

2023-24 Balmain Sailing Club Management Committee Meeting Minutes.

Date of meeting: Wednesday, 8 November 2023
Time: 6.30pm,
Location: Balmain Sailing Club

Type of Meeting: Management Committee

Attendees: Ed Tacey (ET) Ray Miller (RM) Sharon Harvey (SH) Chantelle Hodgson(CH) Colin Grove (CG), ((GW) David Stenhouse (DH)

Secretary/Minutes: Colin Grove

Apologies : Campbell Reid (CR), Geoff Watkins (GW) Chris Price (CP)

- The meeting commenced at 6.30pm.
- The minutes of the BSC Management Committee Meetings of 4 October 2023 were approved without amendment .

ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

- The committee is currently reviewing the basis on which the annual fee of \$12,075 payable to Australian Sailing is calculated having reference to the variations in the levels of fees paid by other sailing clubs like BSC.
- Installation of new dock was completed by 13 October 2023 .
- **CR** passed on his congratulation to the many club members that contributed to the success of the annual Regatta. The Balmain Regatta was a celebration of sailing, history, community, combined with a BBQ, bar, music, and dancing and great weather, subject to final audit the Regatta resulted in a profit of approximately \$21,600.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION:

Club Managers Report:

- **MEMBERSHIP:**
Currently 205 members,
- **FOOD & BEVERAGE**
Bar Sales up 8% year to date
Food sales up 12% year to date.
- **HALL HIRE.**
A 40th Birthday on the 25th of November.
A Christmas Party on the 26th of November.
A Christmas Function on the 1st of December.
A Wedding on the 9th of December.
A Wedding on the 16th of December.
- There are several functions booked from January through March 2024.

Future Directions Discussion :

- The committee discussed pathways to ensure and encourage the growth of Clubs membership base and the identification of viable revenue streams.
- It was agreed that the main agenda item for the February Management Committee Meeting would be devoted to discussing these issues .All Club members will be asked to submit any ideas and thoughts they may have in respect of the issues .

Cockatoo Island Draft Master Plan: (DMP)

- The committee noted that the Sydney Harbour Trust had recently released a DMP for its property portfolio including a major plan for Cockatoo Island .

- The Committee noted the recent advice (see below***) sent by the Hunters Hill Sailing Club to the planners for the Harbour Trust and endorsed the full contents of this letter and noted that the proposed new ferry wharf to be located under the plan would impact of the BSC starting line.
- As well it would substantially reduce navigable waters between it and the line of moored boats in front of the Club as well a proposed underwater reef structure on the NE side of the island would also impact negatively.

We will be responding formally to the Master Plan, but right off the bat, the concerns of the Hunters Hill Sailing Club and the broader sailing community of the Inner West Harbour revolve around the following issues:

1. The resuming of waterways to enlarge the Island and create the second ferry landing, thereby narrowing the already tiny channel between the Balmain Peninsula and the Island - a hazard to navigation even before adding in the increased operational tempo of the proposed new ferry runs. When the current ferry terminal was expanded a few years ago, we complained that the ferries coming from Woolwich would clip the corner of Clarke's Point, swing West along the Clarkes Point foreshore towards the Sailing Club and Woolwich Marina, before swinging in a semi circle across the channel and berthing bow towards the east. This was dismissed by the representatives of Transport, and yet has become the norm for ferry operations to Cockatoo Island from Woolwich. This throws additional wash against the Pontoon at HHSC, which has failed twice due to wash from ferries and other large vessels. Our sailors are more often exposed to a large vessel bearing down on them in the area west of Clarkes Point, which is particularly frightening for the small children in our Sunday morning Learn2Sail program, and the school holiday camps. This will no doubt be repeated on the SW corner area of the Island, removing yet more relatively lightly trafficked area from the overall Bay, and reducing safety margins for sailing and other low to the water recreational activities like rowing, stand up paddle boarding and ski paddling.

2. The proposed location of the second barge landing, on the eastern flank of the Island. This causes a navigational challenge for sailing and recreational watercraft activities to the east of the Island, which is of course where the majority of weekday training and racing, and weekend racing from five or six clubs, takes place. As the immediate neighbour of the current barge ramp in Hunters Hill, we have to constantly stop our operations to allow the cumbersome main barge to operate, along with the host of smaller barges doing ad hoc runs. This second site barging site will make sailing to the east of the island dangerous and reduce the already constrained waterway open to the public for sailing and other recreational activities.

