



AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE SALTFORD ROWING CENTRE SATURDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 12:00 PM

1. APOLOGIES

Geoff Peattie, Chris Blunt, Gillian Beer, Nick Totman, Rosie Richardson, Simon Richardson, Jon Garner, Andy Mason, Ivor Blackmore, Parveen Jones, Derek Walker, Andrew Barton, Tom Scott, Lionel Cartledge, Chris Hopper

PRESENT

Antony Constantinidi, Keith Trivett, Debbie Blackmore, Penny Senior, Robin Leach, Philippa Sondheimer, Chris Brown, Clair Ponting, Jim Dawson, Helen Willcox, Chris Levan, Graham Hockley, Cathy Churchman, Stephanie May, Molly Churchman, Nick Dolman, Julian Sondheimer, Johnny Curtis, Marian Lovell, Liz Gray

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FOR 2014 AGM

Robin Leach asked that the wording of the first paragraph in item 9 of the 2014 minutes (Treasurer's Report) be changed from 'Our preference is to expense the cost, with a note of explanation, as opposed to showing it on the balance sheet' to 'Our preference is to treat the cost as a one-off item of expenditure in the current year rather than as a capital item on the balance sheet'. There being no objections to this change, Clair Ponting proposed and Penny Senior seconded that the minutes be adopted, with the change. Motion carried.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

4. CAPTAIN'S REPORT (ATTACHED)

No matters arising

5. CO-ORDINATORS' REPORTS (ATTACHED)

No matters arising

6. SAFETY ADVISOR'S REPORT (ATTACHED)

We have reviewed our safety procedures, with input from the WAGS Regional Safety Advisor, and have made some minor changes to procedures as a result. However, the British Rowing inquiry into our safety procedures remains unresolved. We are still waiting for a reply from British Rowing, some 5 months after the last meeting.

It was pointed out we should continue to report *all* incidents online.

7. TRUSTEES' REPORT (ATTACHED)

Antony thanked the trustees for their continued support of the club; and Chris Levan for preparing the accounts.

QUESTION: The £818.84 Accumulated Account figure in the 2013/14 column appears to be a typo.

ANSWER: It is a typo, and a revised copy of the accounts will be sent to the Honorary Secretary.

8. TREASURER'S REPORTS (ATTACHED)

QUESTION: The debtors figure of £11,957 seems high. Do we actively pursue payment?

ANSWER: The timing of the Spring Head, which took place shortly before year end, has inflated the figures. Outstanding subs and kit debtors are actively pursued.

Robin Leach proposed and Keith Trivett seconded that the accounts be adopted. Motion carried.

BOATHOUSE MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS (ATTACHED)

The three rowing clubs on site make regular payments into a pooled fund. Despite having to estimate the running costs for the first year, and it being only a partial year in the end, the estimates were very close to the actual costs. However, our waste disposal costs are proving to be very high. We have obtained a quote of £18,000 from the original contractors to install a treatment plant to replace the cesspit. The University have obtained a quote of £30,000 for the same work. Negotiations continue with the University.

The Boathouse Management Committee will ensure a maintenance reserve of £4,000/year is accrued.

These accounts are approved and adopted by the Boathouse Management Committee, and are presented here for information purposes only.

Antony extended the club's thanks to Julian Sondheimer for keeping the finances organized for both the club and the Boathouse Management Committee.

9. APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Philippa Sondheimer proposed and Keith Trivett seconded the appointment of Chris Levan as external examiner. Motion carried.

10. REPORTS FROM CLUB EVENTS (ATTACHED)

The annual income from club events this year totalled approximately £9,000. Everyone's efforts to run these events is greatly appreciated.

QUESTION: Have we tried to obtain sponsorship from local businesses?

ANSWER: We have tried repeatedly, with limited success.

11. MEMBERSHIP, SUBSCRIPTIONS, AND CHARGES

According to British Rowing, we are one of the few clubs in the country to have increased our membership during a building project. Given the mud, floods and general mess, this is quite an achievement!

To keep our income abreast with inflation the Committee is proposing the following increases to subscriptions, effective 1 April 2016. This increase will only provide sufficient funds to repair, overhaul and maintain the current and rather shabby fleet, although we usually have a small surplus each year – greatly augmented if our events run successfully – so we will replace boats/buy extras when we can but the boat fund will speed up the process.

Membership Category	Current Subs (per month)	Proposed Subs (per month)
Adults	£20	£22
Full Time Students/Juniors	£9	£11
Vacation Students	£30 (for the summer)	No change
Coaching	£4	£5
Rack Rent (per seat)	£4	£5

We are, therefore, further proposing a Voluntary Boat Levy, which members can add to their subs payments. This additional money can be assigned to the boat fund of choice – mens/womens/juniors. It is also eligible for Gift Aid upon completion of a Gift Aid form. The amount you choose to add to your monthly subs is entirely up to you, of course. We know and understand that not everyone will be able to take part. But if those that can help decide to do so our suggestion is to try to gift at least £10 per month, which will be worth £150 to the club in a year (after Gift Aid has been added). We will need over 130 of us to contribute at this level to buy a new 8 so please do all you can!

The Committee will monitor the Voluntary Boat Levy income over the coming year to determine its success and, if there is not sufficient uptake, we will revisit subscriptions at the next AGM.

Penny Senior proposed and Jim Dawson seconded that the subscriptions/charges be raised as outlined above. Motion carried, with 13 voting in favour, and 4 against.

12. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT, OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSER	SECONDER
President/Treasurer	Antony Constantinidi	S Copperman	A Mason
Captain	Penny Senior	C Brown	A Mason
Assistant Treasurer	Julian Sondheimer	M Lovell	C Ponting
Secretary	Debbie Blackmore	P Sondheimer	G Bramer
Men's Co-Ordinator	Parveen Jones	J Sondheimer	A Simpson
Women's Co-Ordinator	Helen Willcox	P Sondheimer	A Scott
Novice Co-Ordinator	Philippa Sondheimer	H Willcox	A Rees
Junior Co-Ordinator	Penny Senior	C Brown	P Jones
Safety Advisor	Sallyanne Lewis	C Brown	A Rees
Committee Members	James Dawson	C Brown	P Lewis
	Clair Ponting	N Dolman	A Mason
	Tom Scott	C Ponting	N Dolman
	Grace Bramer	D Hearne	M Thorne
	Liz Gray	P Sondheimer	D Blackmore

All motions carried.

13. ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENTS

Nominees: Andrew Barton, Julian Bewick, Chris Blunt, Lionel Cartledge, Janet Cooper, Tony Daniel, Graham Hockley, Chris Hopper, Nick Johnson, Robin Leach, Chris Levan, Angus Palmer, Geoff Peattie, Rosie Richardson, Simon Richardson, Penny Senior, Philippa Sondheimer, Julian Sondheimer, Nick Totman, Keith Trivett, Paula Weeks, Malcolm Wilkins, Keith Saunders, Clair Ponting.

Penny Senior proposed and Antony Constantinidi seconded the election of the above-noted Vice-Presidents. Motion carried.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Umpires – More umpires are needed. Robin Leach explained the qualification process. Anyone interested is asked to contact Geoff Peattie directly.

Memorabilia – All three clubs are currently deciding what memorabilia they would like to display in the facilities block. Keith Trivett is championing the project for ACRC.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:05 PM