



# COPELAND CANOE CLUB

Western Lake District

## Minutes

**Annual General Meeting at The Harbour Project, Swingpump Lane Whitehaven, Wednesday 9th November 2016.**

Present:

Andy Bennion, Alastair Yates, Joe Stalker, Rob Stalker, Richard Stalker, Mark Jones, Karen Hetherington, Tony Foster, Simon Kay, Josh Kay, Mark Hillon, Nick Jackson, Warren Nicholson, Chris Evans, Tom Storer.

Apologies: Jon Cheesewright, Grace Bennion, Estelle Kay

Meeting started 1925, after the buffet, time to read previous minutes. Many thanks to Grace and Andy for organizing it!

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:** Chairman's review over the last 12 months - Nov 2016

I would like to thank all the committee members and parents who have and continue to support me and the club, without this we wouldn't function.

Some of the highlights:-

We have held our annual club rolling and pool slalom event. Took part in the Tiger boat racing on Derwent Water, Wavehopper race on the Eden, water polo comp at Kendal and Penrith, Tyne tour, Cumbrian canoeist sea kayaking (plus leading events), slaloms at all levels, Moriston race, Wet West festival (including a tour of Scotland by the Kay family) Sickline to name a few and have been actively paddling rivers, sea and lakes.

Well done to Rob and Richard at the Sickline - showed great stamina and performance at the recent Sickline party.....and of course the paddling!!

The club ran the 10th annual Sea Quest event over the three estuaries at Ravenglass in June, many thanks to Karen for leading this. (Big success 40+ competitors took part Including Sea kayaks, Open boats, inflatables, sit on tops and general purpose boats).

Number of our members progressing in K1 and C1 slalom. Number of our club members are active slalom paddlers, thanks to Joe.

Excellent club family weekend at Scarness, Alps, Angelsey - Thanks to Joe, Al and Rob for leading these very successful holidays.

We are running a Cadet Leaders programme with seven recruits, also linking this into the Duke of Edinburgh awards. Plus undertaken a number of coach training and development events - L2, 4\* leader sea kayak, WWSR.

We have seen a number of new members of mixed ages join the club and take an active part in club activities (20+ new members) current membership around 110. (also had 22 leave)

Great News, the club has been re-accredited with the Sport England club mark, the British Canoeing Quality mark and the British Canoeing Top Club Paddle-ability award for the next 3 years.

Clubmark is Sport England's national accreditation scheme for high quality community sports clubs which recognizes higher standards of welfare, coaching and management. Thank you and well done, very much a team effort and reflects what we offer as a club.

Looking forward over next 12 months, five areas of focus:-

Increase level 2 coaches by 1 and level 1 coaches by 2.

Review feedback from questionnaire and align club to members needs.

10 polo boats / equipment purchased and links established with WHYP and Workington pool.

Club aligned to either CASC / charity status - which gives greatest benefit to the club and its members.

Pool income vs expenditure

To close I would like to say a big thank you to all those who have helped out, however big or small your involvement it is very much appreciated.

Thank you to Andy and Grace for sorting the buffet and Al for slide show.

Mark Jones

Chairman

3: **Treasurer:** Tony Foster showed an account sheet. Cash in bank is roughly 1 year's income so Tony Foster is happy with this. A new company is taking over the pool so costs etc are an unknown. (AB - need to work with management to continue good relationships)

**Pool costs:** Price increase in Sept, difficult to check as most of the continuing (small) loss happened at half term - very quiet. Alastair Yates - need to encourage attendance as 1 more person per session (ie 3 per week) would allow break even costs.

Thanks expressed by the meeting for the work done by the "welcome team" - led by Estelle!

Joe Stalker; Seaquest profit - no donation made yet? Discussion followed. Agreed by meeting that we needed to make a late donation for this year and not forget for 2017! After consultation with Karen we agreed to split the 2016 monies between the RNLI and Maryport Lifeboat.

Rich Stalker - what is going on with the pool extension? Mark Jones - council is holding this project in abeyance till 2018 to go with the new School project.

