

# Business Plan

## For

# Rosehearty Community Boat Club

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The following appendices are available:-

Previous financial statements

Three year financial forecast.

## 2. Executive Summary

Rosehearty Community Boat Club is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) whose function is to :

- Preserve traditional small boatbuilding skills and pass these on to younger generations.
- Train members (young and old) in boat handling skills and sail training.

Our office bearers are as follows:

President : Ian Downie  
Vice-President : John Burnett  
Chairperson : Peter Crawford  
Secretary : Graham Souter  
Treasurer : Robert Watt

Boatbuilding team – Ian Downie, Graham Souter, John Burnett, Ian Gatt

The Club has been in existence for over 12 years and has grown consistently over that period from both a practical and financial stand point. From our starting point we have expanded our operations to include sail training as well as traditional boat building. There is a club membership of over 30 ranging in age from primary school children to adults in their eighties.

The boatbuilding takes place in 'the Red Kirkie' – a converted church set up as a workshop and storage facility. The sail training takes place in the sheltered waters of the loch, and, weather permitting, in the wider sea.

We use a wide range of promotional tools e.g. Club Website, Facebook, Posters, Newspaper articles, Promotional talks, Open Day

Funds are held in the Clydesdale Bank, Fraserburgh. There are currently two accounts; A general fund and a special fund established to maintain the Rosehearty Adventurer (this money was gifted to the club for this specific purpose).

Income and expenditure is recorded in a ledger and the accounts are audited annually by a qualified accountant. These are presented to the members at the AGM.

On-going costs (utilities, insurance etc.) are covered by the proceeds of an annual open day. Materials for building, tools etc. are covered by the membership and training fees which are set at a realistic level and are not prohibitive to anyone.

Our future plans include converting the building formerly used as the caravan site toilet block into a clubhouse and storage facility. This could also be made available to different community groups.

We aim to encourage both youngsters and adults to sail in the excellent waters off Rosehearty.

## 3. Functional Areas

The key operating areas of our business are two-fold. Namely:-

- the preservation of traditional small boatbuilding skills and passing these on to younger generations.
- Training members (young and old) in boat handling skills generally and sail training in particular

### 3.1 Management

The main office bearers in the Rosehearty Community Boat Club are as follows:-

President : Ian Downie – chief traditional boatbuilder (50+yrs experience in small boat building)

Chairperson : Peter Crawford - calls and chairs meetings. Peter is also our Child Protection Officer (PVG)

Secretary : Graham Souter – prepares agendas, writes minutes and deals with other secretarial tasks e.g. letter writing, preparing newspaper articles maintaining the membership roll. Graham is also the Club's chief sail training officer with 40+yrs sailing experience. He has also built several Optimist sailing dinghies over the past year.

Treasurer : Robert Watt – maintains the Club's financial records and deals with all money matters

Boatbuilding team – Ian Downie, Graham Souter

Engineering team - John Burnett, Ian Gatt

Trustees: Ian Duthie, John Burnett, Peter Crawford, Ian Downie, Dawn Duncan, Jane Gatt, Graham Souter, Linda Watt, Robert Watt.

The trustees are responsible for the running of the club.

Reporting to the membership is undertaken by the trustees at the Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.).

A small executive group meets occasionally to look at forward planning and makes recommendations to the trustees.

### 3.2 Business Details

The contact addresses of the main officials are :

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Chairperson | Mr Peter Crawford<br>Rosehearty<br>Fraserburgh<br>AB43 7NW<br>Tel no 01346 571651<br>Email <a href="mailto:crawffypm@gmail.com">crawffypm@gmail.com</a>      |
| President   | Mr Ian Downie<br>Rosehearty<br>Fraserburgh<br>AB43 7JN<br>Tel no 01346 571292  |
| Secretary   | Mr Graham Souter<br>Rosehearty<br>Fraserburgh<br>AB43 7JU<br>Tel no 01346 571020<br>Email:   |
| Treasurer   | Mr Robert Watt<br>Rosehearty<br>Fraserburgh<br>AB43 7JT<br>Tel no 01346 571751<br>Email <a href="mailto:bobmwatt@btinternet.com">bobmwatt@btinternet.com</a> |

### 3.3 Corporate Structure

We are a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Charity number SC045366

### 3.4 Skills and Assets

To date the Club has built one traditional sailing yole from scratch – “Pride o’ Rosehearty”

A naval launch has been completely refurbished and fitted out with a new engine and propulsion system - “Rosehearty Adventurer”

Four Optimist sailing dinghies have been built from scratch

An 18’ Drascombe Lugger was gifted to the club in damaged condition and has been repaired.

