



COPELAND CANOE CLUB

Minutes:

Annual General Meeting at The Harbour Project, Swingpump Lane
Whitehaven, CA28 7LZ Wednesday 30th November 2022.

Meeting started 19:00, refreshments provided thanks to Estelle and Simon Kay, Mark Jones.

Present: Claire Cope, Alison Bird, Surya Cooper Ivison, Simon Kay, Estelle Kay, Aine O'Sullivan, Bob Frazer, Richard Stalker, Joe Stalker, Nick Jackson, Ryan Garner, David Topliss, Rob Stalker, Al Yates, Jamie Walker, Mark Jones, Andy Bennion, John Bird, Tom Storer. (19)
Apologies: Jon Cheesewright, Phil Mulrain, Paul Bailey, Tony Foster, Mark Hillon, Clare Cooper, Claire Bryant. (7)

Minutes from previous AGM read / approved as a true record: proposed Mark Jones 2nd Andy Bennion. Approved by unanimous vote of meeting.
Items arising: Any items appear later in the minutes.

Chairman's report:

We continue to work closely with The Outdoor Partnership (TOP) where we managed to secure several paddleboards which have been very popular and have attracted new members into the club.

We ran the 16th annual Sea Quest event in Sept over the three estuaries at Ravenglass with over 35 competitors taking part. The event raised £300 with the proceeds going towards a pocket-sized defibrillator and Ukraine Kids charity.

Our pool sessions have recently restarted over the winter months and are proving popular across a wide variety of ages, with a high number of females participating. We have successfully introduced an on-line booking and payment system.

We have seen an upturn in members over the last 12 months given the previous trend was a decline over the last few years to now over 100 members.

The club continues to run a busy summer and winter programme of trips to cater for all levels of kayaking across rivers, lakes and sea paddling with on average 20 paddlers participating per trip.

Several coaches / members have led and attended the Cumbria Canoeist sea kayaking events over the last year. We have a number of new and active coaches which is helping to spread the load across the volunteer network.

We welcomed a new role onto the committee "ShePaddles coordinator" over the last 12 months with an active and enthusiastic group to encourage more females to participate in the sport. This has achieved a significant increase in the numbers of females participating across a wide age group.

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

- * Coach and members development / retain / recruit as a priority
- * Continue to provide structured training / event plan for the sessions to align club activities to

- members' needs development and wide varied activities.
- * Review and apply for the new Quality Club Accreditation.
- * Continue to have fun in a safe environment!!

The success of our club and thanks is down to the support we get through the committee members, coaches, volunteers and parents who have and continue to support the club which is recognized and very much appreciated.

Mark
Club Chairman

Items from Chairman's report:

Match funding from Sellafield for Seaquest monies - we are waiting.

Rob Stalker has supplied info about a suitable defibrillator: Mark Jones has an application for funding in to Copeland Council.

Seaquest - Need for more helpers on the team - Joe Stalker.

Date for Seaquest : 21 May 2023

Pool: helpers needed for activity coordination: Use of Paddlepower for club use. Al Yates commented that we have a lot of resources available. Bob Frazer to lead coordination of outline structure for activities. Also stuff for a pool award.

Quality Club Accreditation: M Jones to lead with A Yates, B Frazer.

Treasurers Report „ 1 Nov 2021 to 31 Oct 2022. Tony unable to attend.

BANK BALANCE

Last Year End: Year beginning 1 Nov 21 - £16262.88

This Year End 31 Oct 22 - £15306.94. Both agree with Bank Statement.

See separate spreadsheet file. (CCC-YearEnd-Account-Summary21-22.xlsx)

POOL

Running at a small loss BUT:

We did not charge for Outdoor activities for most of this year. The increase in pool attendance enabled us to afford this. However we are still running the Pool at a loss.

We did make some return on hire of equipment for outdoor activities. £316. I am happy to continue with only charging for kit hire next year outdoors, this would help slightly with the pool losses.

Note that we usually pay for club kit purchases using grant monies.

With increasing income from the Pool, we are still chasing a loss.

Pool numbers are now banging against the maximum allowed, particularly the first session.

This puts a cap on our ability to increase our income.

It might be worth a look at our family group policy, a family of four and it does happen we sometimes have two of these, would mean we lose four paying places, a 20% reduction in pool monies collected for the session.

OR increase our pool cost to all members.

OTHER POINTS:

Use of Spond has increased dramatically over the year and has proved very successful and a useful way of keeping tabs on cash transactions, as well as giving us some knowledge on attendance.

Membership is up substantially this year.

Boat storage in Club garage: only two personal payments made this year.

Maybe some added publicity at renewal time might increase this.

The garage is expensive to run.

