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THAMES ESTUARY YACHT CLUB
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON SUNDAY 4TH JANUARY 2026.

Flag Officers	**Present**	**Apologies**
Commodore	Steve Riddell	
Vice Commodore	David Taylor	
Rear Commodore	Paul Hunt	
Honorary Committee		
Imm. Past Commodore/Training Officer	Jay Denny	
Hon. Secretary	Sharon Riddell	
Hon. Treasurer	Greg Deeley	
Hon. Sailing Secretary	Roy Nunn	
Hon. Social Secretary	Zoe Read	
Hon. Bosun	Kevin Riddell	
Bar Chair		Tony Field
General Committee		
Asst Sailing Secretary		Sam Read
Asst Secretary (Membership)	Beth Carter	
Cadet Liaison	Cheryl Breavington	
House & Flats	Kit Weller	
Website & Marketing	Andy Harvey	
Welfare Officer	Neil Woodbridge	
		Dave Caten
	Kim Denny	
		Charlene Field
	Mickael Nunn	
Club Members		
	Gemma Riddell	
	Ruth Lowden	
	David Lowden	
	Jeremy Doran	
	James Dickson	
	Lianne Riddell	
	Tony Traynor	
	Susan Riddell	

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Nigel Manning
Matt Jennings
Mark Allinson

The meeting was held at The Clubhouse.

The meeting opened at 11:02 hours.

The Commodore took the chair, and the Hon. Secretary read out the calling notice of the AGM convening the meeting and setting out the criteria for members' permitted attendance and eligibility to vote as follows:-

The Annual General Meeting will be held at The Clubhouse on Sunday 4th January 2026 at 11:00 am in accordance with Rule 5.

Under Rule 37 Ordinary, Honorary Life, Life and Midshipman members are eligible for any office, or for the Committee.

Under Rule 38 Joint members - may be eligible for any office, or for Committee, and vote at General Meetings.

Under Rule 41 Country Members, Joint Country Members and the Cadet Captain may attend and participate but may not vote at General Meetings.

Under Rule 42 Cadet Members, (other than the Cadet Captain), Junior Cadets, Honorary, Social, and temporary members may not attend, participate or vote at Generals Meetings. For these members this calling notice is circulated for information only.

End of calling notice.

1. Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Roy Nunn, Neil Charnock and Sam Read.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 5th January 2025:

The Hon. Secretary asked if any of those present had any amendments to the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 5th January 2025. There were no such amendments.

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The Minutes of 5th January 2025 were proposed by Sue Riddell and seconded by Jay Denny.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

3. <u>To consider and to approve the following resolutions concerning subscriptions:</u>

That for the club year commencing 1st November 2026 the rate of subscriptions shall be set out in columns (1), (2), (3) and (4) below,

For members who pay their subscriptions after 1st January 2027 an administration charge of 10% will be added to the standard subscription as shown in column (3). The names of those members still in payment arrears of their subscriptions on the 1st February 2027 will be posted as 'defaulters' on the Club notice board.

Class of Membership, Subscriptions from, Subscriptions to and +10% 'Late Payer' Charge

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Class of Membership	Subscription from	Subscription to	+10% Admin Charge	Monthly Increase
Ordinary	£152.00	£152.00	£167.00	N/A
Joint	£220.00	£220.00	£242.00	N/A
Midshipman	£77.00	£77.00	£85.00	N/A
Cadet	£36.00	£36.00	£40.00	N/A
Junior Cadet	£24.00	£24.00	£26.00	N/A
Country	£66.00	£66.00	£73.00	N/A
Joint Country	£92.00	£92.00	£101.00	N/A
Social	£66.00	£66.00	£73.00	N/A
Social OAP (for over 60's)	£33.00	£33.00	£36.00	N/A
Affiliated	£110.00	£110.00	£121.00	N/A

This resolution was proposed by The Committee and was seconded by Lianne Riddell.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

