

Maidstone Canoe Club meeting Minutes 31 March 2021 via Zoom

Present: John Simmonds, Jacob Baisley, Geoff Orford, Catherine Dacey, Catherine Ayling, Reece Nelmes, Paul Fife, Lee Horton, Geoff Licence, Andrea Griffiths.

Apologies: Richard Clarke, Leanne Jordon, Charlotte Fife.

Agenda Item	Action
<p>Chairman's Report: Welcome to new members of the committee, Andrea, Geoff L and Leanne.</p> <p>Plan to have a club open day to hand out awards and thank everyone for their support over the lockdowns during the past year. This will have to be after 21 June due to continued covid restrictions. Date set 4th July 2021. Plan at next meeting.</p> <p>Jacob Baisley voted in as Vice Chairman.</p> <p>Fun session booked with the rotary club for young carers on July 28th 2pm with bbq afterwards.</p> <p>New position of Environment Officer taken up by Andrea Griffiths .</p> <p>Racing Bosun, Leanne to be approached to see if this is something she would take on as her committee role.</p>	Agenda item
<p>Secretary's Report: Received a letter for the Sub Aqua Club regarding radio licences, to be returned to sender as we have no forwarding details.</p> <p>The abandoned vehicle is still in front of the meter box, CD to contact council again</p> <p>Thank you letter sent to Rob and Alison Payne for allowing use of their Forest School for the Outdoor First Aid Course at the weekend.</p>	<p>CD</p> <p>CD</p> <p>CD</p>
<p>Treasurer / membership Report: Currently 68 members renewed. We will not be using the BC system for payment this year as it costs the club too much.</p> <p>No real change in accounts since AGM, only the first aid course which the club is part funding for those attending who are using it at the club as coaches/ leaders.</p> <p>Cost of Course £860 11 participants at £50 each, so the club will pay £550 towards the cost.</p>	
<p>Communication: GO suggested setting up a whats app group for members to contact the committee, consensus is that the emails and contact form work well and a waats app group may become difficult to manage.</p> <p>All information should be put on the website, it is the automatically added to the social media pages.</p> <p>Monthly update to be put on the website as well as being emailed out</p> <p>For next meeting think up how we might update the website to make it more user friendly.</p> <p>There is a member who makes websites, perhaps make an approach for assistance.</p>	<p>CD /GO</p> <p>All</p>
<p>CDG Feedback: The general feeling of the coaching group is that paddlers who have keys to the boat store should be 2* / Explore level. To this end there are a number of Explore courses planned.</p> <p>There is a waiting list for beginners courses, Mark is putting together a programme with the coaches. More are needed.</p> <p>It is felt that the club needs more coaches, a Course is being run in June for level 1. This is a 2 day course and is £450. If coaches train at the club and then run courses, they will be refunded their training fee.</p> <p>Information about progression in paddling to be put in the next news update, Lee and Geoff to make a flow chart</p> <p>CDG also thought we needed more female coaches as over half the beginners course participants are female.</p>	CD/LH/GO

<p>New Build: A draft timetable has been drawn up and circulated by Geoff. Jacob agreed to become the chair / driver of the sub committee, they are to meet w/c 5th April Geoff O happy to be secretary of Sub committee</p>	
<p>Environmental Officer : This will involve liaising with the club on clean up events, both of litter and penny wort removal. The South East River Trust are hoping to obtain funding to prevent plastic pollution, this will fund litter pickers and equipment for events. The plastics collected will be analysed to try to reduce use. This is an EU funded project. It should lead to a programme of river clean ups. As part of her Job, Andrea is working on a programme to reduce sewage being discharged into the river, currently moored house boats are allowed to do this on the Medway. Andrea will supply pictures of invasive plants and will make a presentation to the club about invasive species and how we can be spotters and reporters of these plants.</p>	
<p>AOB: We are to raise the pay of the cleaner. He has not had an increase since he started and has done a brilliant job over the past year. The club is also going to buy a new jet washer for the Club. Pool Sessions: these will start as soon as the pool will allow, however Lee feels it may be sometime before we are able to run them. MGS Cadets: John S has a meeting planned to discuss the cadet group kayaking at the club. Meeting Closed at 9pm</p>	
<p>Next meeting Thursday 29th April 7pm on the grass at the club, unless it's raining and then it will be Zoom.</p>	