Two Mirror Miracle sailing dinghies have been purchased.

A Javelin sailing dinghy was gifted to the club and has been refurbished.

The club has acquired a sailing yole - “Shaka” and a motor boat – “Excel”. These are two traditionally built boats awaiting refurbishment and fitting out.

As the result of a grant from Awards for All we have acquired a RIB and put several club members through RYA rescue boat courses to enhance safety.

A quad bike has been purchased to aid launching and recovery of the boats on the beach.

We have an extensive range of woodworking tools.

Our main sail trainer, Graham Souter, is an RYA Senior Instructor, who has over 40 years sailing experience and many years teaching youngsters to sail.

Our chief boatbuilder, Ian Downie, has a lifetime of experience building, maintaining and sailing wooden boats.

Our chief engineer, Ian Gatt, has an enormous range of skills and contacts which enable a multitude of jobs to be done within the club.

### 3.5 Statement

#### **Statement**

Build and restore traditional wooden boats.

Provide instruction in safe boat handling skills and an educational program for our members and the wider community.

Maintain a high standard of excellence in all aspects of our operations.

Promote and encourage fellowship within the community.

### 3.6 Goals & Objectives

## **GOALS**

- Provide facilities and instruction for those who wish to learn skills associated with boat handling.
- Pass on traditional boat building skills in order to preserve them for future generations.
- To facilitate acquisition of both boat building and boat handling skills to members of the community who wish to acquire them.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- Maintain our current provision of boat building expertise, tools, materials and facilities.
- Convert our new premises to provide changing facilities, a teaching and educational area, a social meeting place and an equipment storage area.
- Acquire sufficient boats/dinghies to meet the training needs.
- Train a sufficient number of volunteer leaders.

The above goals and objectives will be reviewed and adapted if necessary on an annual basis.

### **3.7 Background/History**

Rosehearty Community Boat Club grew out of the need for a safe and secure environment for the building and storage of traditional Yole sailing boats. Between 1995 and 2002 the club operated under the umbrella of the Rosehearty Community Project

In 1995 the idea of building a traditional sailing Yole was discussed and the actual start of the building was in 1997. This Yole was built by many senior and junior members of the community in Rosehearty. Some of these junior members went on to find employment using the disciplines they had been taught in the club. After the completion and launch of the "Pride O' Rosehearty" in 2002 it became obvious that there was a need for larger and more secure premises. Aberdeenshire Council were approached about the possibility of a lease on the Red Kirk on in Rosehearty, a ten year lease was granted and a further thirty year lease was signed in 2012.

Since the launching of the Yole she has been used extensively in and around Rosehearty and on several occasions has sailed to and participated in the Portsoy Traditional Boat Festival.

In 2002 the club was gifted an ex naval launch that was in need of repair. A very comprehensive rebuild was undertaken and a new engine purchased. The Rosehearty Adventurer was completed in 2010 and is used as an introduction to boat handling, as an escort/rescue boat and also to take residents and visitors out fishing or to visit the wildlife and scenery along the coast.

In the winter of 2012 two Optimist dinghies were constructed by a member of the club. Sail training for the youngsters of the village commenced in the summer of 2013. Aberdeenshire Council very kindly allowed the club the use of the toilet block as changing facilities and first aid post.

Since then more boats have been added to the club's fleet, the old toilet block has been purchased from Aberdeenshire Council and we have continued to develop our sailing programme. As our sailors have become more experienced they have been able to venture farther.

#### **4. Operations**



Boat building has been on-going for over 12 years. The boatbuilding activities take place in the Red Kirk, , Rosehearty. The Red Kirk is open during the afternoons Monday - Friday for adult members. A small number of youth members meet on Wednesday evenings under the guidance of two experienced boatbuilders.. The boatbuilding has taken the form of building traditional boats from scratch and refurbishing and refitting older craft. Skills involved include using both traditional hand and modern woodworking tools. On Wednesday evenings these skills are taught to youngsters as well as some basic seamanship.

