

Basingstoke Canal Canoe Club – 2018 AGM Minutes

Date: Friday 16th November 2018

Location: Frimley Baptist Church

1. Apologies

Duncan Blyth, Richard Boreham, Julian Brewer, Duncan Capps, Debbie Carpenter, Lis Coleman, Sarah Francis, Hannah Gallagher, Brian Gandy, The Hawker family, David Hansford, Jonathan Johns, Graham Jump, David Kew, Ross Philips, Ray Rasmussen, The Small family, David Tonkinson, Chris Williams, Callum Worship

2. Minutes from 2017 AGM

- 1) Approved as an accurate report of the previous AGM

3. Youth Committee

- 1) Callum and Hannah are standing for the YC and will have certain tasks to complete for the club

4. Chairman's Report

Chairman, James Freemantle, delivered his report in full with an accompanying presentation.

Highlights included:

- 1) Social events
 - a. A range of social activities and paddles, with the Tuesday Morning paddlers through to the racing groups
 - b. Events throughout the year including the Thai dinner, Christmas party and Summer Shindig
 - c. We were able to thank Brian Gandy properly, who is stepping from his volunteer roles after many years supporting the club
- 2) Trips
 - a. Good range of trips under the direction and guidance of Paul Jeffs
 - b. Sea trips, including Lulworth which resulted in a mountaineering trip to get the boats to the cove
 - c. WW trips, with intro sessions and Symonds Yat and trips on the Dart as well

- d. Fiona and Pina have been leading evening paddles on the canal as well, as well as taking a group of friends to Scotland; Fiona even won a Go Pro from British Canoeing for her photo entry into their competition
- 3) The website - demoed at the previous AGM, this was launched by Matt Tichbon in the summer with help from Alan Ebbage and Dave Bevan and has provided a dramatic increase in the number of people contacting the club. Members were encouraged to send through photos and trip reports to keep it updated.
- 4) Social media - as well as Facebook, we now operate on Twitter, and the Youth Committee will be running a club Instagram account.
- 5) Online presence
 - a. Members were asked to register with the club through British Canoeing's website
 - b. The club is now GDPR-compliant through the efforts of Zoe Griffiths
- 6) Racing
 - a. ~80 racers took part in the Charles Hicks Challenge at the end of 2017; the club is planning a little change for the coming event, which will take place 2 weeks before the first waterside in Jan and might get us more paddlers
 - b. Several members took part in races outside of the Haslers
 - c. Paul Sandy and Debbie Carpenter took over as race captains and help the club reach the Hasler finals for another year. The event also showed that racing isn't all important; David Howie suffered a heart attack while paddling with Liz Murnaghan, but her quick thinking, and disregard for the points, meant they could get help quickly
 - d. We had over 200 paddlers for our own Hasler, which averaged about one boat every 16 metres! An excellent day organised by Howard. We tried to raise some media interest in the event this year; we managed to get an article in the Surrey Advertiser, and Howard and James were interviewed for Get Surrey TV, a local station which is on TV and YouTube
- 7) Training
 - a. Lowered the cost of courses to try to encourage those on courses to join the club's regular sessions
 - b. Jon Freemantle, supported by Rose Fox and Liz M, along with the other coaches all ran sessions throughout the summer to provide opportunities in different boats
- 8) Facilities - new changing rooms! They landed in August and have been connected to the services. A ramp has been installed by an army of club members and, thanks to a donation from Murray, we have benches for the cabin as well
- 9) Rebrand
 - a. Updated logo
 - b. New technical t-shirts for club coaches and volunteers

- c. New club clothing available online, including tees, hoodies, hats, vests and base layers - links on the club website
- 10) 40th anniversary
- a. Plans are afoot for the club's 40th anniversary in 2019.
 - b. Membership asked to submit ideas for events they'd like to see

5. Treasurer's Report & Accounts

Alan Ebbage delivered précis of his report:

- 1) Club doing very well financially despite a few blips;
 - a. Less incoming for membership as paddlepower was not as effective this last year
 - b. Boat storage fees have not been brought in; this is under scrutiny and will be addressed
 - c. Charles Hicks Challenge was under-attended
- 2) British Canoeing affiliation not shown in this financial year just gone, as BC were late in sending out reminders; we were never not affiliated but payment was made in the subsequent FY
- 3) The club has sold a few more boats which has generated income
- 4) We're expecting increased capital costs from the Portakabin in the next year
- 5) Paul Jeffs asked if we're paying more for the ground now; James answered this explaining that it's prorated in terms of the size of the area compared to the barn
- 6) Thanks to Dawn Ward, who audited the accounts for the club

