

## ULSAC minutes 29-11-07 Addendum

### **Boat Officer's Report:**

Rascal has been at BHG for two weeks to check a problem with the engines. The problems aren't as bad as originally feared (see last month's minutes). One engine just needs some TLC and the other is a smaller job than anticipated.

The steps are a problem: new steps can't be welded to the remaining housings. Each needs a new bottom casing at £400/engine. Once the casing is open, additional work might need to be done (replacing bearings, general engine maintenance) which could raise the cost to £1200/engine. Happily all this will be covered by our insurers. Two-stroke engines cannot be legally sold in the EU any more, so sourcing parts will be difficult. It's possible – although unlikely – that they'll declare the engines "beyond economical repair" and we'll end up with shiny new four-stroke engines instead.

Until the repairs are carried out, the engines can still be used as normal. We just need to be careful in shallow water because the propellers are unprotected. Using the engines will not bias our insurance claim, as the insurers are required to pay for the engines to be fixed to a Yamaha servicing centre's (in our case BHG's) satisfaction.

Nick and Richard went to Chiswick where they tidied the garage and performed maintenance on Scoundrel. Too few people were available to move Hippo, so the planned work on the deck couldn't be done.

Other people are storing things in our garage. We'll notify other Boat House users that it needs to be removed. Nathan (from the Boat House, not N. Long) agrees that after February we can keep or dispose of anything that's still in there.

We have a marquee in the garage, not used since 2005. Some of the poles are bent, but if these are replaced it should be fine.

Also found was a bag of expired and corroding flares. These will be driven to MCA, who'll dispose of them for us.

The stern line debate can wait until we actually need the boat again.

Nick suggested organising a radio course, which would be especially useful for all our budding boaties. We'd need to get an outside instructor.