



Welsh Harp Sailing Association



**WWSA ExCom Meeting (Draft)
Monday 26th July 2021
19:30 Virtual Meeting using Zoom**

Attendance:

Attendees:

Brian Jefferies (WWSA Harbour Master)
Carl Goulding (RSBB)
Iain Porter (WWSA Sailing Master) *arrived 19:45 (apologies received)*
John Green (WSC)
Jon Russell (WWSB) *arrived 19:55*

John Shepherd (WWSA President)
Lenore Camron (WWSA Vice-Chair)
Manfred Starkl (WWSA Chair)
Mark Kitchen (WWSA Secretary)
Tony Barton (WWSA Treasurer) *left 20:15*

Apologies:

Iain Porter (WWSA Sailing Master) *arrived 19:45*

Minutes

Previous Minutes (Wednesday 26th May 2021)

The minutes were passed.

Matters Arising

Minor typing errors.

Chairman's Report

The harp is now open with less restrictions for the clubs than before, but we still need to remember there are still some Covid restriction.

Last Wednesday at 22:20 when I left the Harp, the main gate was wide open, anyone from the street could drive onto the onsite. I would have thought that after the engines had been stolen from the Rigidflex boats that people would have more thought about leaving the gates open. Maybe we should change the lock to restrict access? One key per club house only. It is not a case for putting automatic closing gates on, just because people keep leaving the gates open.

The pole behind the Sea Cadets building that carries the electric cable for WWSB and the WWSA blue shed will be repositioned to the vertical by the Tuesday team. This will then take the pole and cable off from the Sea Cadet building. A new pole will be required.

The new grass area is slowly growing, and Brian and the team have now been able to move some of the sailing boats around.

The Starter boxes. The new starter box is having its roof repaired to make it watertight again. The old starter box could do with a revamp, so that it can be used by all again. This needs to be discussed in future plans for the site but must stay as an enclosed building due to electrics that are in the building. There are no plans to knock down any of the starter boxes.

Fuel on site, this needs to be looked at. On John's suggestion, Carl has been asked to produce risk assessment regarding the fuel onsite. The site would require a licence (around £45 per year) if more than 275 litres are kept onsite. Two of the containers from 2 clubs were open today, I counted enough Jerry cans to hold 180 litres, just alone for these clubs. Question: Does the WWSA vehicle insurance cover the transportation of more than 20 litres of fuel at any one time. What if the fuel is



Welsh Harp Sailing Association



transported in a trailer behind the vehicle? Who is covered on the insurance of the vehicle so that selected members only, of clubs can use it to collect fuel?

Some can see that the RSBB secure area for kayaks etc is coming along, still more work to do. Comments from laser sailors who have their boats there, good use of the dead space. It's good that it blends into its surroundings. There have been some comments regarding the 2 other safety boats belonging to RSBB members. Last year the owner donated to the WHSA £100 per boat. I would like to point out the example. WHSC have 6 safety boats, and so do some of the other clubs. If these 2 boats are causing an issue, then we also need to discuss, 420, Scorpion, Enterprise, Contender, various home-made boats, finn, I am sure there are other boats to be included in the list.

The locations for the holes in the ground have been decided upon and will be put in after the summer courses have completed, i.e., when not so many children are around on site. This should be hopefully between September and before January 2022. These will assist when recovering safety boats from the water.

The WHSA website needs to change.

Bike racks, a mock-up of a bike stand has been made up from a scaffolding pole, which can now be shown to Brian. We can then decide how many we need, decide on a location (possibly next to the wall of the small starter box). The cost of the pipe is zero, it will just be the cost of cementing them in the ground.

It has been good to see that Wembley SC, despite the challenges of having engines stolen from their safety boats, that they have been able to continue the training of youth members during half term and now the summer holiday

Financial Report

Tony Barton has nothing to report this time, other than to point out that we currently have no 'rainy day' cushion, so we need to be mindful of spending.

