



Minutes of 2021 Annual General Meeting
held on 30 November 2021 via 'Zoom'

1. Attendance

The following Members were in attendance:

Steve Rayner (Chair)
Olly Cayless
Vicky Critchley
Phil Collins
Jim Edwards
Rhiannon Howells
Dave Jones

No apologies were received.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 11 January 2021

The minutes of the previous AGM were agreed.

3. Summary of activities past, present and future

Steve summarised the last 12 months' activities:

- Winter lockdown had meant no pool sessions or trips but Easter saw a return to 'new normal', with social distancing & equipment hygiene, gradually relaxing. Past members have stuck with us & new members have joined, increasing from pre-Covid; approximately two-thirds of members are actively paddling and we had had record numbers on recent trips. We had remained solvent despite the challenges of the pandemic, with reduced income and costs; grants for pool hire and Canoe Wales affiliation; and insurance extended free of charge.
- Pool training had re-started in May with limited but increasing numbers, introducing beginners and developing 'wet skills' for intermediate paddlers; and offering polo training for developing players.
- Summer saw a return to our regular weekly training at Brecon Promenade, with several new members achieving British Canoeing Paddle Discover & Explore Awards and attending Foundation Safety & Rescue Training.
- Summer also saw a few canal & river trips, including a training session at Symonds Yat, while from October we were able to run white water river trips, with record attendance.
- Our 'administration' focus had been on 'routine' membership & finance, with member communications via our blog, events listing and weekly e-mailshots. We had introduced Covid risk assessments and protocols & reviewed coach / leader remits; and were in the process of transferring to a new bank account (due to Lloyds having opened the 'wrong one' for us initially).

He hoped that over the 12 months the Club would be able to do more of the same; take opportunities to grow & develop; and to review and update our policies, procedures, online systems & website.

4. Receipt of the Trustees' Annual Report (1 Jan-30 Nov 2021) and Accounts (1 May 2020-30 Apr 2021)

Steve presented the formal report and accounts and a summary of the Club's finances as at end Nov 21:

- Current Account: £761.50, Reserve Account: £1720.08 (including £700 grant for pool hire if needed to break-even).
- Insurance due in March: approx. £1,000
- We should manage to keep going with our current membership and activity fees, but do need to replace old kit (including buoyancy aids, spray-decks and cags).
- We do (still) have some old boats to sell – but could do with some new ones to replace them.

The committee proposed some amendments to the Club's fees (as shown in the following table) which were agreed at the meeting. Vicky suggested contacting BBNPA or PAVO for grant ideas.

| | Now | Proposed |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Membership – adult | £40 | £50* |
| Membership – student | £30 | £35* |
| Membership – Junior | £20 | £25* |
| Family discounts – membership | 50% reduction | |
| Boat hire | £8 day / £4 half | £10 / £5 |
| Trips / events | Direct costs only | |
| Courses | Competitive rates | |
| Pool sessions | £10 | £12 <u>or</u> £9 block-booked** |
| Summer training evenings | £10 | £8 <u>or</u> £6 block-booked** |
| Family discounts – summer training | Buy-one-get-one-half-price | |
| NB membership fees attract Gift Aid | | |
| * Should we have regular payment options? (e.g. adult £5 / month or £15 / quarter) | | |
| ** No refunds for 'missed' block-booked sessions | | |

5. Election of Trustees, Confirmation of Officers and Advisers

Steve explained that Brecon Canoe Club is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with a 'management committee' including Trustees (3-7 Trustees, aged 16+, responsible for the proper management of the Club) and Advisers (who assist the committee but don't want to be Trustees); that 1/3 of the Trustees must 'retire' each year but may be re-elected; and at the AGM we can only appoint Trustees & Advisers who have been nominated in advance - but can co-opt others afterwards if required.

Steve Rayner and Gary Williams 'retired' from the committee and were re-elected as Trustees.

6. Any Other Business

Vicky thanked the committee for all they did to enable the Club to provide its services. Phil offered to look into grant ideas with support from Vicky.

Steve thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

7. Annual Awards

The following awards were presented:

- Achievement Award 2021 awarded to Rhiannon Howells for completing the British Canoeing Paddle Explore Award, developing white-water skills and beginning to roll.
- Novice Award 2021 awarded to Sam Critchley for enthusiastic participation in everything we do (including polo & white water), completing British Canoeing Paddle Explore Award & FSRT and beginning to roll.
- Swimmer of the Year 2021 awarded to Sam Critchley for falling out a lot in the early days (mostly while getting in-and-out of a boat!) and our only white-water swim so far this year!
- Paddler of the Year 2021 awarded to Jim Edwards for developing fluid paddling style, joining many trips, completing British Canoeing Paddle Explore Award and rolling consistently in the pool.