 27th clear for these.

The reduced turn out for open meetings this year is a cause for some concern, and it would be a shame to lose some of these events in the future. Suggestions for how to boost attendance would be gratefully received.

We have received 55 entries for these National Championships which is great and something that many other classes would be jealous of. Unfortunately, a number of teams have not made it to the start line due to injuries and health issues, perhaps we are all getting older, but it is also pleasing to see some new youth teams joining in the fun for the first time and we welcome them.

Mick Greenland has been a committee member for many years and has done a lot of sterling work on behalf of the class, not least organising our attendance at the dinghy show. However, he no longer owns an Osprey and has decided to stand down from the committee. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mick on your behalf and to wish him well in the future. His retirement does however mean that we will be one member short on the committee and will not have a quorum in accordance with the Class Constitution. The Class is in a strong position but desperately needs new blood on the Committee to keep the momentum going.

We are aware of several Ospreys being actively sailed in club racing and occasional open meetings around the country, but whose owners are not members of the Class Association. Ideally we need to encourage these people to join and contribute to the running and development of the class. All ideas gratefully received.

As the Chairman had raised a few questions in his report, there was a plea for Committee Members (see later for the new committee members) and a question around the Dinghy Show. The Members agreed not to have an Association stand in 2025 but try being back on the HB stand and give feedback to the 2025 AGM. The cost of an OCA stand with electrics etc for 2024 was circa £900. Janet Shenton gave a bit of background on why the Class has been on the HB stand before and why Janet and John continue to be on the HB stand.

5. Treasurer's Report for the 2023 Financial year:

Having agreed to step back into the role of Treasurer following the AGM at the 2023 Nationals at Hayling Island, it has taken a while to sort out the banking details changes etc to allow Kevin to carry out all duties required. This is now complete and Kevin thanked Nigel Wilson for his efforts in the role.

Kevin reported that the class remains in good financial shape overall and at this time has maintained a healthy membership count which is the lifeblood in terms of funding the various class activities. As your Chairman reported the committee decision to run the 2023 National Championships at Hayling committed additional class funds to help offset the higher cost for

entrants but this was justified with a memorable event in tricky but sunny conditions. The class would like to thank Hartley Boats as the main sponsor of the event which reduced the cost for competitor's significantly and certainly boosted attending numbers.

The next outlay was for the worthwhile creation of the 70th year magazine to celebrate the longevity of the class. For those that have been in the class for many years you will recall the yearly magazine that was produced at spiralling cost to an unaffordable position, hence it was nice to have the opportunity to revisit this type of communication and promotion for this special milestone.

The final large outlay was with the commitment to purchase a brand new Mk VI Osprey as the new class boat. This was brought about due to an enquiry and sale of the existing boat, and a commitment from Hartley Boats to replace with a brand new asset for a further investment on top of the existing value. This offer was deemed acceptable by your committee and Kevin was pleased to report that the new boat had subsequently been delivered to Poole for shake down trials ahead of a busy future.

As mentioned in the Chairman's report the Annual RYA dinghy show cost has increased year on year and as can be seen from the expenditure side of the accounts it now represents a significant amount. Also it should not be forgotten that all attending class members take no payment for hotels, travel etc for this event. It is a logical option therefore to include the class promotion via the class builder's stand following an invitation from Richard and Mark, thus retaining class funds for other activities that benefit the class.

Finally the yearly membership fees are still deemed to be good value when compared with other classes and as such Kevin recommended that all fees remain at the current levels for the next 12 months.

In year Income & Expenditure (Rounded to the nearest £1)

	Notes	2023	2022	checks
Income		£	£	
Subscriptions **(1)**		4,406.00	3,744.00	
Nationals Income (Entries, Food & Sponsorship recd in 2022)		0.00	7,200.00	
Clothing Sales - HISC T Shirts		45.00	0.00	
Advertising		0.00	0.00	
General Sponsorship		0.00	400.00	
HISC 2023 Entries paid in full		9,405.00	170.00	
Poole 2024 Expressions of Interest paid in 2023		1,300.00	1,470.00	
Certification		0.00	0.00	
Donations/Other		255.00	50.00	
Interest Received		80.68	8.00	
Total Income for the year		**15,491.68**	**13,042.00**	
Expenditure				
Promotional and Advertising		0.00	0.00	
Nationals Charges including prizes & engraving **(2)**		14,073.07	6,683.00	
Nationals payments refunded **(3)**		680.00	150.00	
Subs overpayments refunded		0.00	40.00	
70th Year Magazine **(4)**		834.00	0.00	
Replacement Class Boat **(5)**		3,000.00	0.00	
Dinghy Exhibition		878.59	85.00	
2024 Deposits paid in 2023		588.40	0.00	
Event Sponsorship		0.00	195.00	
Meeting & Travel Expenses		0.00	0.00	
Postage, printing & stationery etc		0.00	0.00	
Insurance		503.60	499.00	
RYA Subscription		150.00	140.00	
Website		143.88	96.00	
Other **(6)**		250.00	0.00	
Trophies/ Plaques		0.00	239.00	
Depreciation		0.00	0.00	
Bad Debts Written Off		0.00	0.00	
Operating Expenditure for the year		**21,101.54**	**8,127.00**	
		(5,609.86)	**4,915.00**	

