



Commodore's comment – AGM, November 2021



It doesn't seem long ago that I became Commodore of FOSSC, taking over from Ian Cook at the end of 2017. Four years later, I feel that it is time for a different person to take over the reins and bring a different focus to where the club goes in the next few years.

I am pleased to say that given AGM approval, Tony Heming will take over the role of Commodore and I will support Tony through the Rear Commodore's role and also continue to run the Thursday work parties and other club activities.

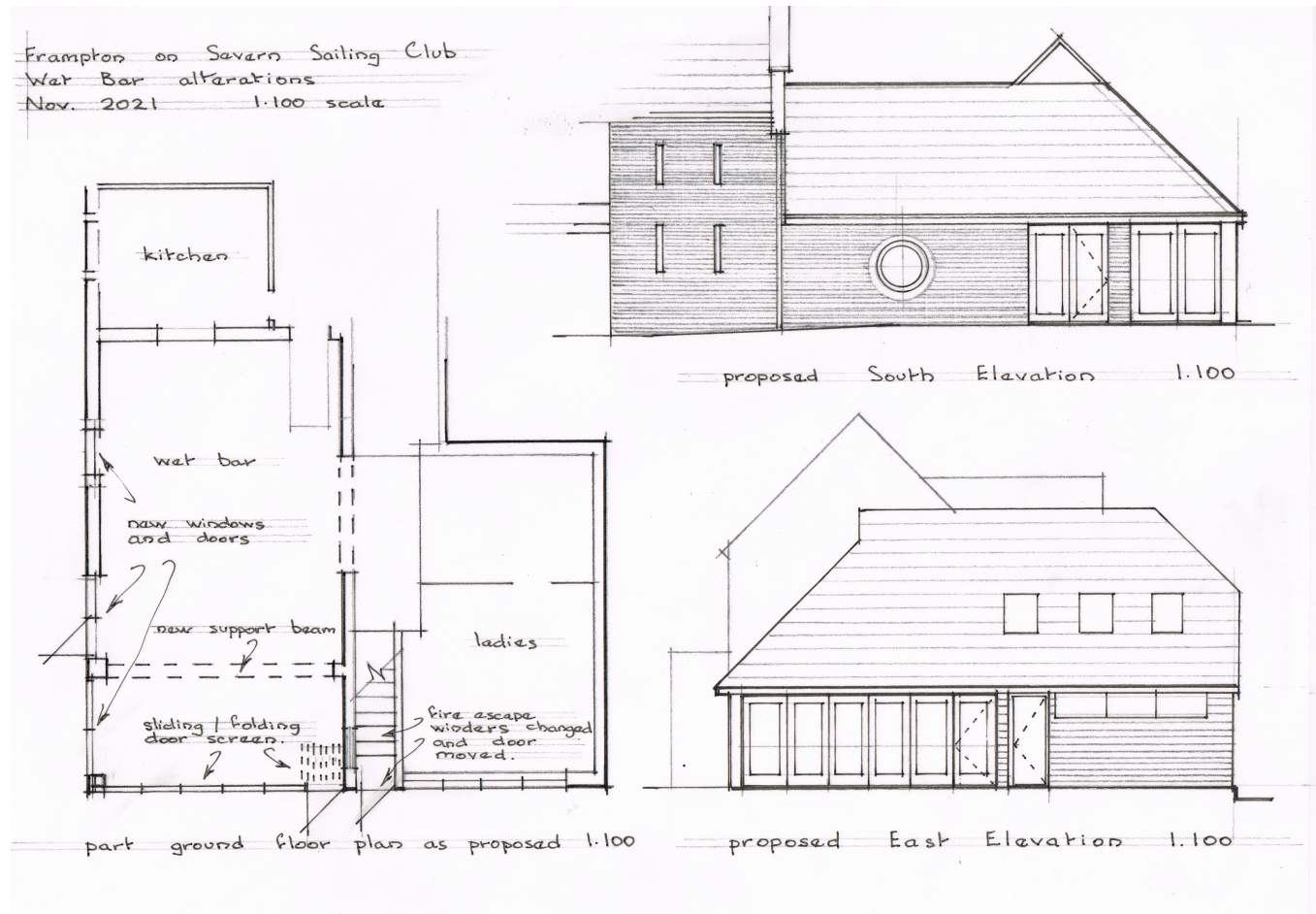
The last 20 months have provided us with out of the ordinary challenges, in particular those arising from the Covid pandemic. FOSSC has survived this period well and as you will see from various other reports, continues to operate in a strong position. Through all the periods of closure or restricted use, the membership has been excellent in adhering to the Covid sub-committee's published guidelines and I would like to thank every one of you for supporting us through this difficult period.