4. To consider and approve the following resolution concerning jetty and mooring fees:

Jetty and mooring that the jetty, launching and mooring fees for the year commencing 1st March 2026 shall be set out below column (2):

Item	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Fees From	Fees To	+10% Admin
Jetty space (sailing dinghy)	£86.00	£86.00	£95.00
Jetty space (catamaran)	£129.00	£129.00	£142.00
Dinghy rack mounted	£47.00	£47.00	£52.00
Tender space	£47.00	£47.00	£52.00
Tender rack mounted	£25.00	£25.00	£28.00
Outboard Storage	£25.00	£25.00	£28.00
Launching fee	£31.00	£31.00	£34.00

(These figures have been rounded up and down to the nearest pound to keep the structure clean).

For members who pay their jetty, launching and mooring fees after 1st May 2026 an administration charge of 10% will be added to the standard rate as shown in column [3]. The names of those members still in payment arrears of their jetty, launching and mooring fees on 1st June 2026 will be posted as 'defaulters' on the club notice board. A launching fee is payable for dinghies, inflatable sailboards etc not stored on the jetty for which no tender or jetty fee is paid. Members who pay for a 'hard' dinghy stored on the jetty will not be liable for a launching fee for a tender or inflatable not stored on the jetty.

The resolution was proposed by The Committee and seconded by Zoe Read.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

5. To receive and consider the enclosed General Committee report with membership status:

The General Committee report with membership status as follows:

The Hon. Secretary Sharon Riddell read out the General Committee report as follows:-

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Commodore, Flag Officers and General Committee Members for their continued support, dedication and hard work in the running of our Club.

Secondly, I would like to thank the Committee members who are stepping down from their position and welcome the new Committee Members joining our team with fresh ideas.

Thanks to the team that have put together another exciting year of sailing, cruising and entertainment. Lots of hard work goes into the organisation of these events and we try to have a varied selection to suit everyone. So please come along and support your Club and let us continue to grow into the fantastic Club that we are.

It's lovely to see the cruiser section expanding along with the RYA training school.

We put on work parties every year for the maintenance of the club, we appreciate those that help to maintain the club for the safety of everyone. If you use the club then please come alone to help.

As usual all the weeks sailing and entertainment are available on the website and will go out via email on The Week Ahead and the Announcement WhatsApp group.

I would like to thank every member again for their continued support and the club is looking forward to seeing lots of you on and off the water in 2026.

Sharon Riddell
Hon. Secretary.

Thames Estuary Yacht Club membership for the month ending 31 December 2025 is as follows:

CATEGORY	TYPE	MEMBERSHIPS (MEMBERS)	PERCENTAGES
AFFILIATE	Affiliate	2 (2)	1.27 (1.07)
SAILING	Cadet	125 (154)	79.11 (82.35)

	Country		
	Duckling		
	Honorary		
	Joint (RNLI discount)		
	Joint (Trainer discount)		
	Joint Country		
	Joint Ordinary		
	Junior Cadet		
	Midshipman		
	Ordinary		
	Ordinary OAP		
SOCIAL	Social	31 (31)	19.62 (16.58)
	Social OAP		
TOTAL		158 (187)	100%

The General Committee report with membership status was proposed by Lianne Riddell and seconded by Zoe Read.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

6. <u>To consider and approve the Accounts and Balance sheet for the club year 2024/2025.</u>

Please see attached Accounts.

Nigel Manning asked why Maynard Heady LLP did not do the Club accounts.

Steve confirmed that Maynard Heady had given notice earlier in the year that they would not be continuing as club accountants going forward. At that point Zoe had put forward her firm Xeinadin Billericay as a suggestion as new club accountants (to be voted on in this meeting). Originally Maynard Heady were due to complete the 2025 accounts but due to extenuating circumstances there was a delay in getting the information to Maynard Heady and unfortunately they were unable to prepare the accounts in time for the AGM. At this point the Flags had asked Xeinadin whether they would be able to step in early to get a set of accounts prepared for the meeting.

