



Minutes: Club Meeting, 25th May 2010, 8pm – 10.30pm

Location: Upstairs Room, Cardinal Pub, 23 Francis Street, London, W1P 1DN

Attendance

- Andy McMenamain
- Phil Cumming
- Geoff Campbell
- Jacqui Marsh
- Miranda Kronfli
- Katie Wade
- Richard Bate
- Judy Armstrong
- Tim Mansel
- John Mayne (plus John's friend Amanda)
- David Townsend (Toons)
- Harry Whelan (part of meeting)

Apologies (received)

Jo Suter, Olwen Ross, Manda Kiely, Jacquelin Magnay, Kate Peel, Nikki Ledger

Chairs Opening Remarks	Actions
Andy opened the meeting welcoming everyone to the Club's inaugural meeting and gave a summary of its history to date – acknowledging everyone who had played a part in getting CKC off the ground in an amazingly short space of time. Special thanks were given to Phil, Harry Whelan and the Royal Borough.	Noted
Membership Update	
Phil provided an update on membership. As of the 25 th May 2010 CKC had 21 paid up members (Katie joined on the night).	Noted
There is a 50 / 50 women to men ratio. The majority of current members (76%) have some connection with Battersea Canoe Club. Other members came via word of mouth, a UKRGB Forum post and Harry.	Noted
Membership is rising steadily with little or no proactive advertising or promotion. There are at least 4 novice / intermediate paddlers in contact with the Club who had expressed interest but yet to get involved / join. A number of beginners have also approached the Club and had been pointed to Harry's adult beginner sessions (the first sessions commenced on the 15 th May and are run over 4 consecutive Saturday afternoons). It is understood that there are currently 2 people on this course who came via the CKC website.	Noted



Treasurers Update	
<p>Geoff provided a report on financials. As of 18th May 2010 there were 18 paid up members and one guest paddler which resulted in revenues of £1,233. In terms of expenditure, money has been provided to the Royal Borough and subs to Canoe England and there are still some expenses to be paid out. Money available to the Club is currently £359 before outstanding expenses.</p>	Noted
<p>Geoff stated that increasing membership numbers should be the first priority. In order to pay the borough the licence fee to continue to use the Centre the Club needed at least 40 members by March 2011. It was considered that this was an achievable target and the Club should be able accommodate this many.</p>	Noted
<p>The possibility of running an additional evening at the Centre was floated – with an earlier start time (6.30pm). Andy reported that Harry was open to this however the Club needed to get on with buying its own kit because increased use would inevitably lead to an increase in wear and tear.</p>	Noted
<p>Quiz nights and other Club fund raising events / initiatives were discussed. It was agreed that the Club would organise a quiz night in the near future.</p>	Jacqui / Katie to action. Other volunteers needed
<p>Andy reported that Harry had offered a ‘finders fee’ to the Club in return for putting forward groups for Team Away Days and offering to help staff such sessions.</p>	All to action as appropriate
<p>The possibility of introducing a lifetime membership fee was also discussed. However, it was generally agreed that it was too soon to introduce this.</p>	Noted
Kit Officer Update	
<p>Jacqui provided a very quick update on what assets the Club owned – currently 5 x CKC Diffuser Lights and a padlock for a locker in the Centre.</p>	Noted
<p>A list of potential items for the Club to consider had been put together by Jacqui and Phil – predominantly safety and leader equipment. There was a lot of discussion as to whether it was appropriate for the Club to buy items which should be perhaps be owned by aspiring trip leaders.</p>	Noted
<p>CKC’s aim of being inclusive and safety conscious was put up as an argument as to why it should own some equipment which should arguably be owned by aspiring trip leaders. For instance, there will be individuals who would want to lead but not necessarily have the means to buy all the kit that is required in one go.</p>	Noted
<p>VHF radio, flares, First Aid kit and repair kit were suggested by Richard as items the Club should own as they would not need to be used by everyone, and will tend to sit unused for much of their life.</p>	Noted
<p>It was finally agreed that the Club should buy a VHF radio – an Icom M33 – and agreement over other items should be discussed with the Committee offline.</p>	Jacqui to buy a VHF radio for Club use



