



# AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB

## MINUTES

### **Committee meeting held at Solo Cottage, Keynsham Monday, 16 June 2014, at 7:30pm**

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

**Apologies:** Helen Willcox, Antony Constantinidi

**Minutes of Last Meeting** - approved and adopted

**Update Action List** – **Penny** to chase Ian Vickery regarding blade painting, now that we have space in which to paint. **Debbie** to do an Empacher slot inventory, find someone to take on installing/repairing same, and **Jim** will provide necessary training.

The Environment Agency have been in touch in response to a complaint made by a 'member of the public', who saw our request in Rowing Notices for help tipping rubble into the river. Antony has replied to the complaint and we are waiting to hear if there will be any further action.

#### **Reports (previously circulated) –**

Captains & Juniors –The Committee approved the subsidization of Parveen Jones' L2 coaching fees, and a cheque was raised for £125. Special mention made of our Women's J14 2X, who won at National Schools – a wonderful result!

Men – Parveen Jones was welcomed as new men's co-ordinator. No matters arising.

Women – No matters arising

Beginners – No matters arising

**Club Development (report from A Constantinidi previously circulated)** The racking is a work in progress, as we learn how best to use the space. There will be an electronic beam running across the front of the boatshed as part of the alarm system. We must ensure racked boats do not encroach on this beam. The facilities block is coming along nicely. A graphic designer has been asked to make some suggestions about co-ordinated signage between the three clubs.

**Finance/Subs** – the Assistant Treasurer reported that there had been discussions with the examiner of the Club's accounts about the accounting treatment of the Club's contributions to the new buildings. These had concluded that the new buildings should be excluded from the Club's Balance Sheet. The sums the Club is committed to pay towards the site development would be shown in the Income and Expenditure Account for the year to 31/03/14 as an exceptional expense. This had the advantage of Balance Sheet simplicity in future years, while retaining adequate Balance Sheet strength. He stressed that this was purely an accounting issue, which did not necessarily imply anything about the real value of the buildings, which would be difficult to determine. He made a brief presentation of a near final version of the accounts for the year to 31/03/14, which he had previously circulated.

He reported that when the buildings are completed and the final costs are known, a detailed statement would be prepared listing all the costs and the sources of the funds, for the Club's records.

Restricted Fund: he drew the Committee's attention to the issue of the use of the Restricted Fund. This contains funds from sources which had placed a restriction on how the funds could be used. The main such source was the Avon County (March) Head Committee (over £22,000). The Committee agreed that the Avon County (March) Head Committee should be asked to agree that its contributions to the Restricted Fund may be used to fund the site development expenditure.

Financial Report: the Assistant Treasurer presented the Financial Report. He pointed out that the Club had about £30,000 spare cash after meeting current commitments.

Subs Increase: It was agreed to wait for another year before considering a subs increase. We will want to think about asking members to nominate a portion of their subs as a Gift Aid donation, which Gloucester RC have instituted and which meets with HMRC approval.

Our membership numbers are below the target set by BR as part of the grant agreement, however considering the floods and lack of a boathouse for the past year, we feel we have done better than expected in terms of attracting and retaining members.

**AGM** – no date agreed for AGM, but it must be held by 30 September. **Debbie** to circulate a draft AGM Agenda for input. This year's AGM will be held at the club.

**Events** – UBBC head race date is 6 December. Debbie to put Tom Clark (UBBC) and Jim in touch with each other.

**New Members** – Junior Jessica Wilks, John-Joseph Brady, Alex Tometzki, Caitlin Chard, Katie Halliwell, James Cox, Jessican Grosvenor, Bethany Ware, Scarlett Roach, Annabel Smith, Molly Noble, Rhys Belcher, Hayden Betts, Sarah Cottam, William Isom Full Tim Griffiths, Dawn Biggs, Jonathan Moore, Tracey Moore, Helen Jacobs, Fiona Lacy, Stevie Dooley, Andy Cole, Clare Rogers

**Kingswood School Proposal (report previously circulated)** – Kingswood would like to row with us (providing their own coaches) in the early slot on Sundays, Sunday afternoons, and quite possibly other weekday afternoons. It was agreed, after some discussion, to offer them Sunday/weekday afternoons only – not the Sunday morning 8:30-10:00 session. **Penny** will draft an agreement covering equipment/launch use, outing times and fees.

**Any Other Business** – BR Junior Championship Crews: The committee approved the entry of the following crews: WJ14 2X, two WJ15 2X, WJ15 4X+, WJ18 2X, J17 1X, J12 2X, and J15 1X

Julian has ordered new tyres for the Virus trolley, which will need installing upon delivery.

**Date and Time of Next:** Monday, 28 July, Solo Cottage Keynsham, 7:30 pm.