The Accounts and Balance Sheet was proposed by Ruth Lowden and seconded by Susan Riddell.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

7. To receive and consider the report from the Sailing Secretary:

The Commodore Steve Riddell read out the Sailing report in the absence of Hon. Sailing Secretary Roy Nunn:-

This year unfortunately has been a challenging year for our racing as the weather has not always been on our side. We have also had a decline in the average number of club members out racing. As always though there has been some really hard fought battles and tight racing out there between those who have competed.

With that said, the social side of our sailing has definitely increased this year. Our cruiser section is on the rise and our camping and cruising events have been a huge hit as always.

Once again in 2025 we have had two cadet regattas and have some very good up and coming sailors who should be challenging the adults in a few years time. Added to this for the first time we ran a training regatta for the adult members. As we had never run an event like this before we were unsure what form it would take or how it would be received. Needless to say it was a great success and it is something we are going to run again this coming year. As always these events have been made possible by the usual team of organisers, instructors and helpers.

As always I would like to end by giving my thanks to all those who have once again helped and volunteered this year in the galley, as support boat helm or crew, as race officer or just helping on the slipway. They are all vitally important roles and you have helped make this club better through your actions.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all on the jetty and out on the water again in 2026. We once again have a great programme of events for the coming year. It still has racing, family events and cruises but has been changed slightly from previous years to reflect the choices and preferences of our members. So come on down and make 2026 another great year for our club.

Roy Nunn
Hon. Sailing Secretary

The Hon. Sailing Secretary's report was proposed by Zoe Read and seconded by Mickael Nunn.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

8. To receive and consider the report from The Commodore:

The Commodore Steve Riddell read out his report as follows:-

Once again, it's been a busy year at the TEYC.

In the clubhouse, we have completed the major refurbishment of the galley, giving us a kitchen workspace better suited to the way it is used in practice. We have installed a

new consumer unit and new lighting and, hopefully solved a long-running issue with our power supply tripping out.

We also have a new weather station console on the race officer's stand and a great new set of burgee holders to display the club's fine collection of burgees; my particular thanks to Dave Caten for making and installing these, along with a request for some more please Dave, painted blue this time, to go above the galley, as I have run out of holders before I've run out of burgees.

We also held 2 days of RYA First Aid courses, resulting in 19 club members holding new or refreshed first-aider qualifications.

Much time and effort has also gone into investigating the piles and girders that support our clubhouse and planning what refurbishment they require after 10 years of being washed over by 2 tides a day. Whilst we don't yet have a final solution for this, we are reassured by the inspections that have been carried out that they are in far better condition than was feared. Thanks are due to David Taylor for all his efforts in this area. We have been building up a Reserve Fund in the club's accounts to pay for possible worst-case scenarios in this area. It is my hope that, once this work is agreed and completed, some of this money can be released to spend on other infrastructure projects, refreshing the club's fleet, and more fun stuff.

On the jetty, we have installed new security cameras, painted a new slip-resistant pathway from the gate to the clubhouse, and repaired damaged areas around the boathouse and the north-west corner of the slipway. Thanks go to Kev, Matt and Paul for their work in this area. We also have a new outboard storage facility which is nearing completion in time for the cruising season. Much thanks go to Tony for all his efforts on this.

At 3 The Leas we have overcome roof and gutter leaks, and mouse infestations, and performed remedial work on the internal fire doors.

We have been equally busy on the water.

Whilst 2025 felt at times like we were battling against the weather and an unfavourable tide table, we still managed to schedule 63 sailing events, and to run around 50 of them. Amongst these, highlights include 2 excellent cadet regattas, even if we only managed 1 sailing day out of 3 during the first one back in May, hosting the Interclub Dinghy Team race, and the club's first ever Adult Regatta, which went very well and I hope will become a fixture on the Sailing Calendar for years to come. Particular thanks are due to Cheryl and Zoe for running the regattas for our young and less young members.

