

Basingstoke Canal Canoe Club

Minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting

Held at Frimley Baptist Church, Balmoral Drive, Frimley GU16 9AR on Friday 26th November 2010.

Attendees:

Alan Ebbage-Chairman

Liz Murnaghan- Secretary

Katie Truesdale –Treasurer

Brian Biffin, Alan Taylor, Tracy Rees Clark, Harvey Wade,- Committee members

And 43 other members of the BCCC

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Roger Copestake, Murray Jones, Peter Merriman and Mark Evans

2. Minutes of the 2009 AGM

The 2009 AGM minutes have been on the Club website for all to see. Minutes were accepted with no amendments.

3. Youth section election

The youth section retired to elect its own committee.

4. Chairman's Report.

Alan opened with some pictures of Club members out in the icy conditions last winter. He said that we have a Club to be proud of, BCCC has been runner up for the second year running in the BCU "Club of the Year" competition. This would not be possible without the people that make things happen. The Club is run by volunteers, coaches, non paddlers and committee members all have a part to play. Special thanks was given to Richard Somerset, Brian Gandy and Alan Taylor who coordinate the Flatwater racing Group; Katie Truesdale for 3 years of doing the accounts; Brian Biffin, and Paul Jeffs for coaching and trips; Jason Dyer for organising a Level 1 course. Dennis Rees Clark for building a trailer; Kaz Dyer for Membership secretary; Harvey Wade and Mark Dyer for their contributions to the committee. He also thanked all the other coaches and helpers that give their time and skill to all club events including Paddlepower and the marathon.

Alan then gave more information on the proposed new facilities. This is the biggest opportunity for the Club since the move from Fleet. It is a complex venture between the Club, Basingstoke Canal Authority, Surrey and Hants Canal society, Surrey County Council and Hampshire County Council. It

will provide the Club with improved security of tenure, better changing rooms including showers and improved toilet facilities. The planning application was submitted on 8th October 2010. Plans were available to view at the back of the room

Club membership has remained fairly stable at 150 membership units , (from 144 last year). Turnover is 35%.

Finances. A copy of the audited accounts has been circulated to all members. There has been a small increase in reserves. Paddlepower remains the biggest fund raiser closely followed by the marathon. The BCA have negotiated an increase in money paid to them by Canoe England towards Members licences. We have been told by CE that any further increase in payments will be funded by the riparian clubs, or the canal will be removed from the members licence. We have implemented changes to try and reduce the amount of money that the pool sessions lose however it still lost £500 last year.

Major purchases this year include 10 new polo boats and paddles, Falcon K2, Tor K1, Novacraft Pal Open Canoe, Club trailer and the architect's fees for the plans for the building.

The racing section has gone from strength to strength. We ran 2 new events last year a Winter Challenge and a Canoe orienteering event. The Club had good results in the Watersides series, winning the Junior Team trophy, with Isobel and Naomi setting a new Junior Ladies record. 5 members represented GB at the Junior International marathon in Gent. We had good results in the Devizes To Westminster race too with all 12 paddlers completing the race and winning a total of 5 trophies, Junior Team Trophy, Junior Schools trophy, Senior and Vet Ladies K2 and Vet ladies K1. They have also been in action in the Southern Region Hasler races. We qualified for the finals this year and came 10th overall. Isobel and Naomi added under 16s Ladies K2 national Champions to their list of achievements.

We hosted the canoeing event at the Hampshire Youth Games, running a flatwater slalom and a "Come and Try it" sprint event.

There have been a number of trips this year, mostly organised by Brian Biffin and Paul Jeffs. These have included the Barle and the Monnow. Members have also been using the recently published "Pub Paddles " to Guide them on local waterways.

Paddlepower has run on Tuesday evenings in the summer term. 50 new faces on the water and 83 places filled on the summer courses. Thanks to Jill Veness for being Bank Manager, Liz Oliver and Murray Jones the chefs, and the coaches, Liz Murnaghan, Rose Fox, Tracy Rees Clark, Brian Biffin, Brian Gandy Lis Coleman, Anne Biffin, Mike Simpson, Mary Simpson and Lee Matthews.

We have entered another team in the Southern region Paddlesport Challenge. Several new families have taken part. We came 4th overall last year out of 9 Clubs in the region. Our best result was 2nd place in the polo.

Alan suggested that the first Saturday of every month would be the best time to meet the committee and to paddle informally. The members Handbook has been updated and is now on the website. All members were advised to check the website regularly for details of news and events.

5. Treasurers report.

A copy of the audited accounts had been circulated to members. Katie ran through them pointing out the key sources of income and expenditure. The accounts were accepted with no amendments.

6. Proposal for consideration

The Committee propose that the fees for membership and Boat storage are increased by 5%

Membership Fees	Current	Proposed
Affiliated	£75	£78.75
Adult/ Junior	£30	£31.50
Family	£60	£63
Associate	£18	£18.90
Boat Store Fees		
GPs and K1s	£28	£29.40
K2s and Sea kayaks	£39	£40.95
Canadians and SOTs	£50	£52.50

Joining fees to remain unchanged.

