



# AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB

## MINUTES

**Committee meeting held via video conferencing due to Covid-19 restrictions on travel/social-distancing  
Monday, 27 April 2020, at 7:30pm**

**Present:** Penny Senior, Jane Day, Jon Garner, Philippa Sondheimer, Julian Sondheimer, Carol Friend, Antony Constantinidi, Odette McCarthy, Tim Grice, Debbie Blackmore, Jim Dawson, Patsy Lamb, Will Gray, Clair Ponting

**Apologies:** None

**Minutes of Last Meeting:** Approved and adopted. **Julian** to add links to the various BR Codes of Conduct to our website.

**Captain and Juniors Report** – Nothing to report.

**Other Squad Reports** – as the club has been closed since 17<sup>th</sup> March, no reports were requested from the squad co-ordinators.

**Boathouse Management Committee Issues:** The budget for the financial year ending March 2021 has been circulated to Monkton and the University. MNK have approved it. The University have yet to reply. **Antony** will advise them, in writing, that if they have not replied within 7 days their approval will be assumed.

Network Rail are in the final stages of awarding the contracts for bank stabilisation works, which include installing a culvert through the bridge. Work should begin in June.

**Welfare:** Carol reported that British Rowing's Governance and Welfare department are now providing regular updates to CWOs.

A number of coaches need to update their Safeguarding qualifications, which can be done online. **Penny** will advise the relevant coaches.

Philippa asked about the workshop (which had to be cancelled) to support clubs with the identification, prevention and management of discipline and grievance cases – asking whether it could, when rescheduled, be expanded to include attendees other than CWOs. It was hoped that a senior officer would attend. There was a limited number of places. Carol did ask Darrel (WAGS) if he could ask for slides, etc. to be circulated but the course did not run. Hopefully they will review delivering this again at a new date but not sure how many would be willing to travel to a venue so maybe they will explore Zoom, etc.

**Safety:** Nothing to report.

### **Events:**

**BAR** – Nothing to report

**ASH** – The portaloo company have kindly agreed to apply the credit (result of cancelling ASH) to our next event.

**AAH** – still no Race Manager or Personnel Manager.

MONKTON BLUEFRIARS – There has been no word from Simon Brown as to whether the Bluefriars Trust are going to continue to run their small boats head. **Antony** will write to Simon, and copy Toby Saunders, to ask what the decision is.

If they are no longer prepared to run the race, Philippa asked if AVN might want to run the event. Given Bluefriars' loyal clientele and the fact it nicely complements Avon Autumn's big boats format, Phillipa feels we should seriously discuss assuming the date. We could run it either by ourselves; in partnership with another local club (MIN and BOARC were mentioned); or seek help from Monkton. The latter may prove the best option to avoid resistance from other WAGS clubs and/or BR, as we already run three events.

Jim felt it would be a shame to see the event not run at all, but expressed concerns about a partnership with other clubs. Both Tim and Carol shared this concern. Debbie pointed out that BOARC have experience in running events, and a growing membership – many of whom help at AAH and ASH. Philippa prefers the option to ask Monkton for help.

Patsy wondered why we have so much difficulty getting our own members to help and asked if it was possible to reduce the number of volunteer positions to be filled. Both Jon and Debbie said the volunteer jobs are reviewed after every event to see if any positions can be eliminated. These reviews sometimes result in an extra position being created, rather than any being eliminated. Jon went on to explain that we run with more helpers than events at other locations, partly because we have a bendy course that requires more monitors. We have a good reputation for running safe and friendly events which is partially the result of having lots of helpers who know what they're doing.

Penny said that some members seem reluctant to commit to helping until a short time before the race. Given that we need to begin preparing the rota at least three weeks before the race, this reluctance is not helpful. She felt it was an indicator of people having busy lives. Debbie said that, in her opinion, asking members to schedule three days/year in their diaries was not onerous. If members are happy to row in the boats purchased by race proceeds, there is little excuse for not helping at the races that provide the funds for those boats.

**Finance (report attached):** Outstanding dosh balance is in the black – for the first time ever!

**Subs (report attached):** Monthly subs income is down by £700 and will fall further in May when more 'subs holiday' instructions take effect. However, we are still covering our outgoings for now.

