

Port Edgar Marina - Berth Holders Association

Minutes of Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Berth Holder's Association Held on Monday 24th March 2014 at 7.30pm in Port Edgar Yacht Club.

1. Attendance: 18 Berth Holders were in attendance. Frank Pullen was in the Chair
2. Apologies: Pete Sykes, Ken McLeod, Murray Carmichael & Karl Weibye
3. Talk by James Stuart – Royal Yachting Association, Scotland:
James Stuart gave an interesting talk outlining some of the development plans and current issues facing the RYA. A summary of the main points from his talk is as follows:
 - A new team with extra capacity has been formed within RYA Scotland to focus on Educational Support and Club Development.
 - The RYA is uniquely positioned to represent recreational sailors and other water sport users to the Government and it plans to step up this intermediary role
 - The RYA promotes the benefits of marine tourism and hopes to influence Ministerial and Government thinking in this respect.
 - The RYA participates in the Scottish Government's Cross Party Group for Marine Tourism. There is a feeling that momentum is building but more needs to be done and there is a roll for the BHA, Yacht Clubs and other similar organisations to voice their support and make the case for improving leisure marine facilities in Scotland.
 - The Scottish Government is planning to have a comprehensive study carried out with the involvement of the British Marine Federation, RYA, Crown Estates and others to establish the likely benefits from addition investment in this area.

The Chairman thanked James on behalf of members for a most interesting talk.

4. Talk by James Urquhart and Caroline St Johnston of J P Watersports.

J P Watersports took over the running of the Sailing School from Edinburgh Leisure in October 2013. James gave details of the new arrangements for the sailing School and the main highlights of his talk are as noted below:

- A Social Enterprise Company has been formed called Port Edgar Watersports to run the Sailing School.
- The fleet of craft and other water sports equipment transferred from EL will be upgraded and this process is already underway.
- Shore based instruction will resume and a full range of courses shall be available over next winter.

- A new on-line booking facility has been set up for obtaining information and booking all the courses available at Port Edgar. See: PortEdgarWaterSports.com
- PE Yacht Club has appointed Ian Hards to liaise with the Sailing School and to develop joint initiatives.
- Caroline St Johnston has previous experience in Social Enterprise Companies and she outlined some of the social objectives that have been set for Port Edgar Watersports. One of the main aims is to introduce young people to sailing and other water sports.

5. Talk by Russell Aitken of Port Edgar Marina Ltd

Russell provided an update of their plans for the Marina and the main points of his talk are as follows:

- The new 2014 brochure has been issued and has been circulated to all berth holders. The berthing rates are the same as 2013 but VAT has had to be added
- From 1st April a new 30 year lease shall commence and Port Edgar Holdings will handle all property and management matters and the Marina will be run by Port Edgar Marina Ltd.
- A new (local) operator has been appointed to run the Cafe and hot food and refreshments shall be available 7 days a week.
- Phased demolition of some of the existing buildings will commence starting with the Sailing School Boat Shed, then Shed 4, the Norwegian Block and the Sail Loft building.
- New developments will commence with a Marina Hub and a licensed Bistro.
- Major Dredging work is already underway and dredging of all the main fairways will be completed within the next three weeks or so.
- The new travel hoist has already been operational and will be used in conjunction with the existing fixed crane. The lift-out prices for vessels includes for a pressure wash.

The Chairman thanked Russell for his interesting talk and wished him and his colleagues well with their new venture.

6. Approval of Minutes of previous AGM.

The Minutes of the previous AGM held on the 25th March 2013 have been on the Notice Board and the BHA Website since last May. Their adoption was proposed by John Laurie and seconded by Mike McGregor and generally approved by the Meeting.

7. Chairman's Report

The BHA aims to communicate on a regular basis with its membership via the Chairman's Blog on the Website, by e-mail and the Association's Notice Board on the Loop Shed. The Chairman reported on some of the notable issues as follows:

- a) Boat Jumble: The BHA Boat Jumble took place on the 23th February in the Sailing School boat shed and attendance was considerably up on the previous year. The amount raised was also much improved and a donation of £290 has been made to the South Queensferry Branch of the RNLI.
- b) East Coast Sailing Week: This was held for the first time at Port Edgar in August 2013 and was a great success. Congratulations are due to the Organising Committee and PEYC for arranging such a successful event. Several BHA members gave assistance.
- c) Websites: The BHA Website has been revamped and is now better able to support the Weather Station and the Webcam. The content and visuals have updated and it is hoped the new version will be easier to use. Members were encouraged to make more use of it.
- d) Weather Station: The Weather Station is mounted on the Loop Shed roof and provides information on wind speed and direction, barometric pressure, temperature etc. There has been a problem with it tripping-out in high winds and despite a replacement circuit board from the manufacturers being fitted, the problem persists. The matter has been taken up again with the manufacturers and it is hoped to have this resolved in the near future. The webcam, which was kindly donated by a BHA member, provides a general view of the Marina and gives an indication of the weather conditions and sea state.
- e) Future Projects: The Association has modest funds available for the benefit of the members and the Chairman invited suggestions for projects that might be undertaken during the forthcoming year. Two suggestions were made – to supply hosepipes for the pontoons and better WiFi. These suggestions shall be considered by the Committee.

8. Financial Report

The Hon Treasurer, Colin Scott, reported on the current satisfactory financial situation of the Association. The membership had increased to over 160 berth holders and this had been largely as a result of Edinburgh Leisure including an option for BHA Membership on Berth Renewal notices. The Annual Accounts for the BHA for year ending 31st December 2013 and the budget for the forthcoming year were circulated to the Meeting and their adoption was proposed by the Graham Sutherland and seconded by Margaret McGregor and generally approved by the Meeting.

9. Election of Office Bearers:

The Current Committee and Office Bearers have been in office for several years and there is an urgent need for new volunteers to serve on the Committee and provide new blood

and ultimately to allow existing office bearers to stand down,. The Chairman invited volunteers to come forward either now or by making contact with him or the Hon Secretary in the near future.

In the absence of further volunteers the existing Committee Members offered themselves for re-election:

Chairman – Frank Pullen
Vice Chairman – Murray Carmichael
Hon. Secretary – Brian Smellie
Hon. Treasurer – Colin Scott
Member’s Secretary – John Laurie
Webmaster – Karl Weibye
Power Boat Representative – Ken McLeod
Dinghy Representative – Peter Sykes
PEYC Representative – Douglas Ross
Yachting Representative – Margaret McGregor
Professional User’s Rep. – Colin Henderson

The re-election of the above office bearers for a further year was proposed by Terry Kirchin and seconded by John Howell and generally approved by the Meeting.

It is sincerely hoped that further volunteers to serve on the Committee will come forward and interested members should contact the Chairman or the Hon. Secretary or by e-mail at: mail@portedgarBHA.org.uk

10. Date of next BHA Annual General Meeting :

The date of the next BHA Annual General Meeting is set for Monday 23th March 2015

The Chairman expressed thanks to Port Edgar Yacht Club for kindly allowing the Association to hold its AGM in their premises.

BHA-AGM Minutes - April2014