



*Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club*  
INC.

REGISTRATION NO. A0017353E

## **Minutes of the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held online via Zoom on Tuesday 19 October 2021 at 7.30pm**

### **1. Notice Convening the Meeting**

In accordance with the rules, notice of this meeting was first given on 1 September, more than 21 days ahead of the AGM, and details of the business were sent out on 27 September, more than 14 days ahead.

### **2. Apologies**

Fourteen apologies were received prior to or at the meeting and were recorded by the Secretary.

### **3. Obituaries**

Commodore Laker reported with sadness the passing of Past Commodore Lindsay Heath and Past Commodore Graham Bickford since the 2020 AGM. He also acknowledged the passing of Past Commodore Jim Shields in November 2019.

Members observed a period of silence in remembrance.

### **4. Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the 58<sup>th</sup> AGM in October 2020 were noted as having been posted on the website since November 2020 and copies were made available prior to the meeting.

**Motion:** that the minutes of the 58<sup>th</sup> AGM be accepted.

**Moved:** Tom Hinton                      **Seconded:** Gary Harris

**For:** 47 Member online votes received prior to the meeting plus 9 valid proxies

**Against:** Nil

Resolved in the affirmative.

### **5. Commodore's Report**

Commodore Chris Laker read his report as follows.

This report, for the year 2020-21, is a report constricted by the unusual times we all have had to endure over the last couple of years. My time as Commodore has been consumed with the need to try and live with COVID-19 and to attempt to keep our club open and relevant to the Member's needs. Fortunately, we were able to have the clubhouse open over the last sailing season. Christmas through to Easter was one of the nicest times I have spent at QCYC. I think that those Members present during that time really enjoyed their temporary freedom and appreciated the wonders of our unique club. COVID has once again affected our lives and restricted access to the club, but with time and the success of the vaccination program, QCYC will hopefully be open again for this coming Christmas.

Since our last A.G.M., most of our meetings have been held via Zoom. An unexpected side benefit of this was a reduction in the duration of these meetings. All portfolio holders are required to make a written report to the committee, at least a week prior to meetings. This then gives all Committee Members time to digest these reports and help keep the length of meetings down from about 4 hours as it has been in the past, to a much more reasonable 1½ hours. Your committee is a group of

people from diverse backgrounds, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table and it is at this point that I would like to introduce to you all the committee of 2020-21 and to thank them for their contribution to the running of QCYC.

First and foremost, our Secretary, Louise Woodley. Because of the lockdown in Melbourne, Louise has spent most of her time going back through our records and sorting through years of Commodore's, Secretary's and Treasurer's notes and emails and has now created a relevant record of what has happened in the past. This history will help make life a lot easier for future administrations. Louise is also extremely efficient in administering our club, especially in the areas of correspondence, minutes of meetings and reminding me of things I need to do. She has helped make my job a lot easier.

Our honorary legal adviser, Peter Crofts, and Committee Member, Craig Walton, have been working with Parks Victoria trying to finalize our lease. This has been an ongoing task for the last 7 years with various members of the Committee contributing over that time. We now believe that the conclusion to the negotiations is getting very close and hope that the last obstacles can be overcome in the very near future.

Our Vice Commodore Tom Hinton and Rear Commodore Alan Farman, as usual, just get on with the job. Both Tom and Alan look after all those things around the club that makes this place function. Things like organizing and maintaining our club dinghy, maintaining the causeway, fixing leaking toilets, repairing broken door locks and a wealth of other jobs that just keep this place going.

Other Committee Members I would like to mention are Gary Harris, our new treasurer. Gary has taken over from Justin Brennen as treasurer of our club and I would like to thank Gary for volunteering for this position after Justin's resignation. Gary has already made his mark on the Treasurer's role in the club and has prepared for you the accounts to be presented at this meeting today.

Sam Davis is our bar manager and booking co-ordinator for visiting yachts. Sam has developed a new booking form for visiting yachts and visiting groups from various clubs around Port Phillip. This form has proved to be a great success and will be further modified for the coming season to include vaccination details of all persons wishing to visit QCYC.

Mike Phelan, our Club Captain, has been challenged again because of COVID. Mike's main events to organise are, the HMAS Goorangai Memorial Race, the Queenscliff Cup regatta and cruising in company usually after Christmas. Last year the Goorangai race had to be cancelled, the cruise in Bass Strait was also cancelled and the Queenscliff Cup regatta was shifted to Easter. Let's hope Mike has better luck this year along with his small group of helpers who assist him to run these events each year.

