

Maidstone Canoe Club
Annual General Meeting
Friday 21st March 2014

Brian welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Andrea Head, Maggie Taylor and Joe Brown

2. Minutes

Minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting were distributed. Brian gave the meeting a chance to read through them, and relating that only those persons in attendance on the 22nd of March 2013, could adopt these minutes as correct.

3. Chairman's Report – Brian Marston

Achievements of Maidstone Canoe Club - Geoff Orford was congratulated on being awarded the BCU Long Service Award, and Brian praised Paul Newman and Geoff Orford, for all their hard work in gaining the Club Mark for Maidstone. They covered at all aspects of the club, including the record keeping, which now needs to be maintained to keep the Club Mark.

In 2013 the Coaching and Development Group, which is made up of a dedicated group of coaches, all voluntary, put together an excellent training programme and implemented it. This assisted one hundred people achieve their First Star BCU award. Brian praised Bill Norman and his team for all their hard work in the last twelve months.

This year the club has also ventured away to Bulgaria for the first time, and has managed to organise the highest number of club trips, courtesy of Nikki, Julian and Geoff.

The Racing Team has done well, competing in the Essex series, and gaining some good results.

Equipment - The Club has purchased four new K1's and three plastic boats for the club. Brian praised Leanne and Richard as the respective bosun's for all their hard work, for keeping the stores tidy, and the boats well looked after.

Larkfield Leisure Centre Pool Sessions are very well attended, and these are organised by Lee Horton.

Mark Corti was thanked for all his hard work on the Club's website, and which is constantly being kept up to date with everything known going on. Please can we have some input though for the club newsletter?

The Club house has improved and Brian thanked Aaron Jordan and Leanne Brown, for all the maintenance and cleaning. The Social side of the club has waned a little, but the team spirit is still there.

Where do we go from here – Improvement needs to be looked at for the Sunday Morning sessions. The basic skills have been achieved from the courses put on by the CDG, but a follow up

needs to be implemented, so that these skills can be improved on, which in turn will maintain membership for Maidstone Canoe Club.

The Club Committee is good, and Brian thanked the Committee for all their hard work, and that the minutes of the meeting are now published on the Club website for everyone to read. The CDG is continuing with their hard work and there are well stocked boat sheds.

4. Treasurer's Report – Geoff Orford

Accounts distributed, and Geoff gave a breakdown of the figures. There is currently a small profit, and £4,000 was spent on boats since the 2013 AGM.

Geoff highlighted the electricity bill on the accounts, and there was a discussion on ways to reducing this bill. Richard Clark pointed out, that the system is currently using 30kw a day, and that the heaters in the changing rooms are on all the time. Suggested that the showers go on a timer?

The course's run by the CDG was a big success financially to the club.

Brian informed the meeting, that the Club accounts were audited this year, in house by Mark Corti and Julian Ackroyd.

5. Membership Secretary's Report – Geoff Orford

Geoff reported that Club membership is currently 193, but not many younger members are amongst this number. Discussion by the meeting, that after the 1 star courses is completed, that correspondence is sent out to try and maintain this interest. Mark Corti offered to email the Club Newsletter to try and cover this gap.

Discussion on the Racing Team from Mark Collins and Jane Moon, relating that their sons are in the team and Dean has got them to a stage, where assistance is required so that their sons, and others, can improve and move forward. CDG related, that their meetings are open to all members of the club, and at this current time, there is no representation from the racing team at these meetings. It was further discussed, whether or not the Committee would fund and/or racing coaches. It was highlighted that some funding is available, but the BCU make it difficult, and the CDG coaches received this funding, but further training was funded by them.

Bill Norman pointed out that 'bank side' coaching is possible, and reiterates that their meetings are open and no individual invitations sent out. Any individual member can attend, and bring along their ideas, and they will be discussed.

Link for coaches from another club was put forward, to assist the racing team.

5.1 Trustee's – Brian Marston

The Club requires Trustee's, which were originally Paul Newman and Martin Howes. Paul Newman is the only remaining Trustee, and at the last Committee meeting, informed the meeting that he wished to relinquish this position. The role of a Trustee was explained by Paul, and Keith Darcy, Geoff Orford and Brian Marston offered to take on this position. Brian asked the meeting, if anyone else would be interested in becoming a trustee, as a maximum of four trustee's are required. Date of meeting to be set to cover this matter.

6. Membership Fee's – Geoff Orford

Membership fees for 2014/2015 discussed. Vote taken – 12 v 2 - It was decided by the meeting for membership and boat storage to remain the same, as per last financial year. Geoff to send out reminders.

7. Election of Officers

Brian Marston informed the meeting that he wished to stand down as Chairman. A requirement on being a Committee member is that a nominated person must give their consent/agreement. Names were put forward and voted on, and the Committee for the year of 2014 – 2015 stands as follows:

Chairman – Bill Norman

Treasurer & Membership Secretary – Geoff Orford

Secretary – Jane Addy

Committee Members: - Chris Moon, Mark Corti, Richard Clark, Catherine Darcy, Brian Marston, Lee Horton, Aaron Jordan, Leanne Brown and Nikki Norman.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 – Posters advertising beginner courses

8.2 – Signs for the Club house

8.3 – Sending out renewals

8.4 – Fees by the end of May, or key fobs will be deactivated.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm