



SGBA News

“THE TIME HAS COME...”

Over the 10 years that I have been involved with the SGBA two things have repeatedly concerned me that need to be addressed. One is the limited durability of the Club's tenure in rented accommodation, and the other is the woeful lack of facilities for servicing busy events at the quarry.

Mill Point is the focus of the Club's outdoor activities, and anyone who has attended the hugely oversubscribed Junior Sailing Course, or the exciting Club Regattas in September, or the popular Sunday sailing, will not have failed to notice that one “Portaloo” parked outside the Boat Store just will not do. Member surveys highlighted the desire for “all tide access” to the Quarry, and secondly suitable facilities for boaters at Mill Point. With the completion of “Neil's Steps”, the first “wish” has been granted. Now a volunteer has stepped forward to help the Club raise funds – in the form of Julian Williams, who has done this job before.

The Club's status as a CASC (Community Amateur Sports Club) limits our prospects for fundraising and

incidentally exposes Trustees to unacceptable levels of liability. If the Club is granted CIO status (Charitable Incorporated Organisation), many more doors are opened to funding for improvements, and that is why I am calling an Extraordinary General Meeting on July 18th to discuss the application.

Mill Point is a long walk from a permanent toilet, lecture area and changing room, and still has no showers! A permanent facility owned by the SGBA, designed for boating, youth training, and with the prospect of encouraging more use of boats and for a longer season is now in prospect. We feel a building designed to sit unobtrusively in the rear of the quarry can be designed to enable the Club to achieve a “great leap forward” and the Committee and helpers are working hard to make it happen. We believe we can meet the needs of the users and still be environmentally acceptable, and are taking advice at all levels to achieve this goal. Do come on Thursday, July 18th.

John Bradbury, Commodore.

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Is it possible?

With Neil's Steps providing all tide access to Mill Point, a team from the committee have been exploring the feasibility of a club facility based on members' requirements from the 2009 survey. The first task was to establish feasibility of providing water, electricity and foul drains to the site. The water supply can be drawn economically from bore holes in the quarry, with the advantage that the same bores would supply ground source heating for the clubhouse. Permissions have been offered that will allow the club to lay drain and electricity connections to the mains supply. The quarry sits in a Flood Risk Zone 3, which requires any occupied space to be 2.8m above the existing quarry floor. Current thoughts are the first floor accommodating changing rooms, showers and toilets with the lower level would contain the contents of the existing boat store, a 'wet' training/meeting room, club equipment currently stored in the existing facility and member locker space. The building would be located on and behind the current boat store site and have a board walk connecting it to Neil's Steps and the quarry floor. We have had expert guidance on what can and cannot be done within the quarry as an AONB site and in respect of Planning and Environmental Agency standards. How do we build it? We would commission contractors for the build but we'd appreciate any volunteers with specialist skills such as architect, drain digger, plumber, timber frame maker etc. Your help and guidance would be appreciated. Please contact **Roger Stobbart, Vice Commodore**

Members Survey

You will have received a questionnaire about the committee's proposal to improve our facilities at Mill Point.

The aim of the questionnaire is to gauge the level of support for the development. A high level of support will greatly increase our chances of obtaining grants to help pay for the new facilities.

To further encourage you to return your questionnaires we will enter the name of every respondent into a Prize Draw in which successful participants will be offered **Free SGBA Membership for 2014**. Moreover, the number of Free Memberships offered will increase as the response rate increases, so there is every incentive for you, your

family and friends in the SGBA to return their questionnaires.

The questionnaires are short and should only take a few minutes to complete. There are separate copies for each club member at your address, except for children under 11 years old. We ask one parent to take younger children into account when answering their own questionnaire. When completed, please return all the copies from your address in the envelope provided, if possible by Thursday 11th July

**IF YOU HAVE NOT HAD A COPY OF THE SURVEY
PLEASE CONTACT THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE SGBA - INFORMATION NOTE FOR MEMBERS, FOR THE EGM ON 18 JULY 2013

What's this all about?

The proposed development at Mill Point Quarry will cost at least £100,000. The Association will contribute £10,000 from current funds but will need to raise at least £90,000, including much from organisations that give grants. Many charitable trusts and foundations only give grants to registered charities. The SGBA is not a registered charity but is entitled to become one since it can fairly be claimed to exist to 'advance amateur sport' (one of the charitable purposes permitted by the Charity Commission). Our chances of success in raising funds would be greater if we did become a registered charity.

Besides that, charitable status would bring certain tax and investment advantages, and would help raise local profile and reputation to the good.

Is there any other reason prompting this big step?

Yes. As currently set up, the Association is placing its four trustees at risk in that they could personally be liable to be sued in the event of an incident leading to a personal injury claim, or for breach of contract. It is unreasonable to expect this of them. Fortunately a new form of registered charity, the 'Charitable Incorporated Organisation' (CIO), brings with it a legal identity for the charity in its own right, negating the need for the Trust and hence for the Trustees. The Committee considers this preferable over the current situation.

So much for the advantages of a change of legal status. What are the disadvantages?

The privilege of charitable status entails also an obligation to run matters strictly in accordance with Charity Commission regulations, and to be open to public scrutiny. This would include submitting Annual Reports and Accounts in a more comprehensive form than at present, and accepting that these

would be made available for the general public to access through the Charity Commission website.

