

Minutes of 2024-5 Annual General Meeting
held on 8 June 2025 via 'Zoom'

1. Attendance

The following Members were in attendance:

Steve Rayner (Chair)
Chris Deakins
Jodine Fec
Dave Jones
Fleur Jones
Melanie Jones
Natalie Jones

Apologies were received from:

Martin Purkess

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 28 February 2024

The minutes of the previous AGM were agreed.

3. Summary of activities past, present and future

Steve summarised the last 12 months' activities:

- Pool training at the start of 2024 and autumn/winter 2024/5 the year had seen mixed attendance and coaching provision but had continued to support intermediate paddlers with 'wet skills'.
- Polo training had seen increased numbers and new equipment, supporting three Welsh 4s and two Southwest Region polo tournaments.
- Summer weekly training at Brecon Promenade had included social paddling; a river clean-up; 'learn to paddle' courses; Paddle Safer Award; intermediate skills development; polo skills/fitness sessions – albeit with limited attendance & coach support.
- Summer also saw canal and river trips with mixed attendance (some being cancelled due to low numbers); a day's training at Symonds Yat; visit to CIWW and sea trips to Pembrokeshire; and a River Wye expedition; and North Wales white water weekend.
- Early 2024 and autumn/winter 2024/5 saw the continuation of white-water trips, which were again well attended by our 'harder' paddlers but less so by developing paddlers. During the summer our strong (but dwindling) cohort of 'harder' whitewater paddlers spent a weekend on the Afon Tryweryn in North Wales, followed by our first international trip, to Slovenia, for a week's paddling in May on the Soca River and its tributaries.
- Our 'administration' focus had been on 'routine' membership & finance, with member communications via our blog, events listing and weekly e-mailshots; developing and implementing new / updated policies for Health & Safety, Safeguarding, Equality and Standard Operating Procedures – to comply with Paddle Cymru 'Club Standards for Deployment' – and purchasing long-awaited new polo boats and an additional trailer to store and transport them

He hoped that over the 12 months the Club would be able to do more of the same – with a focus on recruitment, retention, participation & social engagement – as well as taking our second trip abroad for white water in the French Alps in July; take opportunities to grow & develop; continue to review and update our policies, procedures, online systems & website; and apply for grants to renew and upgrade ageing safety equipment.

Feedback from attendees suggested that the programme and achievements had on the whole been very good, but that we might wish to explore 'different' advertising for new members, perhaps targeting schools, youth groups, other sports teams (for team-building opportunities) and sports development officers.

4. Receipt of the Trustees' Annual Report (1 May 2023-30 Apr 2025)

Steve presented the formal report and accounts and a summary of the Club's finances as at 8 June 2025:

- Current Account: £899, Reserve Account: £3015 (including £2,000 from recent sale of racing boats and £1,000 to cover insurance due in June).
- We've applied for a Sport Wales equipment grant: £10,000 for PPE, SUPs and large kayaks – for which we'd need to contribute 10% (£1,000) from the reserve account.
- Finances are currently healthy but we still need to manage carefully; with membership and summer training fees (and potential receipts from sale of old boats) due in; and expenditure due on IT & venue fees, trailer floor repair, PPE replacement (if not grant funded) and opportunistic boat purchase.

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.

Dave Jones retired from the committee and was re-elected; Jodine Fec was re-elected as a new Trustee.

6. Any Other Business

Steve thanked everyone for attending the meeting and supporting the Club over the last year; Mel thanked Steve for all he did to keep things running.

7. Annual Awards

The following awards were presented:

- Novice Award 2024/5 awarded to Harrison Fec for enthusiastic participation in training, trips and polo.
- Achievement Award 2024/5 awarded to Logan Fec for an amazing hand roll (and enthusiastic participation in training, trips and polo); and to Gethyn Percy for rapid polo development, contribution to our tournament teams and selection for the Junior Welsh team.
- Swimmer of the Year 2024/5 awarded to Sam Critchley for the most accidental swims again this year (mostly in Slovenia)!
- Paddler of the Year 2024/5 awarded to Natalie Jones for increased confidence and participation in all Club activities: as a polo player (and team captain), developing white-water paddler, assistant coach and committee member.