Notes

1. total of 142 Memberships recorded in 2023.
2. HISC Nationals Association Sponsorship £743 as well as Hartley Boats
3. total of 4 boat entries refunded
4. 70th Magazine printing and distribution costs
5. Previous class boat 1360 sold by Hartley and replaced with brand new class boat for additional build sum of £3000 to add to existing asset of £8000.
6. Class reimbursement to David Downs for Round the Island Race Trackers.

Balance sheet as at 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Class Boat 1384 Agreement	11,000.00	8,000.00
	11,000.00	**8,000.00**
Current Assets		
Sundry	0.00	5.00
Cash at Bank		
Barclays Bank - Business Saver account	8,554.75	8,474.00
Barclays Bank - Business Current account	9,409.39	15,100.00
	17,964.14	**23,579.00**
less: **Current Liabilities**	0	0
+ Sundry Creditors and Accruals	5	
Net Assets	**28,969.14**	**31,579.00**
Financed by		
Members funds		
	31579.00	
Balance as at 1st January 2023		
Plus Surplus/Less Deficit for year + fixed asset valu £3000	**-2609.86**	
Balance as at 31st December 2023	**28969.14**	

Prepared by Kevin Francis Signed

Examined by Mr Ted Lewis Signed

Approved by Membership at AGM Date 06/09/2024

- ***Subscription Rates for 2024 Season***

It is proposed that the current agreed fees remain in place.

Proposed by Jonathan Osgood, Seconded by Willy Crichton & All agreed

- ***Appointment of Examiner of the Accounts***

Thanks for auditing the 2023 accounts go to Ted Lewis who has audited the Accounts and has found them worthy of approval.

Viola Scott has kindly agreed to be auditor again.

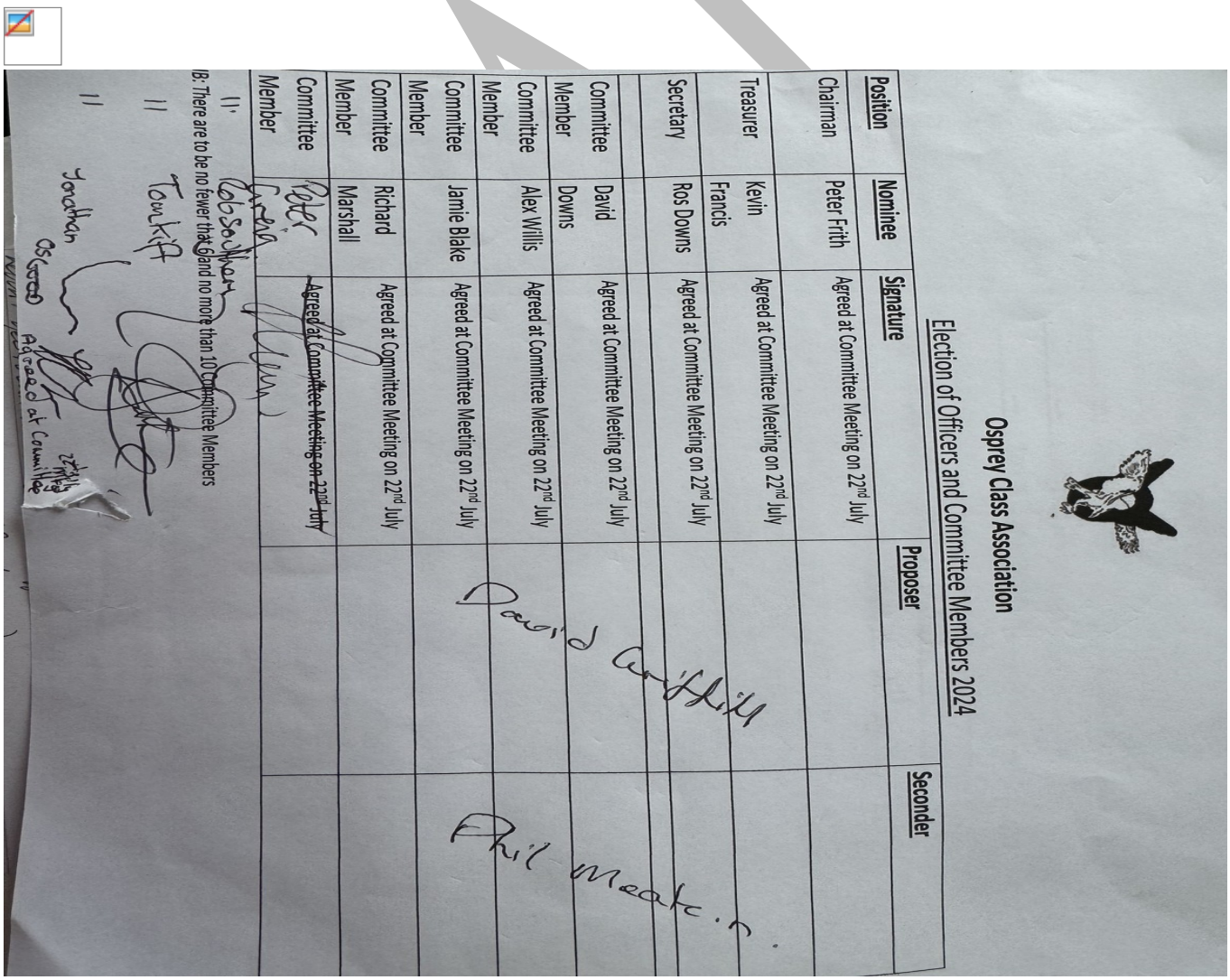
Proposed by Richard Marshall, Seconded by Terry Curtis & All agreed.

