

Carlisle Canoe Club
AGM Minutes 25th October 2016

Present:

Tony Colla (Treasurer), Adam Colla, Zoe Southern (Secretary), Walter McPhee, John Storr, John McAllister (Chairman), Ben McAllister (Youth Representative), Lucy and Alison McAllister, Mike Saunders, Stephen Kavanagh, Rachel Prudham, Antony Pike Bowyer (Coach/Leader Development & Co-ordination), Chris Hewitt, Jamie Hewitt, Mike Briggs, Ben Johnston, Kenny Park, Jim and Sam Winterton, Malcolm Cattermole, Cameron Ruddick, Conor Johnston

Apologies:

John and Lizzie McGaffin, Susan and Mark Rutherford, Marc Johnston

Minutes of last meeting:

Seen and agreed.

Matters arising

Chris H spoke to the Sands Centre re. cleaning up the area outside of the club. This was effective for a while. Walter suggested a metal bucket with sand in, which hopefully smokers will find easier to use. John has a bucket he will provide.

Rachel had requested more theory training, Ant provided this.

Times were changed to 9-11 for Saturday sessions and the attendance was good but this year the committee decided to move back to 10-12.

Tony organised 1st aid course which was well attended by club members.

Walter mentioned all the help given from Joe Stalker to plan and run the slalom event.

Sea paddling had been requested and Duncan Greene from Greene Adventures ran a series of sea paddling sessions for the club.

Chairman's Report

Welcome to the Carlisle Canoe Club AGM

The start of the winter saw our Saturday sessions continue with 2* development of paddlers some of which got out on the rivers to practice their skills in some big water levels. Then during December there was too much water resulting in wide spread flooding with members wanting help, I contacted the authorities who were appreciative of the help but felt they were organized enough to decline our offer of help. The high waters continued which resulted in plenty of epic paddles for many club members. when the water levels were right, most river trips are well attended and work well, this is certainly improving individual paddling and river reading skills and with the continued support of the coaches, leaders and volunteers who help make this happen we shall continue to plan and run trips for all abilities. We will publish a calendar for the

rest of this year, the locations will be decided a few days before as the destination will be water level dependant. Surf trips may well drop into some of the weekends if the forecast is good.

We attended the lune Wavehopper races for the first time taking beginners and some of us older folk, it turned out to be a fantastic day the weather was sunny and dry, a bit too dry for the river levels were low, but we still enjoyed ourselves. We also went to Derwentwater to tiger boat race just missing out in the final, ate too many hot dogs?? Copland made the decision to rename the annual event in memory of Jim Wilson, I am sure we will try again next year to get the top spot.

In March this year I was able to paddle down the Spay, this had been something I had wanted to do for some time, it is a wonderful trip and would recommend it.

This year beginner session, have been running on Tuesdays with most months having a healthy attendance however we have seen lower new members repeatedly attending club sessions on Thursdays we will try address this for next year. New members are still joining the club so current membership is healthy.

We have held Wavehopper & Slalom events this year with many club members helping and competing in the events we remain a strong recreational paddling club but like a bit of competition now and again.

We have once again given support to events during the summer months involving open water swimming, we have a great reputation for providing skilled paddlers for these events, for us as well as the serious side to making the waters a safer place for the swimmers to enjoy, they have turned into social gatherings letting us paddle, camp, dance and play in places we would not normally paddle, it also give us a great feeling when our intervention makes a real difference to a swimmer completing the challenge as some would not complete the challenge without your supporting words and smiles.

Next year we have already been asked to help out again by most of the organisers.

I would to thank everyone that supports our club and events that have taken place during the year. Especially Zoe, Walter Tony and Ray for their time preparing for the Wavehopper and Slalom events, we hope to run the events next year if you want to find out more about helping plan these events just ask as I am sure your support would be welcomed.

Our 3 year plan we have made progress:-

- * We have added Stephen as a new level 1 coach's this year
- * John Storr has passed his level 2 coaching award.

The committee would appreciate everyone keeping the changing room and kit tidy by putting stuff back where it belongs.

