

Club matters

The Committee

Those of you who attended the AGM in March will of course be aware of the discussion following the proposal submitted by the Stour Youth Sailing Trust. Since then a number of members have asked for an update and the Committee felt it appropriate to provide this.

As a reminder, last summer I wrote to you all informing you that the Trust was a totally separate venture to the club's activities and had not been endorsed by the Committee. However given the club's interest in sail training we asked the Trust to provide us with more information about the scheme. After meeting with representatives of the Trust in October 2003, the Committee felt that whilst the club did not wish to hire the boats from the Trust, individual members could of course do so. In effect the ownership, management and maintenance of the boats remained with the Trust with individual arrangements being the preferred option.

The Trust then submitted a proposal to the AGM. The emphasis again being that the club hires the boats and as the summary indicates the matter was referred back to the Committee for further consideration. After receiving further information from the Trust, the Committee decided to maintain its position as stated in October 2003 and this was communicated in a letter to the Trust in April 2004. However the Trust has not had responded to this letter.

I will of course update you when we receive further information about the Trust's intentions.

Guests in the clubhouse

A reminder that guests can only be signed in no more than six times over any 12 month period.

Club matters: Mistley Quay

Peter Shakespeare, Mike Butcher and Brian Bateman



Many of you will be aware that the club is concerned about developments at the quay. This came about when we heard that visiting yachts were apparently being discouraged from mooring at the quay and that a fence had been erected at the west end of the quay preventing people from using the ladder at that end.

Initial attempts to arrange a meeting with Mistley Forwarding Company representatives proved difficult but eventually such a meeting took place with Mike Butcher and Brian Bateman attending. This proved useful in terms of being able to inform the company about our fears about the future use of the quay given that yachts both locally and internationally use it (and have done so for many years). The company has agreed to meet with us again and we are in the process of arranging this. If you have any concerns that you wish us to bring up at that meeting then by all means let us know.



In order to inform as many people as possible about our concerns, we have written to the RYA, local clubs and an article was published in *Sailing Today* (June 2004). Mike and Peter have also attended a Mistley Parish Council meeting and we have made links with local councillors who are also interested.

The club's activity has been noted by local organisations and the press. Whilst of course we are not averse to progress and development, the needs of the local community and visiting sailors must not be forgotten. We will of course keep you posted.