

Annual General Meeting of Maidstone Canoe Club

Friday 13th of March 2020

Minutes

Apologies received :- Geoff Licence, Mike Lambourne, Norman Brooks, Keith Dacey, Catherine Dacey

Attended – See attached list

1. **Chairman's Report** – Brian Williams

Brian welcomes everyone, and thanked everyone for their hard work and participation in the club. In particular, the coaches with putting on the beginner's course and the revenue this created for the club. Mark Corti for maintaining the Club website. To Geoff Orford for membership and accounts, and Mary Cutts for running the Coaching Development Group.

Good Luck to the teams taking part in Devizes to Westminster Race, run at Easter. Benneden School, Emily Wibrew & Paul Curtis, and Aaron Jordan.

Praise to Tom Watson who competed in the World Cup Surf/Ski event in the Canary Island and won Gold.

2. **New Building** – Bryn Price

Bryn updated the meeting with the progress in acquiring the Sub Aqua Club, and that provisional plans had been submitted to Maidstone Borough Council as part of the process in gaining the building. Rent for the building would start when building works had been completed, within reason, and the annual cost is £8,500.00 for the next 10 years.

Plans submitted include changing the kitchen into ladies changing room and showers, disable facilities and boat storage.

Paul Newman suggested an open evening – possibly mid week so that members of the club can have a look round.

Brian explained that the key to the building will be a duplicate to the one on the current club front door, and the duplicate to be kept on the roller door key fob so that everyone can have access when needed.

3. **Treasurers Report** – Geoff Orford

Geoff placed copies of the accounts on the chairs before the meeting started, and invited any questions.

Discussion regarding the raising of Club Membership, as on the reverse of the accounts there is a red and blue line diagram.

Geoff explained to the meeting if we retain the membership at the current rate, the clubs funds would deteriorate (red line), but if increased by 20% (blue line) we would remain equal, and this would assist with covering the rent needed for the Sub Aqua building.

At the pre AGM meeting it was suggested this would be:-

Adult Membership	£84.00
Junior Membership	£36.00
2 nd Family Member	£30.00
Further Family Member	£15.00
Boat Storage (per boat)	£60.00

This could be paid monthly or yearly, individual members choice. It was explained there is a 'hardship fund' available, but members are encouraged to speak to a committee member to make the club aware, and this would be dealt with confidentially. Mark Corti suggested a gradual increase.

Geoff related to the meeting, that it has been five years since the last membership rise, and Paul Newman related to the meeting that compared to other clubs Maidstone is still one of the cheapest. Geoff also related that he would be using the BCU Go Portal for this year's payment, and if anyone needed any assistance, please ask.

Accounts proposed by Catherine Ayling, seconded by John Simmonds.

Increase in subscriptions – proposed Bryn Price, seconded by the floor, with only two against.

4. **Membership Report** – Geoff Orford

Geoff related that currently membership stands at 208, which is slightly down on last year.

Brian explained to the meeting that the new committee for the forthcoming year will be:-

Chairman	Brian Williams
Vice Chairman	John Simmonds
Treasurer & Membership Secretary	Geoff Orford
Secretary	Catherine Dacey
Welfare Officer	Catherine Ayling
First Aid Officer	Lee Horton
Youth Representative	Charlotte Fife
Committee Members	Richard Clark
	Felicity Pope
	Kyle Hoban
	Reece Nelms

Paul Fife – Proposed Paul Newman, Seconded Catherine Ayling – Agreed

Matt Simmonds – Sub Aqua Building as Bryn Price stepped down.

Ian Dann has stood down from the Committee.

5. Racing Presentations

Racer of the Year Award – Steve Rowe presented by Bryn Price

Youth of the Year Award – Erin Cocker accepted by Charlotte Fife

Recreational Paddler of the Year – Andrew Booth accepted by Lee Horton

Newcomer of the Year – Jacob & Melissa Baisley

Chairman's Award – Mary Cutts

6. President's Award – Paul Newman

Paul related how far the club had come from its early beginnings, from a barge on the river to the present day. Also reminisce on how the kayaks/canoes had progressed from canvas boats in the 'Percy Blandford' days to what they are now. Which brought the award around to the hard work this individual had but in since joining the club, and the achievements gained. The award for Presidents Trophy went to Bryn Price.

7. Any Other Business

Bryn Price related that the Committee thanks Paul Curtis who is our auditor of the accounts.

Paul Newman asked members not to put pins in the walls, and reminded the meeting to use the boards provided.

Mark Corti asked the Committee for the missing minutes for the website. Currently this is not up-to-date. Catherine Ayling and Bryn Price to address.