Treasurers Report

Tony went through the treasurers report, showed a powerpoint and explained the figures. The miscellaneous revenue is mostly from taster sessions the club ran and the EPIC Events

donation, which was approx. 15% of revenue. Tony reported the club spent about 79% of the revenue (85% if you don't count taster sessions and EPIC donation).

Some money has been spent on new equipment.

Discussed membership numbers and Tony reported that most non renewals were new starters and the reasons behind this were discussed. Fear of capsizing/confidence issues were suggested. Chris suggested more lake paddles to improve paddlers confidence. The possibility of sending out a questionnaire to gain views on this was suggested. Tony suggested more encouragement to be given to people at the pool sessions to come to river sessions.

*Please see the statement of accounts for more detailed information and graphs for the income and expenditure of the club, which can be obtained from Tony.

Election of Committee

Role	Name	Nominated	Seconded
Chairman	John McAllister	Tony C	Walter Mc
Vice Chairman	Norrie Brown	John Mc	Tony C
Secretary	Rachel Prudham	John Mc	Tony C
Treasurer	Tony Colla	John Mc	Zoe S
Child protection Officers	Lizzie McGaffin + John McGaffin	John Mc	John S
Fundraising officer			
Volunteer coordinator	Kenny Park	John Mc	Tony C
Coach leadership/ development officer	John Storr	John Mc	Tony C
Junior coaching coordinator	Walter McPhee	John Mc	Tony C
Youth Representatives	Ben McAllister Jamie Hewitt Sam Bloomfield	John Mc	Zoe S

*fundraising officer still needed. Speak to any of the committee if you are interested.

Awards

Most improved paddler- Cameron Ruddick

Jim Wilson Award- Walter McPhee

Swimmer of the Year- Conor Johnston

A.O.B.

John Storr- suggested people could be asked to sign up for Thursday sessions, perhaps using Facebook, so the coaching needs and interest for sessions is better known.

-reported that what you can assess as a level 2 coach is unclear and appears limited. This will be looked into.

-mentioned that the club needs more level 2 coaches and we should be looking to future and training more.

-suggested that the club should have an accreditation to rescue people in the rapid behind the Sands to ensure there is always someone on the rapid that we are confident is able to rescue.

-sorted out coaching rota for next month.

Tony C- discussed that coaches are not signing up to commit to coaching sessions which can leave things uncertain and asked for more people to sign up

-mentioned that progressing paddlers need to be better informed of next steps/progression, such as 2*.

-mentioned some coaches require updates. John has contacted coaches who need an update. It will be looked into whether a coach can self assess once.

Rachel P- spoke about how trips which include camping, BBQs are popular and may appeal to more members and suggested more of this type of trip.

Ant PB- Thanked all coaches for their work and for making events possible. And reported we now have 1 more level 1 coach and 1 more level 2 coach.

-reported we now have 12 coaches and John S suggested a board with coaches information should be put in the club.

Jim W- discussed working towards 2* and finding getting the hang of some skills difficult. Is not focussed on awards. John Mc mentioned that awards are not essential for attending trips as a trip leader will decide based on an individuals competencies rather than what star award they have.

John Mc- discussed that the club is currently working towards meeting Clubmark requirements and on meeting 3 year plan. Speak to the committee for more information on Clubmark.

-handed out certificates to thanks coaches and flowers for Zoe (much appreciated) for being secretary.

Walter Mc- suggested a pool session could be organised at end of the 4 week 1* sessions, or perhaps after every 2 months and have 2 groups together, as a way to boost new paddlers confidence with capsizing.

Ben J- asked what grade river the clubs insurance covers and suggested organising some more difficult trips, hiring a minibus to travel. John Mc mentioned that Michael Sadza has offered to drive a minibus but it has been difficult to find a minibus with a tow hitch. Ben will look into this.

-Ben suggested that the club have more social events like bowling etc. This will be organised.

Malcolm C- introduced himself and that he is new to the club. He is interested in sea kayaking, open boats and longer trips as he lives in Hexham. He is happy to help organise trips and was advised to use Facebook.

Sam W- asked for more 2* coaching next summer.

Conor J- fed back that some evenings it can be unsure who is coaching and which group they should be with and have to wait around. Good communication on the river bank can help rectify this.