



AGM MEETING MINUTES

Russell Boating Club

15th June 2025 @ 16:00 Date | time

The meeting began at 1607 hours with 63 voting members present, exceeding the club's quorum requirement of 50 members (20% of eligible voting members)

Welcome

Commodore Bruce Mitchinson welcomed members on behalf of the committee and confirmed that the meeting had a quorum.

Appointment of Scrutineers

- Fletcher Sunde and Simon Taylor agreed to act as scrutineers for the formal business of the meeting.

Apologies

Apologies received from: -

- Mark Thomson
- Ian Ross
- David Bryant
- Warwick and Lynett Cooper
- Shelly Te Uki and Philip Sweetapple

Motion: Apologies be accepted. Moved: Bruce 2nd: Ian Holt. The motion was carried.

Confirmation of the Minutes from the 2024 AGM

Motion: That the minutes from the 2024 AGM be approved as a true record of the meeting.

Moved: Bruce, 2nd: Tony Hanlon. The motion was carried.

Matters arising from the minutes

- Nil

Commodore's Report

- Bruces report summary: -
 - Financial statement is in the new format
 - The annual budget aimed for a slight profit, but we ended up with a small cash bases loss of \$1,900.
 - One off R&M and other costs affected the results, kitchen oven service, sewage pump replacement and water purchases.
 - The committee now has detailed budgets and monthly financial tracking graphs.
 - Kitchen has moved back to a staff employment model.
 - Slipway is another profit centre. Club looking to capitalise on this asset by adding additional services to what is currently offered.
 - 50th Tall Ships Regatta next year. Planning to add several events on the Friday. Biggest club fund raiser. We will be looking for sponsors and grants to help with the running costs.
 - Building R&M and capital upgrades tend drop off when the club is short of money. Bruce acknowledged the assistance of club members with the supply of materials for some maintenance tasks.
 - Club is looking for someone to help with grant applications.
 - Projects that the club is hoping to proceed with include: – toilet upgrade, bore upgrade, Junior sailing shed upgrade, Russell wharf upgrade adding a new race starting facility, club house renovation and jetty upgrade.
 - Several of these projects can't start until the DOC lease renewal is confirmed. An application has been gazetted so we are waiting for the outcome of this process.
 - Bruce acknowledged the great job Jay is doing with the Youth sailing program.
 - He also thanked Social committee (Helen), the rest of the committee, Kitchen and Bar staff and Trish Van der Sande the club's bookkeeper.
 - Bruce thanked the members for being part of this great club.

Financial Statements

The meeting had no questions regarding the 2025 YE accounts.

Motion: That the financial statement for the YE 2025 be accepted.

Moved: Bruce, 2nd: Scotty Thomassen. The motion was carried.

Honorary Membership Recommendations by the Committee

Motion: That the following people be accepted as Honorary Club members for the coming year in recognition of their outstanding service to the Club.

- Lynette and Warwick Cooper – Tall Ships
- Anthony and Nicole George – Tall Ships
- Tristan Kiddie – Youth sailing coaching
- Ross Norman – Causeway and access repairs

Moved: Bruce, 2nd: Simon Taylor. The motion was carried.

Social Report – Helen Thomassen

- Helen introduced the club's Facebook page. She showed members how to navigate the page and explained what it is primarily being used for. Page members have grown from 300 to 1500 during the last few years under Helen's careful guidance.
- She also mentioned the club's website; Google business and Instagram presents.
- Helen discussed the event calendar found on the club's website.
- She mentioned that the club is looking for event ideas and people to help with grant application.

Guest Speakers – Viki Heta and Rana Rewha

- Viki and Rana both live in Rawhiti and are part of the team 'on the ground' trying to control the invasive weed, Caulerpa.
- Viki showed a video that detailed the scale of the damage being caused by the invasive seaweed Caulerpa in Omakiwi cove near Rawhiti.
- She highlighted some of the methods being used to control the weed and what happens when storms move through the area. One storm dumped over 300 tonnes of Caulerpa on the nearby beach. 200 people assisted with the cleanup.
- Viki and Rana took a number of questions from the members.
- Rana pointed out that the weed will grow up to 3cm overnight.
- Viki, Rana and Jane Hindle all stressed the important of reporting any Caulerpa findings.

