



AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB

MINUTES

**Committee meeting held at Saltford Rowing Centre, Saltford
Monday, 10 November 2014, at 7:30pm**

Present: Penny Senior, Debbie Blackmore, Julian Sondheimer, Philippa Sondheimer, Jim Dawson, Clair Ponting, Antony Constantinidi, Parveen Jones

Apologies: Helen Willcox, Sallyanne Lewis

Minutes of Last Meeting - approved and adopted

Update Action List – updated version will be circulated

Boat and Equipment Maintenance Plan – Specific repair decisions are on hold until the annual boat checking is complete. Historically we spend between £5-6k per annum on repairs/refurbishment. We agreed that should our bills fall short of (roughly) £6k in a year, the 'excess' will be earmarked for refurbishment work in the following financial year.

Reports (previously circulated) –

Captain & Juniors – Penny has ordered some adjustable shoes to see if they will work for us, particularly in the boats used by a wide range of members. Also ordering blue Janousek shoes in women's sizes, and black Eton Rowing shoes in men's sizes. It's hoped that introducing a bit of colour coding will help people assess which boat they should use.

Agreed that squad fundraising (as opposed to general club fundraising) could get the momentum going for boat purchases.

The sliding 8's racks and the blade racks are ready. The supplier will meet with a crew of members on Friday to provide assembly training.

Debbie will do some test labels for the new singles racking.

We agreed to retire the Mucat to dry land until and unless it is needed for an event. Kingswood are planning to purchase a launch to be stored in the West Wing. It is anticipated that we would be able to use this launch in the event of the Eton being broken, or when we want two launches on the water. Antony is going to ask Darrell if there is any possibility of leaving the Eton in the marina. If we have to move it to the club and store it in the West Wing, it will be extremely difficult for many of the coaches to use it.

Men – the squad is getting to critical mass now, and Parveen's efforts were acknowledged. The chronic shortage of coxes should be addressed by getting the men to take it in turns to cox.

Women – no matters arising

Novices - the proposed Pubs & Clubs plan, and March taster sessions were approved

Safety – Sallyanne to be asked to clean and restock the three launch bags.

Boathouse Management Committee Issues – A communal 'safety' notice board needs to be installed. And a communal first aid kit, emergency blankets and a defibrillator purchased.

The BT line is in and we are waiting for wiring work to be done to connect the various alarms to the line.

Once the alarm is active, the opening routine will always be to enter the facilities block first, turn off the alarm, and then proceed to the boathouse.

Darrell is getting quotes for fencing along the lane and ditch.

We are awaiting a quote for hand/hair dryers, a cooker hood and conversion of the change room lights from switch to automatic.

We need to acquire a Wayleave document regarding the water access through Saltford Marina's lane.

Finance/Subs (previously circulated) – We need to get the Kingswood agreement finalised and signed off.

The Explore boats have been ordered and a deposit paid. The addition of 2 doubles to the order was made possible only through a generous donation from Philippa and Julian Sondheimer, to whom the Committee extended their thanks.

Events – Avon Autumn 70 entries to date.

Spring Head – work has begun on a 'joint event plan' to ensure *all* events running out of Saltford Rowing Centre can use the same safety/welfare/emergency plans.

New Members – Sam Rosoman, Maddy Clay, Charlotte Cutbill, Ellie Lester

Any Other Business –WAGS AGM being held at clubhouse Sunday, 23 November. Everyone welcome.

Clair doing the catering for the UBBC Head. Looking for a decent urn to purchase.

Pudding Head – 21 December

Parveen to set up a Twitter account for the club

Date and Time of Next: Monday, 15 December, Saltford Rowing Centre, 7:30 pm

Captains report:

Equipment - repair

Debbie has completed the shoe audit. I plan to replace the smaller shoes with Janousek blue shoes and the larger ones with Eton Rowing Services black ones (on the basis that none seem to last very long) I have ordered 4 pairs of the adjustable shoes to try but they aren't here yet.

Fang and Derek have been taken to 'Soggy boat repairs' in London (by Jon Garner) to be mended.

Historic boat maintenance expenditure:

2014	4291
2013	6044
2012	2929
2011	5382
2010	3993
2009	5120
2008	2926

Boat wish list.

See attached for what we prioritized earlier this year. I think we need to review and then encourage the various squads to help fund raise. I think we should have separate 'funds' for each of the squads.

Sculling Blades

4 pairs for each of womens, mens, juniors and beginners squads have not been ordered yet.

Blade racks

Is being made!

Sculling racks

See attached for a suggested singles plan

Launches

I think we need to have a launch review. Both in terms of where they are stored (as the marina want us to leave) and what launches we actually need.

Results

Events

AAH

City of Bristol

Matters Arising

Launch review.

Singles plan.

Boat wish list.

Junior Coordinators Report:

Newbies

We still have a few in viruses but are trying to move them into fine boats as fast as possible.

Sculling Club

Has stopped for this year.

Nothing else to report!