The Sailing Committee have also had to adapt to new ways of carrying out sail training, which has been supported through the purchase of six new Laser Pico sailing dinghies, for which we did manage a grant from Trinity House covering the cost of one and a quarter of them. Patricia has also been able to achieve one of her ambitions which has recently seen the retirement of the Dory, after some 30 years service, in favour of a new Whally rescue boat.



Frampton on Severn Sailing Club

Due to Covid, the final phase of the clubhouse refurbishment (Wet Bar area) was put on hold. With the recent easing of restrictions, a small sub-committee has been put together to start exploring options. This is in early stages but I thought you might like to see the initial drawing that Ian Cook has produced.



Out on the lake we have experienced higher water levels this year with the range varying between 10.65m down to 10.2m. We have learned from previous vegetation cutting experiences and only had vegetation growing on the surface between mid June and mid July. What did catch us out, (and we will apply the learning to next years planning) is that the surface vegetation from areas not cut started detaching during August and drifted all over the lake causing problems to sailors. With the help of the estate, we have also improved the method by which collected vegetation is removed from both the North and South banks, making work party life easier.

The weekly Thursday work party has recommenced and as well as the regular attendees, anyone who has a few hours to spare on a Thursday is more than welcome to come along and join us. It's not hard work, includes social time, but is amazing how much work we get through during the September to April period.



Frampton on Severn Sailing Club

As this is my last formal report to the committee and membership, I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to:

1. The main committee, both past and present members, for the support and encouragement they have provided during the past four years.
2. To the members of the regular Thursday work party, without whom the club facilities would not be in such a good state of repair.
3. To the sailing committee who have managed both the sailing programme and sail training programme around the Covid restrictions and adapted to new ways of working.

In closing this report, I would like to reiterate comments that I included within my October commentary to the membership. There are certain Officer positions and roles within the club which are vital to its success. The club continually needs to have “churn” for these positions so as to bring in fresh ideas and ways of working. This is essential if the club is to continue to prosper and thrive going forward.

In November the club will be holding its AGM on Wednesday 17th, information regarding this event will be distributed to the membership in early November. We are currently looking for volunteers to come forward and offer to help with the following:

- **Honorary Secretary.** Andy Crofts has fulfilled this role for the past seven years and is now looking for a replacement person to step into his shoes.
- **Vice Commodore.** I will be stepping down as Commodore at the next AGM (to become Rear Commodore) and Tony Heming will be taking on the role. Tony has been the Vice Commodore for the last four years and is looking for an individual to support him going forwards.
- **A Junior Safeguarding Officer.** This is not a demanding role but is a requirement for the club to have a named individual.
- **Social Committee person.** For many years, this has been an individual but the committee feel that this would be more suited to a small group of people who could share the role. Increasing the number and level of social activities within the club is something that the committee is very keen on promoting.
- **Membership Support .** A person (or persons) who would be willing to come along to FOSSC on an ad-hoc basis to provide introduction interviews to potential new members. Lorraine is the membership secretary, but her current work commitments are making it difficult for her to fulfill this part of the overall membership role.

If you are willing to consider any of these positions or would like more information, please contact either Andy Crofts, Tony Heming or myself.

David Coates.
Commodore.