Maintaining compliance with the regulations would be the responsibility of a number of new Charity Trustees, drawn from the membership. (These would not be the same as the existing trustees who would stand down on the winding up of the current Trust). They would meet at least twice a year, separate from the Executive Committee of the SGBA (but there would be overlap in membership between the two). A number of volunteers from the current Committee have come forward; there remains room for more member trustees. All nominations need to be approved by the membership, and later accepted by the Charity Commission.

So, in summary, one disadvantage is that the 'administrative overhead' would increase – but the Committee considers this is more than outweighed by the benefits of charitable status. No other disadvantages have been identified.

Why is it necessary to wind up the Association in its current form?

Charity Commission regulations do not permit a charity also to have the status of a 'Community Amateur Sports Club' (CASC) – which is what the SGBA is now. If we get charitable status, we will have to give up being a CASC – which is no loss, since the benefits of charitable status are greater than those as a CASC. The SGBA's Rules require that winding up can only be approved by a vote at a General Meeting, hence the third Resolution.

How can I find out more about CIO?

The Charity Commission have a web site that provide a detail explanation of the CIO go to

<http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk>

Notice to Members

The Dinghy Park Manager

I'm really pleased to see that the majority of boat owners have taken to heart the request to do the 5 things that that help keep members' boats in good condition and the dinghy park safe and tidy by:

- 1 Tying their boats down to their launching trolley so they don't drift off in the high spring tides and damage themselves or anybody else's boat. So if you haven't tied your boat firmly to its launching trolley you may well find that I have done so with blue polypropylene rope.
- 2 Having a launching trolley rather than a road trailer. (Have you seen what saltwater does to trailer bearings?)
- 3 Have a bung so that water that comes in can also go out.
- 4 Have a cover that keeps their boats clean and tidy.
- 5 Tying their boats to the chains so they don't wander around when they float on high tides, which they will.

These 5 requirements are in the club bylaws and it's my job to make certain that everybody sticks to them so that we have a nice, clean, well ordered and above all safe site.

Summer Bugs

Summer evenings are really nice down at Mill Point, but most of us don't like to be bitten to shreds by our microscopic flying friends. Most of these creatures like to grow in nice warm stagnant water, and if you are one of those people who haven't tied your cover down properly or made the effort to use some form of structure underneath it so that water does not pool up in it, you will find it makes an excellent breeding ground! Please make sure your boat can drain. (have drill, will travel!)

Attention Mirror Dinghy Owners!

Unless you have a self bailer in your Mirror or have arranged your boat so the water can drain out of it via the stern tank if the bow is kept up high, you will find your boat rotting. There are several Mirrors in this condition in the Dinghy Park, please consider how you will allow the water to drain appropriately from your boat. (Even the best cover will always allow a small amount of rainwater into your boat so do not rely upon it to keep your boat in good condition, you must arrange drainage).

Club Lasers - A Radial rig is now available for use with the club lasers as well as the existing full rig.

Marine Crime

This is a constant problem in all ports, particularly ports in the south west. Crimes range from theft of small items, to organised international gangs robbing facilities of high value outboards, with everything in between. I wish to remind you that Devon and Cornwall Police have an initiative called Operation Kraken, whereby you may report suspicious activity. It is as simple as this: simply call 101 (the Police non-emergency number), and report what you see, quoting Operation Kraken. Further information, including a submission form if you prefer, is available at <http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/SupportAdvice/Terrorism/Pages/Keepourwaterwayssafe.aspx>



Sales and Wanted

For sale - The SGBA Shetland Dory 'Dolphin', 3.2m x 1.47, 3 buoyancy chambers, 2001 Tohatsu 8hp 2 stroke, tiller steered. Good and quick workboat/tender. £650 ono. Contact SGBA Quartermaster



To advertise in the SGBA newsletter Email the Newsletter editor

SGBA Events

2013 Dates	SGBA Event	Start	OOD/contact	Safety Helm	Safety Crew
Friday 5 July	Evening sailing	2129	Roger Astley	n/a	n/a
Sunday 14 July	Club Sailing	900	Howard Rawlings	River Lovejoy	RL to arrange
Tuesday 23 July	Evening sailing	2112	Roger Astley	n/a	n/a
Sunday 28 July	Millpool Challenge		Tiffany Nieuwoudt	n/a	n/a
Sunday 4 August	Club Sailing	1430	Liam Fraser	River Lovejoy	RL to arrange
Thursday 8 Aug	Evening sailing	2047	Roger Astley	n/a	n/a
Sunday 11 August	Blackpool Sands, meet Warfleet	1030	John Bradbury	n/a	n/a
Sunday 18 August	Club Sailing	1400	Charlie Gillmore		
Thursday 22 Aug	Evening sailing	2020	Roger Astley	n/a	n/a
Sunday 1 Sept	Club Sailing	1400	John Bradbury		
Thursday 5 Sept	Evening sailing	1950	Roger Astley	n/a	n/a
Sunday 15 Sept	SGBA Regatta	1330	John Bradbury		
Thursday 19 Sept	Evening sailing	1919	Roger Astley	n/a	n/a
Sunday 22 Sept	Cricket v Dittisham on Middle Back	1330	John Bradbury	n/a	n/a
Sunday 29 Sept	Club Sailing	1200	Julian Williams		
Sunday 13 October	Club Sailing	1100	Roger Astley		
Sunday 27 October	Club Sailing & Lay Up	900			

Volunteers needed for events highlighted in Grey. If you can help please contact the OOD or Roger Astley.

Your Committee - contact details

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