The Accounts were approved and agreed by all.

Phil Angrave gave a vote of thanks to the Treasurer

Oscar Chess gave a vote of thanks to all the Committee for their time & effort

6. Election of Officers & Committee Members



Osprey Class Association

Election of Officers and Committee Members 2024

Position	Nominee	Signature	Proposer	Seconder
Chairman	Peter Frith	Agreed at Committee Meeting on 22nd July		
Treasurer	Kevin Francis	Agreed at Committee Meeting on 22nd July		
Secretary	Ros Downs	Agreed at Committee Meeting on 22nd July		
Committee Member	David Downs	Agreed at Committee Meeting on 22nd July	David Griffith	
Committee Member	Alex Willis	Agreed at Committee Meeting on 22nd July		
Committee Member	Jamie Blake	Agreed at Committee Meeting on 22nd July		Phil Meakin
Committee Member	Richard Marshall	Agreed at Committee Meeting on 22nd July		
Committee Member	~~Peter Frith~~	~~Agreed at Committee Meeting on 22nd July~~		

NB: There are to be no fewer that 6 and no more than 10 Committee Members

Jonathan Osgood Agreed at Committee

7. Proposed Class Measurement Rule Changes

None

However, under this item the Chairman suggested that consideration should be given to allowing Twin trapezes for 3 up. David Downs suggested doing it by dispensation. Rob Southern suggested max weight rather than age limit. Oscar Chess suggested allowing for it for a year. The Chairman suggested it should be tried this year and reviewed at the 2025 AGM. On Terry Curtis' suggestion, David Downs agreed to draft a proposal and put it on WhatsApp for discussion.

8. Class Boat

The Secretary said please use the boat the application form and loan agreement are on the OCA Website. Phil Angrave is a great advocate of the Class Boat but would prefer to see loaned to individuals for a longer period with the commitment to campaigning at Opens and the Nationals. However, both Paul Bambridge & Rob Southern stated that loaning it to Tata & Emsworth had been successful. Nick Willis suggested it should be loaned to Clubs for a shorter period of time. Terry Curtis said it was good PR to get people interested in the boat. Joe Cross said thank you for lending him the Class boat for the Championships, it was encouraging him to get one & had he know it was available to people like him he may have used it sooner.

9. Training

The Members were asked whether there was an interest in a resurgence of training. Rob Burdekin said there might be a possibility of training on the Friday afeternoon of the Blithfield Open. Kevin said he had a good experience from training provided at Nationals. Matt Rainback said that there had been pre racing sessions at the Merlin Nationsal and this had gone down well, Jamie Blake said that something was done at the ILCA Nationals and was successful. There was definitely an appetite for this so it was agreed there would a session at 8:45hr Saturday 7th Sept for the Top 4 teams to pass on advice on racing and set up. Training before Open meetings may have had a beneficial impact on turnout at Open Meetings so this will be reviewed by the Committee.

The formal meeting closed at 13:84hrs.

AOB:

10. The Chairman stated that Richard Hartley was disappointed not to be there and is encouraging everyone to attend Blithfield on 12th/13th October where he will supply the wine.

11. Richard also wishes to support next year's Championships at Mumbles (3rd-6th July) and it was agreed that similar to previous years there would be an non-refundable Expression Of Interest (EOI) and Members were encouraged to get there EOIs in before 31st December. Richard's was the first EOI.

12. Oscar Chess gave an overview on Mumbles and the facilities that were available and he also encouraged attendance at the Tata Open Meeting on the last weekend of October.

13. Rob Shaw introduced the South East Tour for 2025 based on the successful Tour of the North. It would take in Burnham, Margate & Isle of Sheppey. 7 races over 9 days – 23rd-31st August.

DRAFT