Membership Fees

Motion: That the membership fees for the coming year be increased by 3.5% on the base membership fee.

Moved: Bruce, 2nd: Stephen Pepperell. The motion was carried.

Motion #1 – Use of the Fast-track Approvals Act for the proposed Marina

- Jay pointed out that the club has an important voice in the community if they choose to use it.
- Jay also noted that, in his opinion, the club should ensure a significant majority of its members support this type of action before it advocates on their behalf.

Motion: That with at least 2/3 of voting members present voting in favour, the Club oppose on behalf of its members the use of the Fast-track Approvals Act for the proposed marina development in Waipiro Bay, in any form that the General Committee deems appropriate.

Moved: Jay, 2nd: Tony Hanlon. The motion was carried with 45 (71%) votes for and 5 against the motion.

- Bruce confirmed that the club will establish a sub-committee to oversee the members opposition to the use of the Fast-track Approval process for this project.

Motion #2 – To adopt the new Constitution

- Bruce introduced the new Constitution and why the club needs to have one. All Incorporated Societies must have a constitution that meets the new Act's requirements, and our current rules fall well short of what's required.
- Several long-standing club members including Andrew Riddell, Brett Avery, Tony Hanlon and Simon Taylor helped review a draft document put together by Ian Holt.
- Bruce confirmed that this is a Yes/No vote. If passed, then the new constitution comes into force. If no, then further work will be required.
- The club may need a SGM to make further minor changers to the new constitution.

Motion: That the club adopts the proposed new constitution, as presented to the membership on the 1st of June, 2025, to replace the existing rules in their entirety. The new constitution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by a two-thirds majority vote in favour by qualifying members present.

Moved: Bruce, 2nd: Scotty Thomassen. The motion was carried with 54 (86%) votes for the motion.

- The club's Patron, Tony Hanlon addressed the Commodore after the vote. He pointed out members may not realise how much work went into this new constitution by the committee. He offered his congratulations to the committee for taking on this task and offered a vote of thanks to Ian Holt for the work he has done on this new document.

Note: The club rules (paragraph 6) require a majority of two thirds of the members present at an annual or other general meeting to alter the club rules.

Election of Officers and Committee Members

- Bruce confirmed that all existing committee members are re-standing. He said that the club doesn't have a Vice Commodore, so we still have work to do here. Barry confirmed that he will carry on as Rear Commodore, so the club still has two flag officers. Ian confirmed that he will continue as Secretary and Fletcher confirmed that he will continue as Club Captain.

- Two additional members have put their names forward for the committee. Paul Thompson and Geof Lyman.
- **Commodore**
Motion: That Bruce Mitchinson be re-elected as Commodore. Moved: Ian, 2nd: Annie Hill. The motion was carried.
- **Rear-Commodore**
Motion: That Barry Newland be re-elected as Rear-Commodore. Moved: Bruce, 2nd: Erin Bomati. The motion was carried.
- **Secretary**
Motion: That Ian Holt re-elected as Secretary. Moved: Bruce, 2nd: Scotty Thomassen. The motion was carried.
- **Club House Captain**
Motion: That Fletcher Sunde be re-elected as Club House Captain. Moved: Bruce, 2nd: Ian Holt. The motion was carried.
- **Existing Committee Members** – All current members of the General Committee have agreed to continue in their positions.
Motion: That the following committee members be re-elected:
Mike Bennett
Stephen Pepperell
Helen Thomassen
Mark Thomson
- Moved – Bruce Mitchinson, 2nd: Scotty Thomassen. The motion was carried.
- **Two Additional Committee Members**
Motion: That the club add Paul Thompon and Geof Lyman to the general committee
Moved – Bruce Mitchinson, 2nd: Tony Hanlon. The motion was carried.

Election of Patron

Motion: That Antony Hanlon be elected as the Club Patron.

Moved: Bruce, 2nd: David Nicolson. The motion was carried.

General Business

- There was no general business.

Bruce thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was concluded at 17:47 hrs.

Minutes taken by: Ian Holt

Signed by: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____