6. Resolutions

1. "The Committee proposes that annual membership fees are increased by an average of 3% to match inflation. This is because many of our costs (rent, website, etc.) rise in line with inflation." – **passed**
2. "The Committee proposes that boat storage fees are increased by around 3%. New proposed fees outlined below, to take effect from January 2019." – **passed**

7. Election of the Committee

1. To re-elect James Freemantle as Chairman for the forthcoming year – **passed**
2. Matt Tichbon had reached the end of his 3 year term as club Secretary and has to stand down. Ben Hansell has been nominated for the role and agrees to stand – **passed**
3. Alan Ebbage is standing down as Treasurer. Jason Dyer has been nominated for the role and agrees to stand – **passed**
4. Josh Bevan and Rose Fox are standing down from the current committee. The nominated individuals standing this year are Bill Hansell, Paul Sandy, Pina Napolitano, Sarah Francis and Zoe Griffiths – **passed**

8. Update on Facilities Development

- 1) Overall update covered in Chairman's speech and Treasurer's report
- 2) A question was raised about whether the club would be getting gym facilities; this will be part of what will come out of the surveys and the YC have been tasked to look into how we use the space generated by getting rid of the old changing rooms

9. Results of Online Survey

James F presented a series of slides with an overview of results of the online surveys sent out to club members earlier in the year. This was the third year that the surveys have been sent out, with more members filling them out than last year. Details results will be taken away by the committee and actions will be given out but a summary was provided for the members at the AGM:

1. Membership demographic
 - a. 16 family members; 33 individual members; 1 affiliated
 - b. 54% have 1 paddler in the house, 36% two and 6% three
 - c. 78% of respondents have their own boat
 - d. Over half respondents have 2+ boats for a mix of disciplines
2. Club Resources
 - a. There is a stronger trend to grow the touring fleet than others
 - b. Generally the trend is to renew our existing fleet
 - c. Comments reveal, as a club we need to look after boats better to make sure they are serviceable
 - d. The key facilities development is new doors for the barn, followed by indoor training area and more boat storage
3. Volunteering
 - a. The clubs volunteers usually give their time to a range of events but it's a relatively small pool
 - b. Responses suggest that comms is key, rather than reward
 - c. We have a range of skills and abilities in the club – please let us know how you think you can help!
4. Next Steps
 - a. The committee will consider the full results at the next meeting and provide an update
 - b. Facilities development will focus on the club doors
 - c. The club will continue to renew the fleets and consider where best to grow
 - d. The committee also be considering roles within the club

10. Trophies

Hare & Hounds:

1. 4 mile challenges – Zoe Griffiths (57 pts)
2. Aprils challenge (fastest lady) – Katie Lambert (58m 52s)
3. Canadian challenge – Liz Murnaghan (22 pts)
4. Davey trophy (fastest double) – Joe Hansell and Andrew Jeffs (39m 39s)

5. Fastest Single – Joe Hansell (42m 12s)
6. Hicks Trophy (Top single) – Neil Matthews (90 pts)
7. Runner Up Cup – Ross Phillips (88 pts)
8. Millett Cup (top double) – Paul Batchelor and Pete Absolom (92 pts)
9. Under 16 (Fastest junior) – Callum Worship (50m 52s)

Hasler:

1. Hicks Trophy (best performance by a K2) – James and Jon Freemantle
2. Matthews Trophy (best performance by a lady – Helen Skinner
3. Will Trpohy (best performance by a man) – Harry Veness
4. Gandy-Somerset award (most valuable paddler) – David Howie

Committee discretionary awards:

1. Jarman award (Paddlepower most improved student) – Luke Sandy
2. Open boat (most improved adult) – Chris Badham
3. FWR Youth – Dylan Sandy
4. WW Youth – Louis Tickner
5. Youth Committee award – Hannah Gallagher
6. James Bilson award (perseverance and achievement against odds) – Lis Coleman
7. Ted Ledger award (non-paddling contribution) – Matt Tichbon and Zoe Griffiths
8. Chairman's' award (overall contribution) – Basingstoke Canal Authority
9. Neptune award (services to swimming) – Harry Veness, just before the finish at the club Hasler
10. Biggest excuse award for marathon – David Howie

12. AOB

- 1) Thanks to Richard Somerset for arranging the engraving - Richard asked for a volunteer to take over for next year
- 2) There are still spaces for this year's Christmas Dinner - see Liz M for details

Membership thanked for attendance