We have also held RYA Level I and II Dinghy Sailing courses and 2 Powerboat Level II courses. My thanks to Jay, Kev and Sam for all their work on these and my congratulations to all who qualified.
Our cruiser fleet has continued to expand and is expected to reach double-figures this season for the first time in many years. We will have a Cruiser Captain on the committee in 2026 in recognition of this. Whilst this is great to see, dinghies still represent 85% of our fleet and dinghy sailing remains at the heart of the club. If I had

one wish for the coming season, it would be to see the enthusiasm shown for the cadet and adult regattas repeated across the rest of the sailing programme.

A lot of work has been carried out on the club's documentation in the last year. Whilst I'm aware that this is not the most exciting subject, correct processes and procedures are essential tools for successfully running a club in the 21st century. During 2025 we have updated or created new documents detailing the club's Sailing Risk Assessment, Code of Conduct, Support Boat Standard Operating Procedures and, subject to a vote near the end of this meeting, the Club Rules, which have been updated with the purpose of simplifying and clarifying them, modernising the language in which they are written, and bringing them up to date with the way the club runs today in practice. My thanks go to everyone involved with producing and updating these documents.

On a less dry subject, the club's social calendar for the last year has produced some wonderful events here in the club, for which my thanks to everyone who pulled a pint or poured a single malt, flipped a burger, cooked a sausage, a haggis or a chilli, tossed a salad, booked an act, or simply turned up and had a good time. The Bar Chair is reporting a 4.4% rise in profits for the year, with prices generally held or reduced since last year, which speaks for itself.

The items I have mentioned are the headlines from last year. They represent the tip of the iceberg of the work that goes on to keep this club running. I liken us to a swan gliding serenely above the water, *usually,* whilst a huge amount of paddling goes on under the surface. I am always amazed by the time and dedication that the committee put into making this such a well-run club and offer my heartfelt thanks to all of them for their hard work, help and support over the last 2 years.

As my 2 years as Commodore, and indeed my 8 years as a flag, come to an end, I'd like to wish my successor David Taylor, *subject to a vote,* fair winds for his time in office and to say that I look forward to enjoying another great year, both on and off the water, with everyone at the best yacht club on the Estuary.

Thank you.

Steve Riddell
Commodore.

The Commodore's report was proposed by Kevin Riddell and seconded by Beth Carter.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

9. <u>Vote of thanks to retiring Officers and Committee:</u>

The Hon. Secretary Sharon Riddell handed over to Tony Traynor for his thanks to the retiring Officer, Our Commodore Steve Riddell.

Steve, I can tell you that you have now served your apprenticeship with TEYC. You have been a member for nearly 16 years; you were Rear Commodore for 4 years; Vice

Commodore for 2 years and you have been our Commodore for the last 2 years. You now have the illustrious title of Immediate Past Commodore.

During your term, you have attended various Interclub events on our behalf, showing to others that we have a strong sailing ethos even though we are a small club. You have also been a “hands on” Commodore when it came to club maintenance projects, whether it has been stripping the slipway or decking or supporting the Flag Officers and Committee.

However, it is not all work and no play. Your challenging quiz nights have provided entertaining evenings for all the participants and of course, I must not forget Commodore’s Day when you transformed into the devilish pirate fighting off the cadets who were attacking with their high powered water pistols. Inevitability, as is the custom, you finally ended up walking the plank! All good fun!

I know you take great pleasure in your sailing. It is especially fitting that you won the RNLI Charity Race last year as Sue, your First Lady, who as well as giving great support to the club during your term as Commodore, also carries out valuable work for the RNLI shop. Well done, both of you!

So, on behalf of all the club members, I would like to offer our sincere thanks for your dedicated hard work and for the pleasure you have given us.

Enjoy your retirement and your move as I understand it, into cruiser sailing.

Proposed by Zoe Read and seconded by James Dickson.
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All were in favour, with no abstentions.

Steve gave his thanks to Steph Caten for her years of service doing the Club Accounts.