Sailing Masters Report

Iain Porter has nothing significant to report. One event has run although it didn't achieve the number it expected. Other events cancelled due to low uptake.

Harbour Masters Report

Weed

We have been touring the Harp with the V cutter and the paddle steamer but have found little indication of weed as yet. We will continue to check.

Committee Boat

Pamela has had a few teething problems – a heavier anchor has been added but it doesn't quite fit in the cradle – hopefully, a solution will be found. The horn was difficult to hear so a new one has been fitted by Maurice Cleal who had joined the Tuesday team.

We are going to fit a flag array on the fishing boat – it is intended to be used on a few occasions so it can be put on and removed easily.



Welsh Harp Sailing Association



We sold the old committee boats – one for £150 and the other for £600. We have just sold the engine from one of them for over £1,000.

Site

A lot of work was carried out by Maciej's team and has resulted in a new area and a deeper harbour. Half the area has been covered in topsoil and seeded with grass, once this has matured we will do the same to the other half.

We have laid a test strip of Lanmat on one slipway to assess it in comparison with GRP grating.

Partly as a result of the work there are areas of the site which have been “chewed up” and we are working to put his right.

Security

Unfortunately, two outboards were stolen recently. I think that everybody is now conscious of the attractiveness of small outboards. I don't know what more we can do. The site is pretty well fenced, there are floodlights and CCTV but they seem to be ineffective. Clearly, we should make sure that gates are not left open and we should hide the smaller outboards. There is little we can do on the larger ones but they are very heavy.

Possible future activity

Much of this depends on finance as the new wall and area reduced the coffers – Tony is best placed to speak on this.

- New area on singlehanded beach - we need more topsoil? I am waiting until the grass gets well established before we get this and it is not happening that quickly. We are in the hands of the weather gods but I think it will be another two to three months i.e. July
- Concrete the areas at the top of the boat park which have been chewed up by the Manitou I intend to do this fairly soon as it is not a great expenditure and the ground has been badly cut up.
- New fendering on the main pontoon – My plan is to do this in late June or early July when the weather is suitable for hanging over the side of the pontoon. It will be done in hard wood and is likely to cost £2,500.
- Bike racks not sure where we would put them at the moment – still under discussion.
- Some concreting at the end of rows K & L to level and allow boats to be moved easily.
- Repairs to the starters box – solving the leak and then replacing the small area of ceiling.
- Removing the “signing on box” and creating a patio – depends very much on how far we want to go with this. The electric connections are in a cupboard in this building. Various ideas are being discussed.

Discussion after report

A suggestion was made about putting a “Danger Deep Fall” sign on the wall near WHSC, following comments made at an RYA Inspection. This led to a discussion as to whether putting signs up would therefore make the Association liable.



John Green asked about clubs using the strimmer. Brian responded in informing everyone that the strimmer, as an Association asset, is available to anyone, however he pointed out that there are significant risks of injury if people are not properly trained on using it.

Site Improvement List

1. **New frontage:** Conversations need to take place on how the new area will be used
2. **Picnic and green teaching/observation space:** The area around the old starter box was discussed earlier in the meeting, but it was pointed out that the area could be better used; there is electricity in the hut, and WiFi reaches there from the clubs. *Iain Potter commented that, as Recognised Training Centres, a 'Picnic Area' causes a Child Protection Issue. Brian reports he's raised CP issues in the past.* Brian suggested that, as Sea Cadets have moved the Atlantic's, then that area be used for a picnic area, making use of the marquees both clubs have. Iain reported the move was only temporary, although Brian responded by saying that's why he suggested marquees as they could be taken down again
3. **Water/electrics in the laser area:** Getting electrics there is easy. Further investigations are needed to work out how to get water there
4. **Berth numbering:** Brian reports the green banks aren't numbered as it's hard to number grass. He asked if people were really concerned with numbering. Lenore reports Colin and herself had issues checking what boats were WSC boats.
5. **Image of the site:**
 - a. Work is being done on the image of the site, with the Tuesday Team strimming etcetera to make the place look nice
 - b. Iain Porter relayed a voice message left on the Sea Cadets answering machine. A member of the public reported seeing boats zooming around the Harp around 11pm at night. The boats appeared to be WSC boats, so Lenore and John Green were going to follow up with the Sailing School and WSC respectively
6. **Buffers on the pontoons:** Wood has been ordered and work progressing
7. **Bike Rack:** Manfred to follow up with Brian
8. Now that we have the start of a list the priority list is what we need to look at first as these are items that the members have requested.