SEAQUEST - I received a sum of £200 from last Seaquest (Sept 22), so have just left it in the P&L accounts. Maybe needs to be moved to Grants at some point? Nobody has said.

A payment made to NCUH Charity Trust of £303 for the previous SQ, these charitable gifts take a

time to sort out, due usually to matched contributions.
SCARNESS - A payment of £120 by Kevin Goode. No further information!
I have put the cost of the trailer maintenance (£754) against Kit under Exceptional Items.

Meeting expressed its thanks to Tony for his hard work during the year.

Items arising:

Accounts to be looked at by someone other than Chair / Secretary or their relatives.

No change proposed to membership / pool fees at present - Mark Jones 2nd A Yates. Approved by the meeting unanimously.

No change proposed to policy of not charging for outside trips unless kit hired, then cost of a pool session. Mark Jones 2nd A Yates. Approved by the meeting unanimously.

Secretary's Report 2022

Much activity this year:

"Spond" membership system to allow booking for events / payments „ implemented and seems to be working well. Much reduced stress at entry to pool sessions! Spond stuff turns up on Google calendar.

Emails to members on mailchimp monthly.

Website: Women and Girls page active, more stuff wanted!

Club Google Calendar available to members, planning calendar for 2023 on website, actions section added.

2023 dates:

Pool dates „ need to sort these asap for 2023:

Summer outside: last year we had some weekend paddles before starting Tuesday evenings 26 April. Similar timings in 2023?

Scarness - similar dates (18-19 June in 2022)

Seaquest - When? Need to sort out soon „ see article in orienteering press! 21 May (see earlier)

BC Bursary

We applied to BC in summer 2022 for 2 club bursaries to help us pay for more people to become coaches. The general one wasn't successful. The "#shepaddles" one to encourage female paddlers was!

We have £1400 to spend on coaching courses for Women and girls in the next few months. (Must be spent by August 2023.) Many thanks to Alison for writing the application! 4 are on a training course in Spring, to be confirmed.

BC affiliation 2022: as of the end September 22

Numbers: 104 Cost: £275.00

(69 in 2021, 57 - 2020, 69 - 2019, 85 -2018, 106 - 2017)

Membership numbers suggest we are now back to where we were in 2017. (Are we going to keep most of these?) The more BC members we have, the less cost to us as a club.

BC charges for clubs have been the same since 2012, I suspect an increase may happen in 2023.

Clubmark - now Quality Club!

We are working with Phil Scowcroft (BC) on re-accreditation. Stuff coming through from BC to help us. This will need work but I suspect lots of stuff simply needs updating / amending. We (Al, Bob, Mark J), need help. Can we sort this by Easter?

Ennerdale Access

We apply every year to United Utilities for a group permit to use the lake. Earliest I've found is 1988! Old Angler's Hotel Site:

We now have permission to use the track from How Hall Farm but its state is not good. Club Trips ONLY! Code number needed to open the gate. We need to be careful to keep to the agreement - discussions are ongoing re more use, so we need to be seen to being responsible.

The Outdoor Partnership „ mutually beneficial

We are a member of this group in 2022 (annual cost £150). Local area coordinator is Claire Bryant. So far we've had financial support for 1st Aid courses and 12 SUPs have been bought which we use to teach non-club members in due course. Three Women Only tasters run „ thanks to Alison Bird and a lot of others! We supported the TOPs activity “Seafest” at St Bees by running a taster session.

Garage 2022: Our Club Garage store „ the building is ours BUT... The land is rented from the Council, 5 year lease at a time. We pay an annual rent for the land, this was renewed 2022 until 2027.

Thanks to a lot of hard work by coaches and club members. Many thanks to all!

A Yates

Meeting expressed its thanks to Al for his hard work during the year.

WAG update for AGM

International Womens' Day March 22 „ successful come and try session in pool, aim to repeat 2023 Intro to SUP sessions with Outdoor Partnership „ 6 half day sessions, 8 places per session,

Wastwater (Wasdale YHA access) and Scarness sessions, over 40 women participated and successful stories, some went on to buy own, some confident to use their own kit, come and try success, used Cumbria community transport minibuses to provide transport for accessibility

Shepaddles champion club programme, self diagnostic tool completed, some webinars attended with British Canoeing, applied for bursary and received £1280 for 4 x FSRT and 4 x paddlesport instructor awards, 4 booked on courses with Wild River „ Claire and Surya Cooper, Claire Cope and Alison Bird

Learning from champion club programme, Websites/social media images need to be at least 50/50 (female/male) with images

Pool sessions „ female numbers good in 1st session, mainly children and mums of children attending, 2nd session female numbers limited to 1 or 2 only occasionally

WAG profile „ children and adults actively participating, limited in older adult females age bracket, increase committee membership this year by increasing females in committee roles in club, ie female and male young person's reps.

