

CHELSEA KAYAK CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wed 27TH NOVEMBER 2019 evening - At Megan's on the Hill restaurant, Balham

1. Introductions

Present:

- Fiona G, Committee; 2018-19 Chairperson
- Charlie T - Member
- Sean H - Member
- Philippe M – 2018-19 Kit officer
- Tudor G – 2018-19 Club Secretary and Finance officer
- David P Member
- Andrejs Member
- Liza E; 2018-19 Trip Officer
- Peter M - 2018-19 Website & GDPR officer
- Paul R - 2018-19 Training officer
- Philippa H – 2018-19 Safety officer

Apologies: Lorna, Dave T, Rachel S, Kate, Olwen, Janice, Safi, Rowland, Karen, Jonathan T

2. Chairperson's summary of year – Fiona

ARCHES Reorganisation. It took several years but the new set up is now working well for CKC. CKC wanted to express our thanks to BBA, Alex H, Lorna & everyone that's made this happen! Initially the reorganisation was disruptive and CKC couldn't access our kit, nor paddle. The problem was resolved once the scaffolding arrangement was implemented as drawn.

The scaffolding rack joints were re-arranged on a Kit day to ensure metal scaffolding clamps didn't damage the kayaks as they are slid in/out, and padded ends make it safer for users too! The reorganisation now means that the area for the kayaks and the kit is much improved for access.

BBA/BFSCCT has designated a manager, Phil to over-see the arches; a helpful change. Access to CKC kit has improved as co-tenants also keep their kit within their own areas.

There is No rubbish pick up at arches so please ensure take rubbish with us at all with us all the time.

SOCIAL MEDIA. No one is systematically tweeting about what we do. This needs to improve, since social media is a key way of alerting people about our club. (& this getting new members)

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Thames trip on the 1st January started the ball rolling and then over the course of 2019 more members organised trips to the sea.
- Successful year of Thames trips – with 55 Thames paddles being run between 1st Jan to end of Sept 2019 which had in total 200 sign-ups over CKC website.
- The taster sessions have been very successful & we should repeat running taster sessions in 2020

3. Chairwomen's points raised:

- Ideally the club Needs marketing role (including social media), fund raising role, social secretary role. It may be that the club needs to raise more funds, ideally not by raising membership fees, but perhaps by writing a funding application to enable more training, purchasing new/replacement kayaks and if we found that BBA raised our rent for the arches.

4. COMMITTEE OFFICERS' REPORTS

Safety officer feedback – Philippa

Reported that no major incidents had been reported by members, but a few minor ones we can learn from have been shared with everyone.

All safety documents are up to date and available for members on the website, and our H&S risk assessment has been acknowledged by PLA

Buoyancy Aids have been checked & kit days enable safety kit to be checked & fixed

Potential hazards on the Thames include moored boats, piers, houseboats & barges; other river users have had major incidents- we must give them the space needed, so a rescue could be completed before a swimmer gets pulled into danger.

Training officer feedback Report from Paul R

Successful three BC Discover award days run for newbies & beginner members. The club is grateful to Trainer Rob Davis for running these at Shepperton, & those who help transport kayaks.

Coastal Navigation & kit repair (also known as smash & bash course) training has been run by Howard Jeffs. Aquatic 1st Aid is planned for Feb 2020.

Website/ IT: report from Peter.

Website is now more frequently updated with activities & members are being more proactive with uploading blogs and pictures. So, website portrays us as an active club 😊 which also means we are found by search engines.

We are still using the original server and domain names. Website's server is currently looked after by David T (Toons) who has asked that the server arrangement be updated so that he is no longer involved. Phil C owns & renews the CKC website domain name. CKC is grateful for the continued support of these founding members and very happy to reimburse website cost. The website is vital to CKC's operation and we're aware of the risk reliance on any one individual (but not worried at this point!)

The AGM Discussed the website infrastructure & if this is actually needed to simplify. Others suggested we do consider a change. Maybe at the same time to consider a rebranding, since we are no longer operating out of Chelsea. New members stated that the CKC website has a lot of useful information, it is the presentation that lets the website down, not content. The text in places is seen to be out of date (Cremorne still referenced, star awards etc), there's repetition and it's not always easy to find what you need. Concerns about data protection were raised.

Concerns were raised about GDPR as phone numbers are exposed to the public. Other members agreed risk but in reality, is it of true significance? There was a discussion about other options. Google document could be used, or a word press solution could be explored. Sean is ok to look into a Word Press solution to website infrastructure (Word Press is the software/editing package behind the website). Updating the website content needs a team effort.

Trips: Reported by Liza

2019 – Liza listed all the sea trips done over the year.