Tony Sneddon, Simon Comben and Lee Renfree joined the Committee this year, Tony took on occupation health and safety and has been working on reviewing the Emergency Safety Plan that has been in existence for many years and needs updating. Unfortunately, Tony has chosen not to re-nominate for Committee this year and I wish him well for the future.

Stephen Comben has only joined us recently but has taken on the job of garden co-ordinator with great enthusiasm. He has already started drawing a landscape plan of the area and I look forward to the end result.

Lee Renfree, after a break from the Committee of six years, has rejoined us and has been assisting me in preparation for her to become our first lady Commodore.

I must also include two past members of the Committee who are still doing a lot of work for us and that is Peter Stow and John Gleeson. Peter looks after our bulk emailing to members, statistics and membership records. Peter is always available and very pleasant to work with, John has been around the club almost forever, when there is a job to do John is more than happy to assist, whatever the job may be.

To all the committee and Peter and John thank you, it has been a pleasure working with you all and I wish you the very best for the future.

Over the past two years there have been quite a few highs and lows, but overall it has been a rewarding time. The continuation of the COVID problem has had a big effect on all our lives, It has, surprisingly, not had a major effect on the finances of our club and visitations over Christmas through to Easter, although not outstanding, were good. The highlights of significance achieved during my term as Commodore are the re-building of the Cygnet Bridge, the reconditioning of the dinghy ramp, and the remedial works to the clubhouse.

The Bridge, first constructed in 1994, using second hand piles from Cunningham pier in Geelong, suffered a structural failure in some of its piles. Repair work involving the use of epoxy adhesive and fibreglass outer sleeves and replacement of the main supporting beams and deck along with a safety barrier have made the structure a safe and maintenance free asset for the club for at least another 20-30 years.

The dinghy ramp, which has been a problem ever since it was first installed, at last has been fixed. The floatation pod, on the floating end, constantly leaked and would sink from time to time. After its last sinking and me having to get into the water in the middle of winter without a wetsuit, I decided it would have to come out and be fixed once and for all. It was found that the pod had a small hole in it and that, no matter what you did, the lid also leaked and just to finish it off, the frame had extensive corrosion. A re-build of the frame, the addition of zinc blocks, foam added to the floatation pod, new bolts and nuts and re-installed back at the club, has resulted in a floating ramp once again.

Lastly, the re-vamp of the club-house. A lot has been said about this, some people were not happy, a lot of people are very happy. Whatever you may think, I fully believe that it has made a big difference to the feeling of the club, It presents a more welcoming feel as you walk through the entrance, it is lighter and more appealing as you enter the recreation room or the dining room. A problem with head height as you go up the stairs to the bar has been removed and the east deck is slightly larger with a re-location of the stairs making it more usable. Removal of asbestos from the Rec room, new broom cupboard, reversal of the laundry, new doors and some windows, and L.E.D. lighting all add up to a long overdue re-vamp.

Unfortunately, Opening Day and some social events have not happened this year or some of them last year. Normally we would have had Opening Day in November last year, the Prawn and Oyster lunch on New Year's Day, roast dinner at Easter, and Christmas in July. These events are important to the club and important to the local charity, Cottage by The Sea. At Christmas the Prawn and Oyster lunch is used as a fun raising function for Cottage by the Sea. With luck these events may be run again this coming year, but only time will tell.

Finally, last year I said I was about to retire, as yet this still has not happened, but that is about to change. I am going to retire in November and hopefully, go cruising on my yacht, Imagine. COVID-19 has affected all our lives, but it is time to learn to live

with it, get vaccinated if you have not been vaccinated, then come and visit QCYC when you can and start to enjoy life again.

To QCYC, it has been a pleasure serving you and all your Members for the last six years. You are in very good hands and have a very bright future in front of you.

**Motion:** that the Report by the Commodore be accepted.

**Moved:** Alan Farman                    **Seconded:** Tom Hinton

**For:** 47 Member online votes received prior to the meeting plus 9 valid proxies

**Against:** Nil

Resolved in the affirmative.

**Motion:** that Past Commodore Lindsay Heath be approved as a posthumous Life Member.

**Moved:** Chris Laker                    **Seconded:** Louise Woodley

**For:** 47 Member online votes received prior to the meeting plus 9 valid proxies

**Against:** Nil

Resolved in the affirmative.

### ***Presentation of the 2021 Club Person of the Year.***

Commodore Laker introduced this award by saying that a number of Members stand out in the running of the Club. These Members are always there when advice or help is needed. They usually stay in the background but know what is going on and anticipate what needs to be done.