Qualifications and Training Update	
Miranda reported that she had been undertaking a review of locations in the SE and SW which may be able to hire boats and equipment to us until the Club had its own equipment.	Miranda to make contact with centres and report back to Committee
Phil also mentioned that he had been in touch with Seapoint Centre a centre in Folkestone and was waiting to hear back from them.	Phil to report back to Committee
Richard suggested that the Adventure College in Portsmouth might be worth approaching.	Noted
There was general agreement that the Club should organise some day trips to the south coast in the coming months – particularly ones that are suitable for beginner / novice paddlers.	Miranda to action
Miranda also mentioned that she was going to contact members to find out what training they needed.	Miranda to action
Thames Sessions	
A brief discussion was had over the management of the Thames sessions and the sign up process. It was agreed that it was a first come, first served basis – anyone wanting to paddle as a guest must first contact Phil or Andy they cannot simply put their name down on the list.	Phil to email the Club and remind them of the Thames session sign up process
Tim enquired why there were only 8 places. Places had been initially limited according to the number of sea kayaks at the Centre. However, there were 11 Acadias (touring kayaks) which could also be used although these are slower. Session leader to paddler group ratio is also an important factor to consider.	Noted
Harry reported that he was planning to get another 4 sea kayaks which he would also make available to the Club to use.	Noted
Funding	
Phil gave an update on funding applications. The Club had put in an application to Awards for All and had been unsuccessful on the basis that it was considered to be too sports orientated. He had since been in contact with Sport England and had been encouraged to submit an application through its Small Grants programme. An application is currently being prepared. The BCU had agreed to act as referee and the borough's Sport Development team were supportive.	Phil to prepare the application
A 3 Year Financial Plan is also required – to assume that the grant application is successful.	Geoff to prepare a 3 Year Financial Plan for the Club
Phil was also in contact with the boroughs Sport Development Officer. There may be the possibility of further funding to target priority groups in the borough (e.g. women, over 50s, and SW10 residents) however this would be contingent on the Sport England grant being successful. A meeting had been organised with the Sport Development Officer for the 3 rd June prior to the Thames session.	Phil to report back on outcomes of the meeting with the borough's Sport Development Officer



<p>Phil also represents the Club on the boroughs Club Development Working Group. The next meeting is on the 16th June at Westway which will focus on funding, volunteering and training – Andy also plans to attend.</p> <p>In terms of training there is funding available for coaching qualifications in London through ProActive. There are also additional funding routes available for people who are residents of the Royal Borough.</p>	<p>Phil / Andy to report back to Club as required</p> <p>Anyone who is considering becoming a coach should contact Phil</p>
<p>Website</p>	
<p>Toons said that the website had been moved to a new server and it was much faster! He said he was happy to host the website at no cost to the Club for the foreseeable future. Andy thanked him for the website and mentioned that several people had commented to him how great it was – including Harry.</p> <p>Phil said that now the website had been fixed all the Committee would get “Administrator” rights and all members would get “Author” rights to post blogs, update the calendar, and remove their names for Thames signup if needed.</p> <p>John asked whether a photo gallery other than a Flickr feed could be considered. Phil and Miranda mentioned that this was already being looked into.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Phil to action</p> <p>Phil / Miranda to report back on website gallery options in due course</p>
<p>Future Trips</p>	
<p>Notwithstanding Scotland (June) and Sweden (August) – Miranda said that an email had gone out about a trip to the Scilly Isles on the last weekend of September. Several people had expressed interest so far and that the trip had been classed as “Grade C” using the Club trip guidelines.</p> <p>Note: earlier discussion about weekend trips to the SE / SW coast.</p> <p>Jacqui mentioned that she was going back to New Zealand for a few months at the start of 2011 and that if people wanted to head over there during this period a sea kayak trip could be organised. Anyone interested in this should contact Jacqui directly.</p> <p>Judy mentioned that she was going to Croatia in the next week or so which included some sea kayaking booked through Adriatic Kayak Tours. She said that she would do a reccie for a possible future trip.</p> <p>Post meeting note: a rough water handling trip to Pembrokeshire / the Bitchies may be organised in the summer / autumn for aspiring 4 Star Leaders, including surf skills. Phil was awaiting dates from Owen Burson.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>All to action as appropriate</p> <p>Judy to report back</p> <p>Phil to report back</p>
<p>Storage of Personal Boats</p>	
<p>Andy reported back on whether personal boats could be stored at the Centre. This would cost £150 annually and come with no other privileges, i.e. no set of keys or right to access the river outside of agreed Club times. This fee would also be treated as additional to what the Club owes the Centre therefore membership / Centre fees would still be payable.</p>	<p>All to note</p>



<p>It was noted that the Club has 2 sets of keys to the Centre – currently held by Andy and Phil. Access to the Centre is currently Thursday nights and other times by arrangement / agreement with Harry.</p>	<p>All to note</p>
<p>Cremorne News</p>	
<p>Harry reported that space for 12 Club sea kayaks had been set aside and the borough would rack the space out. The Club would be responsible for securing the sea kayaks (i.e. providing appropriate padlocks).</p> <p>Additional days / times for paddling from the Centre were possible. Again Harry reminded the Club that it needed to get on and get its own boats and equipment. Harry asked to deal with one point of contact and would provide other available days / times one quarter in advance.</p>	<p>All to note</p> <p>Andy to action</p>
<p>AOB</p>	
<p>Katie asked whether anyone would be averse to holding a joint summer social with Battersea Canoe Club – it was agreed that this was fine as long as Battersea Canoe Club were ok with this too.</p> <p>Phil reported that the Club had registered with Canoe England to work towards getting Clubmark accreditation. Jacqui had volunteered to lead on pulling together the necessary information.</p> <p>Post meeting note: a big well done to Cremorne Riverside Centre for having one of its youth projects awarded the London 2012 Inspire Mark! Apparently it is the first kayaking centre to be awarded the Mark.</p>	<p>Katie to action</p> <p>All to note and support as necessary</p> <p>All to note</p>

Next Club Meeting:

Cardinal Pub – Tuesday 7th September 2010, 8pm