Mr Neil Matthews requested that future increases were rounded up to whole pounds rather than include odd pence.

The proposed prices were accepted with no further objections.

7. Election of Committee.

Nominations had been received for the following posts

- Alan Ebbage- Chairman
- Liz Murnaghan- Secretary
- Brian Gandy – Treasurer
- Committee members: Alan Taylor, Brian Biffin, Garry Winckley, Gavin Branch and Rose Fox.

The meeting elected the nominees. There were no objections.

8. Proposed toilet block Development

Alan outlined in more detail the proposed toilet block development and talked through the plans.

Phase 1

- Exclusive use of the changing rooms, with their own communal showers;
- Shared use with the campsite and general public of the toilets.
- Shared use of the campsite showers with the campers.

Phase 2:

- Shared use with the BCA and probably Surrey and Hampshire Canal Society of the upstairs room

Funding:

Possible Options:

- A: BCCC (with grant aid) fund 50% of the Phase 1 building cost (approx £65k).
- B: SCC/BCA fund building; BCCC pay rent for 2 x changing rooms.
- C: SCC/BCA fund building; BCCC agree sub-lease with BCA for a contribution towards building cost.

Next Steps:

- Planning Consent (Feb 2011)
- Validate BCA and SCC funding
- BCCC apply for more grants
- Once funding clear call BCCC General Meeting

9. Youth Committee

The new Youth Committee are:

- Chairman- Nick Boreham
- Vice Chairman- Isobel Smith
- Treasurer- Jason Dyer
- Youth Reps- Sam Rees Clark, Naomi Smith
- Activities- Sarah Murnaghan, Andrew Jeffs, Ryan Truesdale

The Youth Committee would like to be more proactive next year and make better use of their new polo boats.

The Youth Committee has donated a new trophy which will be given, at the youth committee's discretion, to a youth who they feel has made a large effort to progress throughout various disciplines or has made a large contribution to the club in one form or another. Jason Dyer presented it to Harry Veness.

10. Presentation of Trophies

Mr Howard Smith presented the following trophies for the Club Marathon:

Hicks Pots, best performance by a K2; Paul and Andrew Jeffs 5/11 Div 7 K2

Matthews trophy, best performance by a lady; Isobel Smith 3/7/Div 4 K1

Wills Trophy, best performance by a man; Jason Dyer 1/7 Div 4 K1 and P3

The Branch family have donated a new trophy to be named in honour of Brian Gandy and Richard Somerset for the Most Valuable Paddler, the one who has scored most points for the Club in the previous season's Southern Region Hasler races. Gavin Branch presented it to Nick Boreham

Gavin Branch then presented the following trophies for Hare and Hounds:

4 mile Challenge Cup- Ellie Ashton

Aprils Cup (fastest lady) – Naomi Smith 51'26"

Canadian Challenge- Liz Murnaghan (the only entrant, Gavin asked for more next year!)

Davey trophy- fastest double- James and Jon Freemantle 46'32"

Fastest Single- James Freemantle-46'00"

Top Single Hicks Trophy- Ryan Truesdale 100 points

Runner Up H&H- Sarah Francis 89 points

Millet Cup Highest points K2- Pete Absolom and Chris Branch 71 points

U16 Cup Fastest Junior – Jason Dyer 48'40"

Committee awards presented by Alan Ebbage

Chairmans Award- Rose Fox for her proactive coaching Newly qualified as a Level 1 last year.

James Bilson award-Charles Hicks for getting back in a race boat as soon as he could after falling off a ladder before Christmas

Ted Ledger award- non paddling contribution- Richard "dodgy bike" Somerset. Richard has done such a good job with bringing on the younger racers that he can no longer keep up with them in a boat and has to cycle the towpath

Jarman award Ranked slalom paddler- None

Simpson award for newcomer to slalom- None

Open boat –Caroline Ebbage. Alan was given the challenge at the last AGM to paddle some whitewater. He has brought his wife along too and she has risen to the challenge of paddling canoe.

Youth awards presented by Liz Murnaghan

Open boat Youth-None

Marathon U12- Joe Hansell still young enough to paddle a Lightning, Joe is now racing in Div 6K1

White water- Luke Veness has steadily improved this year and tackled Cardiff IWWC last weekend.

Polo – None

Neptune award-Usually an opportunity to highlight a coach going swimming. With 2 recent visits to Cardiff there are a lot to choose from. However for the first time this award is not going to a coach or other adult, it is going to a junior. However, we are not going to tease a junior for falling out of a boat either, for the first time the award for services to swimming goes to a person not paddling, Matthew Boreham for riding his bike into the canal on the winter challenge.

Richard Somerset then introduced another new award. The very large “Golden Excuses” award goes to the racer with the best excuse(s) for not finishing a race. Jason Dyer was the inaugural winner.

Any Other Business

Alan Ebbage presented Liz Murnaghan and Katie Truesdale with bouquets of flowers for their support this year.

The meeting closed at 10.13pm