



AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB

MINUTES

Committee meeting held at Solo Cottage, Keynsham Monday, 28 July 2014, at 7:30pm

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

Apologies: Parveen Jones

Minutes of Last Meeting - approved and adopted, with a change to the date of the meeting from 'May' to 'June'

Club Development – Antony reported that we are in receipt of the pre-completion notice, giving the three clubs 14 days to complete a snagging list. Representatives from each club are meeting this Thursday to prepare the list.

The new targeted completion date is 8 August. Currently waiting for EDF to finalise power supply issues, and BT to finish connecting to the alarm system.

Sport England have agreed to pay the first tranche of the grant this week (£100k).

Debbie to arrange with Alide to have the portaloo removed in August.

Agreed we should review the Trust Deed in light of now owning a significant asset. We need to determine how the Deed links to the Constitution. Agreed this job can be done after the AGM.

Antony had to leave the meeting after his report on the development.

Update Action List – Agreed that the Safety Plan update is now a priority. **Helen** will begin work on this and report at the next meeting.

Debbie to remind Elliott Raines to get in touch with Jim regarding Empacher slot repairs.

Helen has the Facebook group up and running, and agreed to provide written instructions about how to access it, for those members who are not entirely Facebook-literate.

Reports (previously circulated) –

Captain & Juniors – The damage to boats racing at Bewdley has either been repaired, or the parts are to hand and ready to install.

Agreed to purchase the following sculling blades, as soon as the 'dosh outstanding' falls below £1,000 – **Penny** to put a note to this effect in Rowing Notices, with a note of the purchase price.

4 pairs of Concept sculling blades *each* for the junior, men and women squads
4 pairs of Croker training sculling blades for beginners
Total cost approximately £7,000

Jim and **Clair** to get cleaning quotes. Penny suggested some of the sixth formers may be interested in doing the cleaning, for a fee.

Congratulations extended to Molly and Bria, the new WJ14 2X National Champs!

Men – The slide bed parts for Derek Roy are to hand and ready to be installed.

Women – There is unlikely to be any conflict with gym usage from the other clubs, as both UBBC and Monkton have their own gyms. So it should be ok to arrange for yoga/pilates classes on site.

The possibility of night-time rowing was raised. There is no specific rule saying we can't row at night, however the straight (where it was proposed the rowing be limited to) is extremely dark at night because of the trees growing so close to the bank. **Helen** to check with other local clubs to see if they row at night and, if so, how they manage it.

Novices – Agreed that a Pubs & Clubs event next June to coincide with Saltford Festival would be a good idea. It would be limited to the Pubs/Clubs and our new intake of beginners. Two other beginner events (City of Bristol Mixed 8's in August; and Coate in September – both running this year) would give our new intake a good introduction to competing before the start of the head season.

Finance/Subs – no matters arising

AGM – Friday, 19 September agreed for AGM, to be held at the club. Notice to Attend, Agenda and Financial Reports will be sent out in the last half of August.

All current committee members have agreed to stay on.

The secretary would be grateful if committee members could get their AGM reports to her as soon as possible. If they are received before the Notice to Attend is circulated, they can then be attached to it – thus saving endless photocopying and more than a few trees.

Events – Boathouse Opening – Robin Leach is working on this. The draft guest list was reviewed and changes/additions/deletions suggested, which **Debbie** will forward to Robin. **Julian** to let Robin know we are unable to send out donor invitations as we don't have their addresses. He will try to redirect Robin to the relevant member who solicited the original donations.

A few suggestions were made about the format of the invitation. **Helen** to ask Sal Lewis to prepare an alternative for Robin's perusal. Suggested that the order of go be: row past first (with just a few boats and only from the 3 resident clubs); then Alex Partridge; then food and socialising.

Club members will be asked to bring cakes on the day. No decision on liquid refreshment, but we felt Robin probably has this in hand as well.

Regatta – next year's date is 16 May

New Members – Junior Amber Risbridge, Sam Roberts, Alice McMullen, Katherine Smith, Ethan Maule, Elliot Judd, Jen Bryan, Kirsten Stewart, Christopher Green, James Green Full Rebecca Palmer, James Dobbin, Patty Mitchell, Grace Bramer, Joanna Evans, Thomas Fail, Bethan O'Rourke, Nic Feaver

Review of Boat/Blade Lists – boat list appears complete, with the addition of Norstar, who was inexplicably left off all previous lists. Blade lists to be amended to include Penny's corrections to copy circulated.

Clarification provided about use of junior boats by adults as follows: Junior boats need to be on the racks ready for use by the start of all regularly-scheduled junior outing times. Exceptions to this would be if Penny/Chris know in advance a junior boat is out but will be returned within 15 minutes of the outing start time.

Rigging/Blade Adjustments and Swapping of Parts Between Boats – There is an increasing incidence of rigging adjustment, blade inboard adjusting and seats/footplates

being moved between boats and not returned to the correct boat. Debbie felt it was time for a reminder to members that our fleet of boats and blades are for everyone's use and should, therefore, not be tailored to suit individual crews. **Debbie** to draft said reminder for inclusion in Rowing Notices.

Any Other Business – Helen asked about setting up a club page with our kit suppliers so members can order directly from the retailer. Members would like some additional items like gilets, hats, caps, etc. Penny advised we order from more than one supplier and that new items require a minimum order, but that if people want new products, they've only to ask and we can get them priced and see if there is enough demand. So having a club page with each supplier would not work.

Date and Time of Next: To be determined post AGM