1. Welcome:

James Curtis (acting Chair) welcomed people to the meeting.

2. Apologies:

John Reynolds

3. Review of 2022 and 2023 to date:

The 500 Class had a full 2022 National Tour sponsored by Rooster in line with the other RS Classes for the first time in recent years. This was seen as a real positive, with good turnouts at the events.

3 events run so far in 2023, with lower attendance than in 2022.

4. 2024 and beyond

The majority of those present flet that 2-day events were preferred, well-spaced throughout the season and at clubs with home RS500s.

There was discussion over the number of events, with some preferring a bigger calendar and others a few focussed events.

James Curtis discussed joining a series of multiclass events being arranged by the 4000, ISOs, Cherubs etc. Those present were interested, but felt that it might be better to stick with the other RS classes.

Sally (Class Secretary) requested 1 or 2 sailors step forward to gather the views of the fleet and give direction for the 2024 programme.

There will be an RS 30th anniversary at HISC in 2024 which the 500s will be part of, it will be the 2024 Nationals. There is also a possibility of a Nationals at Mounts Bay in 2025, SC to follow up.

5. Coaching

A coaching day took place at BCYC, whilst the turnout was disappointing, those present benefitted greatly from it. Thanks to Ian Mairs for his time and efforts.

Andy Maw has agreed to set up an RS500 YouTube Channel and publish videos from the day. Others will also be able to post to the channel.

6. Class Committee

The Chair position is currently vacant, and there is no class committee in place. This makes it very difficult for the Class Secretary to determine the wishes of the fleet and act upon them. Committee roles are not onerous as the secretariat organise and promote events, publish results etc.

If anyone would be willing to take on a role, however small, please contact Sally.

7. Communication

The class has an active Facebook group https://www.rs500.org/ and website https://www.rs500.org/

There is also a class WhatsApp group for sailors to arrange/suggest events to attend. If any members would like to be added, please contact Sally.

8. Technical

A discussion was held re a kicker jammer, whether as a modification or RS fitted unit on new boats. If a change is required a proposal needs to be put forward and a vote held.

A request was also made to have replacement spinnaker socks for old style boats to be available in the new style material. Sally asked Paul Cullen to put forward a request to be submitted to RS Sailing.

There is a committee vacancy for a class technical rep.

9. AOB

Nothing raised.