A more recent development has been the provision of sail training to youngsters and adults. To get this off the ground four Optimist sailing dinghies have been built and fitted out. These craft are easy to launch and retrieve and are considered the ideal entry level craft for youngsters, being light, stable and easy to handle. Other boats have been acquired subsequently to cater for a greater variety of ages and degrees of competence.

Over the past four summers sailing sessions have been taking place every second weekend (Saturdays and Sundays). This is to accommodate the state of the tide as the Port Rae (bay) is tidal. Safety cover has been provided by our motor launch ("Rosehearty Adventurer") and our RIB.

We have also been able to operate some mid-week sessions for adults and we are now at the stage that some of them are sufficiently competent and confident to take a boat out without supervision.

#### **4.1 Compliance with legal responsibilities & insurance requirements**

We hold public liability insurance (£3m)  
The boats are insured when in the water (April- September)  
We have a PVG officer who uses CRBS (Central Registered Body in )  
to conduct the necessary checks  
Health & Safety policy to be created and kept up to date (included in review process)  
Boats are assessed, insured and comply with safety regulations  
We comply with equality legislation

## **5. Marketing Strategy**

We promote the club through

- Website
- Facebook
- Posters
- Newspaper articles
- Promotional talks
- Open Day

We have a track record of co-operating with other local groups - Rosehearty Action Group, Rosehearty Bonfire Committee, local primary school and youth groups. Local fishing boat owners frequently come to the Red Kirk for help and advice. During our sailing sessions we were pleased to see many parents coming to watch and to assist. We also saw older members of the community stopping to watch, to chat, to pass on friendly advice and comment and to make donations of equipment.

### **5.1 Financial Sustainability**

On-going costs (utilities, insurance) are covered by the proceeds of an annual open day. Materials for building, tools etc. are covered by membership and training fees which are set at a realistic level designed not to be prohibitive to anyone.

### **5.2 Location**

At present, the club operate from the Red Kirk, , the beach at the and temporarily from the caravan site toilet block. It is our aim to make this temporary arrangement permanent.

The sheltered waters in the are probably the best, for sail training, in Aberdeenshire.

## **6. Financial Management**

Funds are held in the Clydesdale Bank, Fraserburgh. There are currently two accounts; A general fund and a special fund established to maintain the Rosehearty Adventurer (this money was gifted to the club for this specific purpose).

Income and expenditure is recorded in a ledger and the accounts are audited annually. These are presented to the members at the AGM.

## **6.1 Assets**

Red Kirk workshop and storage facility (leased)  
Former Caravan Site toilet block  
Wide range of hand and workshop power tools  
4 traditional boats  
7 sail training dinghies  
Drascombe Lugger  
RIB  
Rubber dinghy  
Several outboard engines  
Stock of wood and boatbuilding materials  
Life jackets, buoyancy aids, VHF radios

## **7. Review and Monitoring**

At the end of our first year of sail training we invited parental feedback. The responses were 100% supportive. Subsequent feedback has also been positive.

## **8. Future Developments**

Our vision for the former Caravan Site toilet block would see the interior of the building being cleared and redeveloped in three sections.

We would like to create a large room at the end nearest the sea. With the addition of suitable windows this room would have views over the bay and would be used as a meeting and teaching room. The social aspect of the club will be very important and this room will allow members to get together on formal and informal occasions. It will also be used for teaching. There are many theoretical aspects of sailing and seamanship which have to be passed on.

The central part of the redeveloped building would be devoted to toilets, showers and changing accommodation.

The part nearest to the road would become a workshop/store with a toilet which would be accessible from outside the building. This toilet would be available to harbour users, with a key kept in the harbour office.

Our current premises in the Red Kirk have an area for building new boats and refurbishing old boats. This space is heated. It also has room to store boats and equipment, but our increasing fleet is starting to outgrow this space. It does not have heated space for winter maintenance and it does not have toilets.

Our vision is to have both youngsters and adults sailing in the excellent waters off Rosehearty. We are also open to the idea of developing Coastal Rowing if the demand proves to be sufficiently strong. We believe that all this will have both recreational and social benefits to the participants but it will also benefit the wider community. It will add colour and vibrancy; it will add to the feeling that something else is happening in the community that anyone with the will can be part of.