This year's Member is a very fine example of these principles. The recipient of this award has spent time on the Committee, turns up and helps at all Club functions, is very calming and always able to advise on matters relating to QCYC and is willing to perform most tasks when asked. People like this are few and far between but make a big difference to the success of the Club.

The winner of the 2021 Club Person of the Year is Peter Stow. Karen, Peter's wife, presented the award to Peter.

Peter thanked Chris for his kind words. Peter advised he was on the Committee when Past Commodore Bennett instigated this award and he never imagined he would be a recipient of it. He loves what he does for a wonderful Club, it is a privilege, an honour and he felt very humbled. Peter thanked Commodore Laker and the Committee for nominating him for the award.

## **6. Vice Commodore's Report**

Vice Commodore Tom Hinton presented his report as follows.

This year has thrown up challenges in relation to most club activities.

Maintenance and repairs generally have been completed by local members, Alan Farman, John Gleeson, Chris Laker and more recently Steve Comben. Some specialist work has been undertaken by local refrigeration and electrical contractors.

On the occasions when the club has been open, I have been pleased to see a number of visiting club members attending to jobs without fuss or inducement.

The group participant nature of the normal type of Working Bee has not been possible and there are plans to co-ordinate individual club volunteers to undertake specific jobs, in accordance with current physical distancing requirements.

Over the year many small maintenance issues have been reported either directly to local club officers or via the Honorary Secretary. These jobs have been dealt with in a timely manner.

During the year the north and south dinghy ramps were repaired and improved.

The club access road has been improved over many years and is generally a quite substantial structure. However, the effects of extreme wave action, rain and excessive vehicular speed do cause damage to the unsealed surface. As current financial constraints preclude major repair works to the surface, we have been filling the potholes which develop to avoid further deterioration.

The ancient wooden retaining wall which supports a section of the eastern side of the club access road has been showing signs of decay. It was recently damaged by heavy machinery driven very close to the edge. A repair scheme was developed, approved by Parks Victoria and the repairs completed earlier this month. The car park was levelled and resurfaced at the same time.

Over the last 12 months, all dinghies stored at the club were registered and unused dinghies removed. More dinghy storage spaces are now available for use.

**Motion:** that the Report by the Vice Commodore be accepted.

**Moved:** Craig Walton                    **Seconded:** Sam Davis

**For:** 47 Member online votes received prior to the meeting plus 9 valid proxies

**Against:** Nil

Resolved in the affirmative.

### **7. Treasurer's Report**

*Treasurer Gary Harris presented his report as follows.*

Attached are the Audited Financial statements of the Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club Inc for the financial year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

The financials include an Audit Report, Balance Sheet, Cashflow Statement and Profit and Loss.

I would like to thank Justin Brennan, the previous Honorary Treasurer, for his work during this financial year.

#### **Profit and Loss**

Revenue for the year was down only \$253.34 which was a very good result given the impact of COVID-19 making us cancel a number of events including Xmas in July and New Year's Day Seafood lunch. Bar income was up \$4,370.07 which is a great effort given the length of time the clubhouse has been closed. Thanks very much to Sam Davis and his wife, Glenda, for the great work in running the bar.

As Justin mentioned last year there has been a continued but very slight reduction in membership and boat registration fees that is being addressed by the committee.

Total expenses increased by \$88,615.78 with the major items being:

- \$72,480.31 mainly for the clubhouse refurbishment/repairs.
- Depreciation \$19,644.11 reflecting the depreciation of the Cygnet Bridge capital works.

Expenses excluding these items were \$3,508.64 lower.

Whilst the net loss for the year was \$55,320.44 compared to a profit of \$37,629.68 last year, the cash loss excluding depreciation was -\$7,631.30 compared to +\$65,675.71 last year.

#### **Balance Sheet**

Total Cash on Hand is \$440,616.55, a \$98,618.30 decrease on last year mainly due to the \$95,202 .00 spent on the Cygnet Bridge replacement and the clubhouse renovations.

This is a good outcome and higher than the ~\$380,000 forecast last year. Trade creditors increased from \$3,275.74 to \$9,765.70 with the main one being \$6,765 Parks Victoria lease payment which was paid in July. Total Assets \$709,871.31 (\$757,208.93 last year), Liabilities \$17,141.74.47 (last year-\$9,158.92). Net assets \$692,729.57 (last year \$748,050.01).

### **Outlook**

Hopefully the clubhouse will be open again by Xmas and 2022 becomes a normal year with functions and races.