Steve gave his thanks to Neil Charnock for his years as Trustee for the Club.

10. <u>Election of Flag Officers and Honorary Officers:</u>

The following nominations have been received:

Commodore	David Taylor	Steve Riddell	Zoe Read
Vice Commodore	Zoe Read	David Taylor	Roy Nunn
Rear Commodore	Paul Hunt	David Taylor	Kim Denny
Hon Club Secretary	Sharon Riddell	David Taylor	Kim Denny
Hon Club Treasurer	Chris Sutton	Greg Deeley	Steve Riddell
Hon Sailing Secretary	Roy Nunn	David Taylor	Zoe Read
Hon Social Secretary	Lianne Riddell	Zoe Read	Roy Nunn

Hon Bosun	Kevin Riddell	David Taylopr	Kim Denny
Hon Bar Chair	Tony Field	David Taylor	Sam Read

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

11. Election of General Committee:

The following nominations have been received

Assistant Sailing Secretary	Sam Read	David Taylor	Mickael Nunn
Asst Secretary (Membership)	Beth Carter	David Taylor	Zoe Read
Cadet Liaison	Cheryl Breavington	David Taylor	Roy Nunn
Cruiser Representative	Greg Deeley	David Taylor	Zoe Read
House and Flats	Kit Weller	David Taylor	Kim Denny
Training Officer	Jay Denny	David Taylor	Sharon Riddell
Website and Marketing	Andy Harvey	David Taylor	Sam Read
Welfare Officer	Neil Woodbridge	David Taylor	Kim Denny
	Mickael Nunn	Roy Nunn	Zoe Read
	Kim Denny	Jay Denny	Sharon Riddell
	Dave Caten	David Taylor	Sharon Riddell

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

David Taylor as the new Club Commodore said a few words:

Thank you all for entrusting me with the role of commodore. Looking at the rollcall on our board, I have some very big boots to fill. I hope I pass muster.

I'd also like to personally thank Steve for his advice and guidance over the last two years. I'm really pleased he will remain on the committee as Immediate Past Commodore and hope he will continue to pass on his wisdom.

The new season's programme is almost ready and will be shared soon. There will be more casual sailing days and fewer racing days, showing the club is listening to members' wishes. I don't see a need to make any significant changes to roles, but I want to find ways to get more members involved in helping to run the club, either through formal groups or informal ones focused on specific tasks.

I'm really looking forward to the new sailing year and hopefully getting in more sailing than last year – We got blown out or becalmed a lot! It will be great to see you all around the club and on the water in whatever vessel you feel comfortable using.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

12. Appointment of Club Accountant:

Club members were asked to approve the appointment of Mrs Zoe Read of Xeinadin Accountancy of Billericay.

Neil Woodbridge asked what the charge was for the new accounts fee, Zoe confirmed £500, and Steve confirmed that they did not charge us for this year's accounts due to Zoe doing them over the Christmas and New year period and an Independent partner looked over them to sign them off.

Proposed by Committee and seconded by Lianne Riddell.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

13.Vote in New Rules.:

A group of past Commodores, Neil Woodbridge and Jay Denny and the current Commodore, Steve Riddell got together to modernise and bring the rules up to date. These were passed by the Committee to be voted in at this AGM.

Tony Traynor asked if we were going to display the House Rules, this will be looked into as there are no longer House Rules but incorporating in the new rules and will be displayed on the notice board and website.

Proposed by Committee and seconded by Neil Woodbridge.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

14.Vote for a New Trustee.

Due to the retirement of Neil Charnock a discussion was had at a committee meeting and Neil Woodbridge was put forward for a New Trustee, this was passed by the Committee to be voted at this AGM.

Proposed by Committee and seconded by Lianne Riddell.

All were in favour, with no abstentions.

15. Any other Business.

The Club Secretary Sharon Riddell asked if anyone had any other business or had any questions. There was no other business.

The Secretary closed the meeting at 11:33 hours.