Results

Pangbourne Head

WJ15 1X Molly Churchman

(div 2 was cancelled)

Events

AAH

Wycliffe

Pudding Head

Matters Arising

None

Mens Squad Report:

Racing:

Upper Thames Head

Mas G4- Win

Vet Fours Head

Mas G4- 2nd

Crews:

We have two eights training on a regular basis, an intermediate crew on Saturdays and a masters crew on Sundays. These crews are a mix of experienced and relatively novice rowers, hopefully this will improve the beginners. These eights along with a number of other mens crews will be racing at Avon Autumn. We also have four new men from the learn to row which we hope to integrate asap. The limiting factor is, unsurprisingly, lack of coxes. It is great that we have fours and eights forming for head season but without coxes it is somewhat unsustainable.

Matters Arising: None

Women's Report

No problems arising this month.

Vets Fours Head Mas C 4+ came second in their division, shame about the weather and the course being shorten, although I think fun was had by all in the end (when it stopped raining!)

Three eights entered for City of Bristol (just!) hoping to send three out for Avon Autumn Head too. Two Mas 4+ crews entered, but lack of competition for the Masters which is frustrating.

New Crew Configurations TBC this week going forward, including a few reshuffles and incorporating the new LTR novice women.

Grace Bramer agreed to be the Women's Social Organiser and Christmas meal plans are underway (for the women only I am afraid!)

Beginner Report November 2014

The August beginners - Eleven (four men and seven women) of the final 13 August beginners had their final session on 26th October and were then "handed over". One man had already joined the men's squad as he had done some sweep rowing in another life. Clair is still mentoring Kim in the Virus and making gentle progress.

I understand that Helen and Parveen have made contact with most of the new people and, indeed, some of the ex-beginner women have been swept into novice eights for City of Bristol.

JTU - Sunday JTU started has now been revived although there will be a hiccup for the City of Bristol day. An eight went out on Sunday 9th November so it is all worth a try.

Life in 2015- Two Explore quads and two doubles have been ordered from Janousek. With any luck they will be here by March when the next lot of taster sessions begins. Our planned dates are :

Taster 1 - Saturday 21st March

Taster 2 - Sunday 22nd March

Taster 3 - Sunday 29th March

We are away Good Friday (3rd April) and Easter Saturday but could offer more follow-up Virussing on Easter Day and Easter Monday if anyone is interested. The idea would be to get the adults out of Viruses and into Explore quads ASAP to leave the Viruses free for juniors.

For Sport England we have to fulfil various criteria relating to visits as well as people (classified by age and sex) so I shall need to alter my record-keeping a little and we shall need to maximise the offering of tasters to get people onto the water at least once! So the Taster Days might be a bit long.

I am also hoping that Taster 1 can be Day 2 of a Beginner Helpers' Course. We need a Day 1 classroom session first (before the actual tasters) and then the new helpers can start the taster day by watching then helping then coaching.

As our boats are not funded by British Rowing we do not have any criteria regarding hiring out the boats or running beginner events. But I am hoping to run a Pubs and Clubs (Beginners) as part of the Saltford Festival River Day on 21st June 2015 and I have a meeting about this on Tuesday 11th November.

Issues - Does the committee support the above ideas for Life in 2015?

Philippa

AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB							
Financial Report for Committee Meeting on 10 November 2014							
		This report (10/11/14)	Previous report (13/10/14)	Change			
1. BANK BALANCE							
	Interest rate						
Current account - General		19,102	16,882	2,220			
Current account - Captain		4,203	3,543	660			
Deposit account	0.05%	948	948	0			
100 Club account		4,650	4,650	0			
CAF Cash account		2,872	2,793	79			
CAF Gold account	0.15%	1,198	1,198	1			
Virgin Money account	1.00%	17,250	17,250	0			
CAF 90 day notice account	0.75%	571	571	0			
Total in bank		50,794	47,835	2,960			
General excludes subs standing order receipts since 08/11/14							
There are also accounts for ACRC events: HSBC (all except Bristol Avon Regatta), NatWest (Bristol Avon Regatta)							
Debtors: Entries & gym/landtraining		1,187	1,990	(803)			
Debtors: Kit		518	219	299			
Total entries & kit debtors		1,705	2,209	(504)			
Debts incurred before 01/04/11 excluded. excludes Pangbourne entries							
2. MAJOR INCOME & EXPENDITURE ITEMS SINCE LAST REPORT							
(excluding normal routine items)							Amount
Janousek - Explore boats (deposit)			5,000				
Rudkin Design - racks (deposit)			1,095				
Concrete for bank extension			336	shared			
Kingswood School - 44 x £9/month 4 months			1,584	income			
BR site development grant - final claim			3,000	income			
3. IMPENDING MAJOR EXPENDITURE/INCOME							
							Amount
Duchy's legal fees - Farrants fees 23/01/13 to date			3,000	our share approx			
ACRC's legal fees - Stone King fees 30/04/13 to date			1,000	approx			
sliders for racking, oar racks			6,000	approx			
Explore boats (after Gift Aided donation)			7,076				
oars (Explore grant commits ACRC to spend c 2400 on beginner oars)			??				
DEVELOPMENT (EXCL LEGAL FEES)							
Duchy of Cornwall - still to pay			4,796				
Duchy of Cornwall - interest to pay			369				
Sport England site development - final claim			5,000	income			
NET REMAINING DEVELOPMENT (EXCL LEGAL FEES)							166
4. FINANCIAL ISSUES							