**Admission of New Members:** none

**Any Other Business:**

Philippa – is making headway in sorting through the archive material from Robin Leach.

Debbie – asked if we could set an AGM date. Confirmed as Saturday 26 September 2020 – midday either in the clubroom or via Zoom

Patsy – asked if the club would cover a Zoom subscription for the various land training initiatives she's running. Agreed.

Jon – asked what criteria we might have for getting back on the water when lockdown restrictions are eased. Consensus was, that until the government announces new measures, we don't know. Agreed to wait for input from BR. Feeling is that we will probably be able to re-open when commercial gyms do.

Penny – there is one erg left in the gym, if anyone wants to borrow it, although the monitor is not working.

She is working on updating our Sport Development Plan and would like **everyone's** input on the following topics:

1. How we run our club

2. What do we do well?
3. What could we do better?
4. What don't we do that we could do?

Please send any photographs you have that you think might be useful. It's fine to send junior photographs as parents have signed a waiver as part of the membership process.

Asked **Julian** to compile statistics for our events: number of crews/gender and age splits, etc

**Date and Time of Next** – Monday, 1 June, 2020 – probably via video conference

## Membership and Subs Report April 2020

### Members

Our usual dozen or so membership categories have blossomed as people have taken holidays and started paying half price etc. The table below, which I hope is self-explanatory, sets out the current position. Basically, about one quarter of adult members have taken a holiday, plus a few juniors.

	Label	No of members	
Full	F	92	
Full ( holiday )	FH	28	
Full paying junior rate during lockdown	FJ	2	
Coach	C	3	
Student	S	3	
Student ( holiday )	SH	2	
Vac student ( don't pay till they appear )	VAC	17	
Junior	J	31	
Junior ( holiday )	JH	4	
Taster only ( no subs due )	T	23	
LTR Taster + course	LTR	0	
Junior - family membership 1 parent	Jfam	2	
Jfam ( holiday )	JfamH	2	
Junior - family membership 2 parents	Jfam2	2	
Jfam2 ( holiday )	Jfam2H	0	
Bath Spa	B	28	
Non Bath Spa Leavers this FY	L	2	Poppy Fraser, Toby Kirk
Bath Spa Leavers this FY	BSL	0	
Leavers from last year who are only included so I can write off their end year position in April 2020	ML	7	

### Money

The pre-lockdown monthly income was nearly £4000 in October 2019, falling to about £3600 by March. It is now about £2900 but will fall again in May ( to about £2700 ) as some people paid in April and then took a subs holiday.

This assumes that Bath Spa University is content to pay £672 for rowing for students in April and May.

The question in the short term is whether this level of income pays the bills.

The question in the long term is a) when the long term begins and b) whether all these people come back from their subs holidays.

<b>AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB</b>					
<b>Financial Report for Committee Meeting on 27 April 2020</b>					
<b>1. BANK BALANCE</b>					
	Interest rate	<b>This report (27/04/20)</b>	<b>Previous report (30/03/20)</b>	<b>Change</b>	
Current account - General		65,600	61,584	4,016	
CAF Cash account		26	1,056	(1,030)	
CAF Gold account	0.15%	78	78	0	
Virgin Money account	0.15%*	17,996	17,996	0	
<b>Total in bank</b>		<b>83,700</b>	<b>80,713</b>	<b>2,987</b>	
General excludes subs standing order receipts since 09/04/20					
There is also an HSBC account for ACRC events					
* from 26/06/20					
<b>Debtors: Entries &amp; gym/landtraining</b>		<b>(300)</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>(1,270)</b>	
<b>Debtors: Kit</b>		<b>85</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>(150)</b>	
<b>Total entries &amp; kit debtors</b>		<b>(215)</b>	<b>1,205</b>	<b>(1,420)</b>	
<b>2. MAJOR INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE ITEMS SINCE LAST REPORT</b>					
(excluding normal routine items)			Amount		
<b>3. IMPENDING MAJOR EXPENDITURE/INCOME</b>					
			Amount		
<b>4. FINANCIAL ISSUES</b>					