



COPELAND CANOE CLUB

Western Lake District

Minutes

Annual General Meeting at The Harbour Project, Swingpump Lane Whitehaven, Wednesday 13th December 2017.

Meeting postponed from 22 November due to inclement weather.

Present: Andy Bennion, Alastair Yates, Joe Stalker, Jan Stalker, Richard Stalker, Mark Jones, Tony Foster, Simon Kay, Josh Kay, Estelle Kay, Mark Hillon, Mike Heslop, Dave Topliss, Ryan Garner.

Apologies: Jon Cheesewright, Grace Bennion, Rob Stalker, Tom Storer.

Meeting started 1940, after the buffet, time to read previous minutes. Many thanks to 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 2017. I would like to start by thanking all the committee members, volunteers and parents who have and continue to support the club, without this we wouldn't function.

Some of the highlights:-

The club ran the 11th annual Sea Quest event over the three estuaries at Ravenglass in June and donated all of the money raised - (£222) plus £100 donation from Sellafield to Cancer Research UK, many thanks to Karen and volunteers for leading this. Big success in promoting all areas of paddlesport and competitors.

Excellent club family holidays - Thanks to Team Copeland for leading these very successful holidays and opportunities for members.

We continue to run the Cadet leaders programme (will be re-named next year as "Activity Assistant") with seven recruits, also linking this in to the Duke of Edinburgh awards. A number of club members have continued with coach training and development events:- L1 and L2 coach training, 4* WW, WWSR for six club members, 3 trained in SuP boards and congratulations to Joe for recently achieving his 5* sea kayak award. To continue to build on this we have the commitment for 1 x L2 training and assessment (would like another volunteer) plus 2 x L1 training and assessment over the next six months. Held an outdoor first aid course for seven club coaches.

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) balances leavers with a current membership around the 110 which is consistent over many years.

Congratulations to Rob, Richard and Nick who recently competed in the Sickline Event in Austria. A number of coaches / members have led and attended the Cumbria Canoeist sea kayaking events over the last year.

We continue to support a number of local and national events, inter club, scout groups, Young People First, WHYP etc.

We are in very early discussions with a number of stakeholders to support the development of Whitehaven harbour to provide facilities on and off the water with our interest in establishing a polo and slalom facility.

We are moving in to year 2 of a three year accredited award for the club - Sport England club mark, British Canoeing Quality mark and British Canoeing Top club paddle-ability award. Club mark is Sport England's national accreditation scheme for high quality community sports clubs which recognizes higher standards of welfare, coaching and management. This is very much a

continued team effort and reflects what we offer as a club, please consider how you can continue to build on this good work and support the club development plan over the next 12 months.

Looking forward over the next 12 months, areas of focus remain on:-

- * Coach and members development as a priority - Increasing the number of level 1 (x2) and level 2 (x2) coaches, plus an additional 4*WW leader.
- * Provide a more structured training / event plan for the pool and outdoor sessions to align club activities to members needs, development and wide varied activities.
- * Continue to secure grants in support of development and equipment needs.
- * Make the decision on the club aligned to either CASC or Charity status ,, decision to be based on which option gives the greatest benefit to the club and its members.
- * Have fun in a safe environment!!

To close I would like to say a big thank you to all those who have and continue to support the club, however big or small your involvement it is very much appreciated.

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

Mark

3: **Treasurer:** Tony Foster showed an account sheet. Cash in bank is roughly 1 year's income so he is happy with this. We made a slight surplus last year.

Pool costs: Careful eye needed on them. Effect of any possible price increases by the pool unknown. We made a small loss on the pool fees last year.

Pool fees / subs. Mark Jones proposed that fees remain the same for 2018. 2nd Tony Foster. Meeting agreed unanimously.

The meeting expressed its grateful thanks to the team which collects money on a Tuesday evening.
More volunteers needed to help.

Mark Jones also proposed that we stop pool sessions early as last year seemed to work ok. Last one 26 June, all July outside as well as August and 1st week of Sept. (ie 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 July; 7,14,21,28 Aug, 5 Sept - 10 weeks total). Meeting agreed. We will start outdoor sessions in parallel with pool sessions from 8 May.

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; British Canoeing affiliation etc. Website busy. MailChimp for email messages in regular use now, roughly monthly. Monthly calendar in use, 2018 one almost ready! Dates :- Seaquest 29 April - early! Need for a check paddle about 14 days before (ie 14-15 April?) Need to book Scarness very soon to get a suitable weekend. Action - Andy Bennion. Some going to the Alps early on, June? Trips- David Topliss suggested simple river trips on smaller rivers to encourage outdoor participation. List of rivers and possible dates needed?! Further discussion led to David Topliss volunteering to take the vacant junior coordinator post. Meeting thanked him unanimously. Joe Stalker - club Sea Kayak weekend? Ask around for takers. Alastair Yates - British Canoeing winter club challenge now on, let him know re trips, when / who / where (and distance done!).

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:** Garage doors - take care as wear and tear is affecting them. Mark Hillon to see about new wheels for the guide tracks.
Boats: pool boats, some are showing their age now, take care. Mark Jones - look to buying some new ones.

6: **Competition Officer:** Not present (in NZ!)

7: **Election of officers. Andy Bennion proposed the following en bloc:**

Officers for 2017-8:

Chair: Mark Jones.

Secretary: Alastair Yates

Treasurer: Tony Foster

Equipment: Mark Hillon

Welfare Officers: Joe Stalker and Estelle Kay

Safety Officer: Joe Stalker and Alastair Yates

Calendar / newsletter production: Alastair Yates

Junior Coaching coordinator: David Topliss

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.** Too late to be presented in 2017, to be done early 2018 at the pool.

10 **AOB** Pool session in Dec, Mark Jones will ask re "pool party"

Meeting finished at 21.15ish, 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 Spring 2018, venue tbc.

A Yates Secretary 06.02.18

Actions:

Alastair Yates: write to pool re dates off in summer etc: display calendar for 2018 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 2018 if possible.

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

Tom Storer - coordinate polo competitions.