



# COPELAND CANOE CLUB

Western Lake District

## Minutes

**Annual General Meeting at Wath Brow Hornets RLFC clubhouse,  
Cleator Moor, Wednesday 18th November 2015.**

Present:

Andy Bennion, Alastair Yates, Grace Bennion, Joe Stalker, Rob Stalker, Mark Jones, Karen Hetherington, Tony Foster, Simon Kay, Estelle Kay, Josh Kay, Mark Hillon, Kevin Steel, Clive Bew, Cat Wakelin.

Apologies: Jon Cheesewright, Paul Tyson, Jean Doran.

0: Buffet, time to read previous minutes. Many thanks to Grace and Andy for organizing the buffet, Karen for bringing it from the caterers!

1: **Minutes of the last meeting** (AGM) and also ordinary meeting were approved as a true record.  
Prop Mark Jones 2nd Tony Foster.

2: **Chairman:** Mark reported on a another busy year: Comments received from club members re mutual support and also good things said from non-members around the paddling world.

**Paddle-Ability:** bolt on to Top Club achieved, well done to Andy Bennion and Alastair Yates

**Discussion:** continued focus on training, leading to development of

- new and existing coaches
  - leadership training for those not necessarily wishing to be a coach.
  - members and need for more - age groups to target. **Action:** Alastair Yates to do flyer as a start.
- Harbour Project, need for better links. **Action** Alastair Yates, Tony Foster, Mark Jones to visit their meeting 25 Nov.

Karen Hetherington - Seaquest here soon! Need for Trips in winter. New "facility": meeting soon with Tim Bestford (NCL) New pool at Workington, possibility of satellite club?

Club development plan - **Action:** Mark Jones to send Alastair Yates a copy.

3: **Treasurer:** We made a slight operating loss last year but the situation is slightly skewed due to some income for payments made in last financial year arriving in the next one (2015-16)... a separate sheet has details. Pool - we need to have approx 42 - 45 people in the pool each week to break even at present. **Action:** Tony Foster to monitor pool income / costs and discuss with Mark Jones after 3 months (ie roughly Feb half term 2016). **Action:** Mark Jones to look at ways to encourage membership - we need a slight increase from where we are now.

**Pool fees / subs. We agreed to leave them where they are but...**

Comment: Andy mentioned the need for continued transparency in expense requests.

We need to advertise that in school holidays that we are still open, perhaps use some of these (Easter?) as "Go Canoeing" Sessions... An opportunity to gain some momentum with membership?

The meeting expressed its grateful thanks to the team which collects money on a Tuesday evening - this is very helpful to anyone being treasurer. The meeting expressed its thanks to Tony for his hard work. **Volunteers to help are very welcome.**

Meeting expressed its thanks to Tony for a difficult but essential job well done.

4: **Secretary:** Quiet year: "usual" correspondence; Ennerdale permit in place; British Canoeing

affiliation etc. Website busy. MailChimp for email messages in regular use now, roughly monthly. Monthly calendar in use. Facebook: club has a presence on Facebook. In use to spread messages / videos around. Mark Jones on behalf of the meeting expressed thanks to Alastair Yates for much work done behind the scenes.

- 5: **Equipment Officer:** Storage, B-aids etc now on a new rack. Polo gear, boats / helmets etc discussed. Action: Rob Stalker and Mark Hillon to coordinate a price list / look at grants??  
**Action:** Possible boat (2nd hand) to buy from Kev Steel.
- 6: **Competition Officer:** Rob said we had another very good year- see the slalom website for a club printout. We need a timetable to check events and see if we can get more people there. Club annual competitions will be held in January and February as usual (dates to be announced) Polo popular, suggestion of hi-vis tops for teams in the pool. Other competitions participated in as a club include Tiger boating, Wavehopper races, organized Seaquest event at Ravenglass (Many thanks to Karen for this). Next Year, 5 June! Rob thanked Ray for his support of Ellie and Matthew.
- 7: **Clubmark / Top Club.** Mark Jones said a meeting with Rachel Hudspith, our British Canoeing contact, will need to take place shortly. However due to changes with Clubmark, we only need to look at the Club development plan.

## 8: Election of officers

### Officers for 2013-4:

Chair: Mark Jones.

Secretary: Alastair Yates

Treasurer: Tony Foster

Equipment: Mark Hillon

Welfare Officers. Joe Stalker and Cat Wakelin

Safety Officer: Joe Stalker and Alastair Yates

Calendar / newsletter production: Alastair Yates

Junior Coaching coordinator: Karen Hetherington

Adult Coaching coordinator: Simon Kay

Competition Officer: Rob Stalker

Volunteer coordinator: Andy Bennion

Membership coordinator: To be shared between Chair and Secretary as not a big role at present.

School Liaison coordinator: Mark Jones

Junior Rep: Josh Kay

Paddle-Ability Rep: Andy Bennion

List above: proposed Joe Stalker, seconded by Andy Bennion. All the above were voted in unanimously by the meeting.

- 9 **Award: Club Special Merit Award.** The awardee was not able to be present so we will postpone till we can do this at the pool.

## 10 AOB

Constitution: **Action:** Alastair Yates outlined the need for changes because of alteration in the rules from HMRC. Andy Bennion proposed that Mark Jones and Alastair Yates sort this asap as it's complex! Meeting agreed.

**Seaquest:** Check-paddle needed.

Christmas "party"; After the success of last year's inflatable fun session we will repeat this (if possible) on the last pool session before Christmas (15 Dec) Later on a night out (date to be sorted ..) with a meal ? followed by drinks for those that were thirsty... Meeting agreed.

Scarness: **Action:** Andy Bennion to book the equivalent weekend to last year for 2016 if possible.  
Summer 2016: Rob commented on the need for an Alps trip - S. France. People agreed but we need a lead coordinator!

More on Paddle-Ability British Canoeing "vision for 2020" - PA poster etc to be at Calvert Trust Spring  
**Action:** Grace Bennion will make a poster...

Health and Safety - Paul Tyson had slipped recently when on the platform getting boats down - very wet. Need for footwear up there?

Alastair Yates : guidance requested on "when is a club trip a club trip?" Meeting discussed and we came up with:-

It's a club trip (and therefore covered by British Canoeing insurance) if...

website / email / text / pool announcement (pool preferably followed by text or email). Words such as "club trip - meet at the garage at" in the message. Chair / Secretary / Safety Officer need to be aware of trip! U18 need to be aware of the need for parental consent...

Meeting finished at 21.05ish, there being no further business for the good or benefit of the club.

Slide show: Club show was put together by Al in the usual hurry. Items will be made available for those not at the AGM.

### **Next meeting xxxx, venue tbc.**

A Yates Secretary 11.01.16

#### Actions:

Alastair Yates to do flyer advertising club. [ **Done** for 25/11 meeting at Harbour Project]

Mark Jones and Alastair Yates sort constitution asap

Club development plan - Mark Jones to send Alastair Yates a copy.

Mark Jones to award Club Trophy at pool

Karen: Seaquest check-paddle, dates to sort

Tony Foster to monitor pool income / costs and discuss with Mark Jones after 3 months (ie roughly Feb half term 2016).

Scarness: Andy Bennion to book the equivalent weekend to last year for 2016 if possible.

Grace Bennion to make poster etc regarding Paddle-Ability to Calvert Trust in Spring.