3. The proposed artificial reefs running into the Harbour from the eastern shore line of the Island - similar to the new ferry location it is an impingement on already constrained navigable waters, especially if swimming is proposed which will then require a shark net / fence.

4. The increased tempo of barging operations to support an increased commercial presence on the Island will cause increased problems with traffic in the Hunters Hill community, and directly impact the access and amenity the public has to the in demand car park space around the barging ramp. Just last week equipment from the Island was left stranded in the car park area without hazard warnings, causing a broken windshield to a vehicle owned by a member of the public. We are sick of having semi trailers coming through the park, having deliveries for businesses on the island dumped on our doorstep and the general lack of traffic management and control evidenced on a daily basis at the ramp. Occasionally a traffic warden is engaged for major events, and those days, while busy, seem to run more effectively.

We were hoping to discuss these matters with the Trust post the engagement session we attended on the Island, but no contact from your organisation was forthcoming. We remain open to such consultation.

*Kind regards
Chris Chris Stannage
President & Chief Enthusiasm Officer
Hunters Hill Sailing Club
Wallumetagus Land
0404 854 834*

SALE OF CLUB BRANDED MERCHANDISE:

- **CH** advised that the sale of merchandise at the Regatta was most successful and a lots of merchandise apparel were sold on the day.
- **CCTV SYSTEM REPLACEMENT:**
Update on Surveillance System
- **CP** advised that the installer Connex is coming out to site to review setup / provide suggestions for Committee sign off as the installation is part of Marketing promotion there will be minimal cost ,if any to the Club
-Connex committed to week beginning 20th November, will have exact time next week from them , and coordinate for access to building the site.
-Equipment has been reserved , so would expect installation to occur W1 December , without any delay for kit System will be Dahua , 4 channel (4 camera and on prem nvr) with 30 Day retention policy , remote access (mobile & desktop) for review.

Update on Door Controller.

- The installer will also review existing door setup to advise cost effective solution for door control. We want an option for a)standalone system b)integrated option with the CCTV (Dahua) The solution might be Will be prox cards/token , and programmable onsite , and can time bomb for temp access The Committee thanked Chris Price in facilitating the above security improvements determined by what will work with the existing door frames (normal entry and kitchen entry).

FINANCE:

- **RM** confirmed that we had applied for a grant of up to \$300,000 or lesser amount being offered by the NSW Government in November 2023 in respect of Capex items, the Clubs application nominated the requirement for new flooring in the main room, and the exterior painting of the premises.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

- Inner West Council have been written to ask that the lopping to the large gumtree, which is believed to be on Council land and is halfway up the stairs and the two trees that are contributing the retaining wall to lean over near the eastern deck.
CG will follow up with Council.

SAILING SCHOOL:

- Since the last meeting there are 3 full courses booked and we have 3 participants undertaking their powerboat course.

SAILING:

- Nil Report

REGATTA:

- See action items section.

RISK MANAGEMENT WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY (WHS):

- An Incident Management Plan, that all members should be familiar with is to be kept in the clubhouse. In addition, the race starters are to keep a permanent copy at the starting desk.
- The Committee agreed that in circumstances where the wind on the harbour side is/or is anticipated to exceed 20 knots per hour, no sailing school course must be undertaken.
- All members are to become familiar with the WHS document. A copy has been placed on the website and all members are strongly encouraged to read it and adhere to it.
- The current WHS document will be reviewed and updated over the next few months.
- **SH** advised that she had reviewed the existing Incident Management Plan and WHS document and has recommended several changes to both documents. She will update both documents in liaison with **DS**.

General Business/Correspondence:

Meeting Closed at 8 pm

Next Meeting: 6 December 2023 6-30 pm Clubhouse

The BSC committee meets once a month on a Wednesday or Monday evening at 6.30pm to discuss and agree actions on general club matters. If members would like to attend or have an item raised at the meeting, please email info@balmainsailingclub.com at least one week prior.

A question or concern may be dealt with before the meeting, if not, it can be added to the agenda if time permits, or to the following month if the current agenda is already full. All members are welcome to access the Committee Meeting Minutes which are posted on the Clubs website.