Poole Harbour – weekend

Isle of Wight Circumnavigation – long weekend

Portsea Harbour daytrip

Monthly SEK trips and training

Pagaia Spain

Devon, Dartmouth/ St Mawes long weekend, camping

Dorset, Wareham weekend camping

Beachy Head day trip

West Coast Scotland week trip

Scilly Isles week trip
Orford Ness weekend
Jurassic Gathering
Swales day trip
Camber Sands day trip

Draft Calendar plan for 2020 with trip suggestions recently been sent out – asking for members to volunteer to lead trips. Another trip planning session will be organised in March 2020.

Accounts, treasurer. Report from Tudor

For year ending 28 Feb 2019 (CKC's financial year end) income over previous 12 months was £5,799. Interim income between 1st March to 26 Nov 2019 was £5664. The bulk of this income comes from membership fees, then course fees, taster sessions & hire fees. Income comes into CKC's bank account and CKC's PayPal account.

Expenditure ending 28 Feb 2019 (CKC's financial year end) over previous 12 months was £3850. Interim expenditure between 1st March to 26 Nov 2019 was £5143. The bulk of expenditure relates to paying rent (for Arches and trailer parking), then individual trainers' fees, then repair-related costs, British Canoeing membership and MemberMojo fees, PayPal charges, and a handful of sundry items. The main increase in expenditure between March – Nov 2019 compared with year ending Feb 2019 relates to paying for more training, and maintenance/repair related costs.

Recommendation: To ask members to make bank transfers directly into the CKC bank account, to reduce PayPal charges, and to look after skegs when landing/launching!

Membership & Club Secretary report. Report from Tudor

Membership is up to 53 people from 47 in previous year. Members are aged between 23-68. Of the 53 members 38% (20) are women, compared with 43% last year, and 26 members joined in the last 12 months.

Taster sessions are an effective way of getting new club membership. We need to think about how to re-connect with the 2019 Totally Thames taster session people in Spring/early summer in 2020.

Discussion: We also need to run a taster session earlier in the year, and ideally linked to another relevant initiative which has excellent & relevant marketing. We need to investigate if there is a week in 2020 promoting a new Initiate of London as a national park city, or some other external hook promoting outdoor activities or Kayaking in London.

Kit officer: Report from Philippe

- X 4 successful Kit Days. One focused on rearranging scaffolding
- Recent check of safety of Buoyancy Aids, towlines & the contents of first aid kit.
- Trailer storage needs a tidy up and some gardening for a few hours is needed.
- Hatch covers deteriorate quickly, and we need to keep on top of ordering new ones, find a different supplier which has more durable hatch covers or experiment with keeping the hatch covers off the boats are stored?
- New paddles bought this year. X 3 (205, 210)
- Discussion about if older boats should be replaced, but the view was that the plastic is durable. One of the weak points to keep an eye on, which is safety critical for sea trips is to ensure we stay on top of Skeg maintenance.

5. Election of new roles

Roles	2018 – 2019	Willing to continue / Stand?	Proposed by	Seconded by	2019 - 2020
Chair & BBA Liaison	Fiona	Yes	Liza	Tudor	Fiona
Secretary	Tudor	Yes	Fiona	Paul	Tudor
Thames Coordinator	Tudor	Yes	Fiona	Philippe	Tudor
Safety Officer	Philippa	Yes	Liza	David	Philippa
Treasurer	Tudor	Yes	Fiona	Philippe	Tudor
Training Officer	Paul	Yes			Paul
Kit officer	Philippe	Yes	Fiona	David	Philippe
Trips coordinator	Liza	Yes	Fiona	Tudor	Liza
Website and Data protection officer	Peter	No	Fiona	Pete	Sean
Marketing officer	Vacant		Fiona	Liza	Charlie
Social secretary	Vacant		Fiona	Liza	Charlie
Welfare	Liza	Yes	Not voted upon		Liza
Funding coordinator	vacant				Vacant

We need to identify someone to coordinate the leading the regular Thames paddles. First committee meeting will be on Tues 21 Jan 2020 evening. Charlie & Fiona to be in touch to explore possible location for the meeting. We will need to cross-check if the different activities which need to happen to run a happy & flourishing club are clearly allocated to roles.

6. Feedback from quick survey on 2018-19 year amongst those attending AGM

Best things that occurred: in order of number of mentions.

1 Sea trips, 2. Taster Sessions 3. Friendly members, 4, Training days, new members getting involved with club, Trip leaders, Paul's biscuits,

Worse things; in order of number of mentions.

1 Few qualified Sea Leaders, no clear route to progress paddling skills within the club 2. More off – water social including on weekend trips. 3. Too few cars for transporting kayaks.

To Do more 2019 -2020

1. Sea Trips. 2. Change Branding of CKC 3. Relaxed Trips.

Wiling to help with 2019 – 2020

1. Kit days, 2. Anything, 3. Training 4. Trip Planning. 5. Getting more members, Social media. Website, Taster days.

7. **AOB** – Charlie updated members on plans for Xmas paddle and subsequent social.

8. AGM ended with those present sharing their favourite photos from the previous year.