Opportunity for female and families for Scarness weekend, ease of boat/equipment access/good changing toilet facilities. Issue with outdoor sessions with Ennerdale, women with children kit carrying to lake is effortful, potential for use of old Angler's hotel access point for this summer for club trips

Lost some teenage females at transition pool to summer in 2022, need to consider better communication for 2023

Recognised superb efforts parents are putting in to organising kids and kit needed to lakeshore to participate

Young person's update : Surya

Social Media „ Instagram account developed and ready to launch with AGM as first post, use as sharing positive news, publicising events, sharing stories and quality images ensuring diversity

Will be good to do a Facebook page also for club for the same purpose, able to link accounts and share to both, Facebook page will allow club visibility on social media without need to join group, both will signpost to website for details

Items arising:

Date of Seaquest confirmed as 21 May. It was noted (Mark Jones) that we will be celebrating 40 years of affiliation to BC in 2023 - a day out at Scarness suggested. Andy Bennion to be approached re a suitable date. Also re using Scarness for a “transition to outside paddling” day in Spring to help pool paddlers move to outside paddling.

Pool activities - see above, use sometimes of overlap to allow movement of people between

sessions.

Pool Competitions etc - Rob Stalker. Difficult over the last few years - little interest in competitive sessions. Suggested by Al Yates - "non-competitive" competitions! Also outdoor activities possibly at Scarness.

Polo - Tom Storer "Rep" by acclamation at this point. Competition at Kendal in Late Jan. To discuss with Alison Bird re a group to visit.

Pool taster sessions - Alison Bird to discuss a March date with Tom Storer. 2 more outdoor ones later on in Spring? Talk to Claire Bryant?

Coaches - self diagnostics re improving skills discussed - Alison Bird will initiate.

Website - more inspiring female pictures needed!

Instagram - Surya has set up an Instagram account for the club to improve our public image.

Meeting expressed its thanks to her - well done!

Andy Bennion - check position with U18 with regard to photos!

Equipment Officer: Mark Hillon unable to attend. Joe has been in touch and will support him.

A Yates - found sample equipment log, could be used when we do a garage clear-out day.

Club Officers for 2022/23

Mark Jones proposed the following, 2nd Al Yates:

Chairman: Mark Jones

Vice Chair: Alison Bird *

Secretary: Alastair Yates

Treasurer: Tony Foster

Equipment: Mark Hillon

Welfare Officers: Joe Stalker and Estelle Kay

Safety Officers: Joe Stalker and Alastair Yates

Pool Coordinator: Coaching team

Website / Calendar / newsletter production: Alastair Yates

Junior Coaching coordinator: David Topliss

Adult Coaching coordinator: Simon Kay

Competition Officer: Robert Stalker

Volunteer coordinator: Andy Bennion and Bob Frazer

#ShePaddles coordinator: Claire Cope **

Membership Coordinator: shared between Chairman and Secretary

School Liaison coordinator: Mark Jones

Junior Rep: Surya Cooper Ivison **

Paddle Ability Rep: Andy Bennion and Bob Frazer

Pool Liason: Tom Storer +, **

Polo etc: Tom Storer

To be asked: Jenson Skillen (for Jnr Rep) **

* New post, to support other roles as needed.

** New appointee!

+ New post, to improve communication with the pool staff.

Meeting approved unanimously.

Other members may be asked to support some posts, eg Treasurer.

Joe Stalker will support Mark Hillon in his role as Equipment Officer.

A.O.B.:

Rob Stalker: Need for some new gear - Air bags for outdoor boats, small size paddles (left handed ones?), straps, look at outdoor tops (Alison Bird) - what sizes do we have? Joe Stalker to see about ordering some items asap. Meeting gave him authority to spend as some items urgent.

WhatsApp group for Committee suggested - Alison Bird. To be implemented by AB!

Nick Jackson asked about the "Edge" building. Mark Jones said not too much was known, a "Trust" would probably run it but what facilities would be usefully available to us was unknown.

Special Merit Award: Mark Jones has had the paddle engraved, will present it at the pool when the awardee is present! A secret till then...

Meeting closed at 21:06, there being no further business for the good or benefit of the Club.

A Yates 21.12.2022

Actions:

Andy Bennion - to be contacted by Mark Jones / Alison Bird re bookings for Scarness

i) Club weekend / 40th party,

ii) "pool - outdoors transition" day - in the spring?

Mark Jones / Al Yates / Bob Frazer: Accreditation to BC completed this Spring?

Also sort out dates for starting outdoor sessions in consultation with Joe Stalker / Tom Storer.

Bob Frazer - organise check of accounts: coordinate pool training info, activities. (A Yates has a big box of stuff which can be used.)