

Glasgow Coastal Rowing Club

Committee Meeting, 24 August 2016, 18:30

Hillhead Sports Club, 32 Hughenden Road, G12 9XP

Minutes

1. Attendance: Ewan Kennedy, Ian Watson, Gordon McCracken, Fiona Macleod, David Thomson, Ewan Strachan, Bruce Whyte, Liz Mitchell, Olive Burnside, Ben Duffin, Doleen Cunningham, Lesley Slaughter, Richard Edwards, Alan Watson, Gillie Hagger, Ana Rotmistrovsky. Apologies received from Sophie Kostin and Sally Semple. Intimation of late arrival from Eva Bolander
2. Introduction: brief history of GCRC.
EK, IW & GM welcomed the excellent turnout and looked forward to devolving tasks and responsibilities to more members. They had been pleased to form the Launch Committee, and looked forward to passing on the roles of Convener, Secretary and Treasurer at the Club's first AGM. The Club's origins are inextricably linked with GalGael and Ben Duffin, Senior Boatbuilder. On 31.7.2015 the SCRA website carried an article headlined "A New Coastal Rowing Club for Urban Glasgow?". If a rowing club could be formed and meet certain stipulations, two St Ayles Skiffs, with ancillary equipment, could be made available for its use. One year on and GCRC has been established, constituted, signed Agreement with GalGael, organised berthing with Clyde Maritime Trust, and enjoyed more than 60 rowing sessions on the River Clyde.
3. Interim report on membership and funds to date / projected for 2017.
IW presented the report, with printed copies for all. Membership stood at 49. If current 1-year members renewed, 2017 insurance premium cost could be met. Important to continue recruiting in order to grow funds and increase active membership. For example, when *Lady Danger* commissioned, set of lifevests will cost circa £250.
4. Invitation to co-opt members to Committee.
EK, IW & GM welcomed Fiona Macleod, Christine Morrison, Ana Rotmistrovsky, Eva Bolander and Ben Duffin (with specific responsibility for Skiff Racing).
5. Proposal that GCRC would host event at Kelvin Harbour w/e 24/25 Sept 2016: description; costs; permissions; personnel.
EK provided outline of an event which would take place as part of a *Traditional Craft* event scheduled for Kelvin Harbour on that date. Proposal thoroughly discussed. While some members considered it better to wait till next season to grow our skills, experience and funds, others were keen to get involved. It was agreed to go ahead. EK and BD agreed to lead a subgroup which be responsible for all planning and administration to prepare for and run the event on the weekend. The sub-group would also invite interest from those members who wish to race in the event, and organise all crews. BD guaranteed that GCRC would bear no costs in relation to the preparation, organisation and delivery of the Event w/e 24/25 Sept. 2016. Lesley Slaughter, Doleen Cunningham, Olive Burnside and Ewan Strachan volunteered to join the sub group.
6. Rowing Sessions: Times and Types of; how Eventbrite system works.
Present cadre of coxes trying to find what times of day would enable maximum take-up. Agreed to continue using Eventbrite to advertise rowing sessions and manage bookings. Several new members had found the club through our Eventbrite presence. As more coxes trained &

accredited, more opportunities should be available to row. During discussion, the need to increase our Active Member numbers was flagged. Need to ascertain whether any of our In/active members are simply apprehensive and we should tailor communication/session type to enable them to get on the water.

7. Cox role, responsibilities, training and accreditation.

BD offered to provide a timetabled programme of training, leading to examination by BD. GCRC thanked BD for continuing with this crucial role.

8. Fleet/Equipment: Gobhancroit & ancillary equipment.

BD would expedite repair of No.2 Oar, fractured on Launch Night. He would also move plate on No.1 Oar to match gearing of Nos. 2, 3 & 4.

Commissioning *Lady Danger*: costs, transport, chandlery, berthing etc: BD described the need to replace the kabes with the same system as Gobhancroit. When workshop space allowed, LD would be brought back to Fairley Street for refitting. At that point, costs for chandlery et al would be clearer.

9. GCRC on tour.

Tow vehicle/road trailer specifications, funding sources. BD reported that GalGael trailer needed work, including welding. Could GCRC member/s assist or recommend someone? EK would also assist the Committee in the preparation of funding applications for transport to enable GCRC to go furth of the Clyde.

10. GCRC Rowing Season Dates: Close of Rowing 2016 / Start Date 2017.

BD saw no need for a lengthy Close Season; towards end of 2016, at a date to be intimated to members, Gobhancroit would require to be taken out of the water, and into the Fairley Street workshop, for 2/3 weeks for refitting, painting, varnishing etc. It was hoped that club members would again turn out to both learn more about the vessel and help with the work of preparing her for the new season.

11. Skiffs' winter storage and preparation for next season; repair, repaint etc. See (10 above

12. Affiliations: SCRA presently; response to Scottish Rowing's approach.

Decided to continue SCRA affiliation, which suits our needs and aspirations. EK had looked into SR's approach to GCRC and other Coastal Rowing Clubs. Perhaps the healthy gender balance we enjoy may be of interest to SR. Flattered by SR's approach, we shall decline the opportunity to affiliate.

13. Areas/issues to be addressed by augmented Committee.

- a. Liaise /build on relationships with SCRA, CMT, Glasgow Life, Seaforce, sportscotland
- b. Health/Safety policy & practice: eg GCRC specific Risk Assessment documentation
- c. Publicity: broadcast, social & print media, flyers, posters etc
- d. Livery, Club clothing, merchandise etc
- e. Disclosure etc; whether / how to move towards training of 16+ rowers.

This list agreed as comprehensive by those attending; the Committee mandated to pursue these issues and report to the membership on progress.

14. Calendar: set AGM date; 2017 subscriptions due date.

Decision held over.

15. AOCB.

Sophie Kostin was thanked for very kindly offering to donate her skills as a professional signwriter to give *Gobhancroit* her name back. BD would advise re. appropriate font & size for numerals '19'. Club members to be alert to help haul the skiff out of the water onto the slip and relaunch her.

There being no further business the members attending were thanked for their attendance and contributions. Affected by post-meeting euphoria, the Secretary began singing. He was sensitively but firmly removed from the room.

Meeting closed 20.15.

G. McC