There are still some major capital items that need to be expended with the major one being the wharf replacement or repair. The capital expenditure subcommittee is reviewing all the options in what is best for the club.

**Motion:** that the Report by the Treasurer be accepted.

**Moved:** Gary Harris                      **Seconded:** Chris Laker

**For:** 47 Member online votes received prior to the meeting plus 9 valid proxies

**Against:** Nil

Resolved in the affirmative.

**Motion:** that the financial statements for 2020-2021 attached to the Form 1 certificate in accordance with the Associates Incorporation Reform Act 2021 be accepted.

**Moved:** Gary Harris                      **Seconded:** Chris Laker

**For:** 47 Member online votes received prior to the meeting plus 9 valid proxies

**Against:** Nil

Resolved in the affirmative.

## **8. Election of Office Bearers and General Committee**

The Commodore announced that the following nominations had been received:

Commodore:	Lee Renfree
Vice Commodore:	Tom Hinton
Rear Commodore:	Alan Farman
Hon. Treasurer:	Gary Harris
Hon. Secretary:	Louise Woodley

Members of the General Committee:

- Michael Phelan, Club Captain
- Sam Davis
- Craig Walton
- Stephen Comben
- Ruth Jacobson
- Richard Lowe
- Janet Torode

As the number of nominations for Officers and General Committee Members does not exceed the positions available, an election was not held and the Commodore declared these members duly elected.

Commodore Renfree was congratulated and responded as follows.

Chris Laker has worked tirelessly over the past 6 years to hold this Club together. As a Commodore, he has encountered the toughest times in recent history, the arrival of COVID-19 and the global pandemic. We have known no precedent, global leaders have struggled but Chris, with the aid of a strong committed Committee, has succeeded in keeping our piece of paradise, safe and secure. Without his vigilance

in providing a strong COVID-19 policy and protocol and the tireless work of our Secretary, Louise Woodley, Christmas 2020 at QCYC would not have been possible.

Many much-needed building improvements have been made to the Club on Chris's watch. Not the least of which has been to renovate and recreate a light and airy recreation room, provide a practical laundry and rebuild the Cygnet Bridge.

These works mean that when our State returns to an even keel, we can still enjoy the pleasure of spending time at QCYC with like-minded people and friends in this pristine environment. Chris, as you leave your role as Commodore of QCYC, rest assured that the Club is a much better place and we thank you.

Three cheers for the Commodore.

My thanks to everyone who stood for the Committee, Sam Davis, Craig Walton, Stephen Comben, Ruth Jacobson, Richard Lowe, Janet Torode, Honorary Treasurer Gary Harris, Honorary Secretary Louise Woodley, Club Captain Michael Phelan and the Flag Officers, Vice Commodore Tom Hinton and Rear Commodore Alan Farman

Your on-going support of QCYC is without measure. To all those people who have volunteered their time and effort, I look forward to working with you all as we move onwards and upwards leaving the world events of the 2020/21 in our wake.

**9. Appointment of Honorary Solicitor:**

**Motion:** that Peter Croft be appointed as Honorary Solicitor.

**Moved:** Lee Renfree                    **Seconded:** Stephen Comben

**For:** 47 Member online votes received prior to the meeting plus 9 valid proxies

**Against:** Nil

Resolved in the affirmative.

**10. Next AGM**

**Motion:** that the next AGM be held on Sunday, 9 October 2022 at the Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club clubhouse.

**Moved:** Mike Phelan                    **Seconded:** tony Johnson-Sneddon

**For:** 47 Member online votes received prior to the meeting plus 9 valid proxies

**Against:** Nil

Resolved in the affirmative.

**11. General Business**

Michael Ackland requested an update on the north wharf which Past Commodore Laker responded to. He advised that nothing has been resolved at this stage. We have tried to get Wagners in Queensland to provide our Engineers with the relevant information and computations to prove their product is suitable for the job. The wharf will probably last for another 5 years. Craig Walton is taking over the Infrastructure Subcommittee with Chris remaining on the subcommittee.

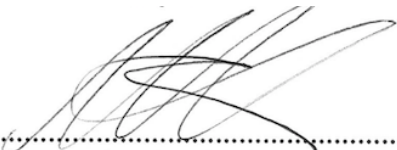
Past Commodore Chris Laker described the recently completed works to the causeway and northern carpark.

**12. Closing Remarks**

Past Commodore Laker thanked the Committee and Members their efforts and for attending the online AGM, good luck to the new Committee and hoped it will be possible to see everyone at the club soon.

**Meeting finished: 8.25pm**

**Signed:**



Commodore Lee Renfree