Task	Suggested By	What is required	Completion Date
Electric winch on main slipway	WSC	Winch – to be able to launch and recover boats	Started
Security Fencing	RSBB	There are places whereby the security fence needs to be extended. Too easy to see into the site from Birchen Grove and the car park.	
Water tap by laser beach, attached to the Starter box.	WSC	Water tap to be able to wash off boats and windsurfing kit over by the starter box.	
Grouping of general boats on site		Putting all of the e.g. GP14's together in one location.	
Accurate site plan		To know which boats belong to which club etc.	
Concreate plan		What other locations would benefit from being concreted?	



Welsh Harp Sailing Association



Task	Suggested By	What is required	Completion Date
Buffers on pontoons		Replacement of damaged parts of the pontoon.	Started, materials purchased
Outside electrical point by laser beach, attached to the Starter box.		Power hose	
Widen Merlin berths		Look at where the Merlins could best be stored onsite.	
Chain trip hazard		Are they a trip hazard, to they need to be fixed to the ground in a different way?	
Corners of boat rows		Due to recent works onsite some of the entrances to boat rows have become damaged and are now in need of being replaced. Heavy lorries have broken the concrete.	
Windsurfer beach area		Removal of bramble and weed etc.	
Starter boxes		Bring them back into use as they have good line of site over the water.	Tall starter box, roof repairs are taking place.
Bonfire area		The area where the fire is normally placed may need to have the concrete replacing as over time it has become damaged.	
Image of the site		The overall image of the site could be improved. Boat not used could be removed. Other boats could be covered behind hoardings etc.	
Bike rack		To stop bikes from being chained to e.g. powerboats.	In progress.
Non-Slip surface by the water's edge.		Trial of no-slip surface.	

Long Term Projects

Task	Suggested by	What is required	Completion Date
WWSA Shed – Replacement of as roof is falling in.	WWSA	Replace with a 2 floor to be able to cater for future demand.	??
Silt treatment	WWSA		

Any Other Business

a. Security of the site.

Members are still leaving the gate to the car park open. We will need to look at a device that will close the gate or make it appear that the gate is closed.

b. Fuel Storage

Brian will look into the options of, does the WWSA need a fuel licence to cover all fuel on site. Carl will produce a risk assessment regarding the fuel onsite.

c. Electric Pole (behind Sea cadets)

The WWSA will replace the pole.



Welsh Harp Sailing Association



d. Covid Update

More restrictions are being lifted by the government; thus boating will one day return to normal.

There was no further business.

Future Meetings

The meetings of the association are held every 2 months, unless another meeting is required. The meetings will be in the last week of the month. The meetings will roll on a day every 2 months, starting with January. If the meeting day falls on a public holiday, the meeting will be held the week before. It was agreed that meetings will be on a rolling bases between Mondays, Tuesday, and Wednesdays.

Tuesday 28 th Sept 2021	Excom Meeting
Wednesday 24 th Nov 2021	Excom & Council Meeting
Monday 31 st Jan 2022	Excom Meeting
Tuesday 29 th March 2022	Excom Meeting
Wednesday 25 th May 2022	Excom Meeting & AGM
Monday 25 th July 2022	Excom Meeting

Meeting closed at 21:02 | Next meeting Tuesday 28th September 2021