**Pool fees / subs.** Comment: Mark Jones - we are the cheapest in Cumbria for both pool and subs. Mark Jones proposed that fees remain the same for 2017. 2nd Tony Foster. Meeting agreed unanimously. The meeting expressed its grateful thanks to the team which collects money on a Tuesday evening. **Volunteers to help are very welcome.**

Mark Jones also proposed that we stop pool sessions earlier than last year as the pool was very quiet: Last one 27 June, all July outside. (ie 4, 11, 18 July outside and also 5th Sept.) Gives 4 more outdoor sessions. Meeting agreed: Action, Alastair Yates to write to pool.

The meeting expressed its thanks to Tony for his hard work.

4: **Secretary:** Quiet year: "usual" correspondence; Ennerdale permit applied for in March, not arrived yet!; British Canoeing affiliation etc. A comment that came out from this from both Joe Stalker and Rob Stalker was that **individual British Canoeing membership can be good value with discounts** (and it's cheaper for the club...). Website busy. MailChimp for email messages in regular use now, roughly monthly. Monthly calendar in use, 2017 one almost ready! Facebook: club has a page 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 2nd new rack. Possible roof leak needs checking out, might have been repaired... Date for Spring to be agreed for a garage tidy etc. Also catalogue of boats / gear needs updated. Action: on agenda for next meeting! Pool boats - some need temp repairs to help them carry on. Some are 30 years old!  
Boats: 1 Supersport donated, thanks to John Lewthwaite. 2 bought, one play-boat from Kev Steel, sea boat from Alastair Yates .

6: **Competition Officer:** Rob said we had another very good year- see the slalom website for a club printout. Rich Stalker no. 1 in div 1 at present!  
We need a timetable to check events and see if we can get more people there. Rob Stalker and Alastair Yates to coordinate dates? Also Moriston Race - Rob Stalker 2nd and Rich Stalker 20th?

**Sickline!** Rob Stalker 43rd Rich Stalker 79th out of 150 or so. Fantastic!

Club annual competitions will be held in January and February as usual (dates to be announced)

Polo popular. Next 3 Dec, but Rob Stalker away. could Rich Stalker / Tom Storer sort?? Other competitions participated in as a club include Tiger boating (26 April 2017), Wavehopper races, organized Seaquest event at Ravenglass (Many thanks to Karen for this). 2017, 25th June!

Outside trips- Feb in Scotland - Fort William? Slalom weekend? Wet West, Sept, Scarness Andy Bennion will book asap.

Summer 17: Austria last week July / 1st 2 in Aug probable dates, Landeck area. Interested see Rob Stalker

**7: Election of officers.**

**Andy Bennion proposed the following en bloc:**

**Officers for 2016-7:**

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: Vacant, see Mark Jones or Alastair Yates

Adult Coaching coordinator: Simon Kay

Competition Officer: Rob Stalker

Volunteer coordinator: Andy Bennion

Membership coordinator: To be shared between Chair and Secretary.

School Liaison coordinator: Mark Jones

Junior Rep: Josh Kay

Paddle-Ability Rep: Andy Bennion

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

**9 Award: Club Special Merit Award.** Thomas Evans: Mark Jones gave an eloquent speech commenting on how Thomas has improved his own skills and was now helping give back to the club by doing some coaching as a cadet. He presented him with the Club Paddle Award to applause from all present.

**10 AOB** Party at Christmas... Andrew Nixon will coordinate. Pool session in Dec, Mark Jones will ask re "pool party"

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, augmented by Rob Stalker and Rich Stalker with several videos. Items will be made available for those not at the AGM.

**Next meeting Spring 2017, venue tbc.**

A Yates Secretary 14.11.16

Actions:

Alastair Yates: write to pool re dates off in summer etc: display calendar for 2017 and check with Rob Stalker etc re events.

Mark Jones: See if pool will let us do the "pool party" hire of the big inflatable!

Tony Foster to continue monitoring pool income / costs and discuss with Mark Jones

Scarness: Andy Bennion to book the equivalent weekend to last year for 2017 if possible.

Rob Stalker: check with Alastair Yates re dates for events etc.

Rich Stalker - coordinate next polo competition at Penrith.