

MINUTES OF MEETING OF SLEAFORD PADDLERS HELD ON
21 AUGUST 2008 AT ROWAN WAY, SLEAFORD

1. **Present**

Tony Baker
Lorraine Baker
Sophie Baker
Dane Butler
Patricia Matthews
Alison Callaby
Steve Callaby
Barry Mair
Ben Thorpe

2. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Kevin Matthews and Steve Cook

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record by Alison Callaby and seconded by Lorraine Baker.

4. **Matters Arising**

i) **CRB Checks**

This is still to be sorted, although Steve Callaby confirmed that he had received confirmation of his CRB check through the Scouts. It was agreed by all present that this would be accepted as sufficient.

ii) **Child Protection**

Tony confirmed he has not yet spoken to Emma. He will do so and approach will then be made to Bev, with a view to her taking over the role as Child Protection Officer. It was noted that Bev will have to complete a CRB application.

iii) It was recorded that the meal at the Barge & Bottle was very successful, as was the wave competition. It was agreed by all present that both events should be repeated.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Dane Butler reported that, as of the 22nd of April, we had the following in the bank:

£11 Bank
£94 Petty Cash

The reason for the reduction in the money is because of the urgent alterations that were required for the trailer. It was agreed that when we did have some money, the next purchase should be a jockey wheel for the trailer.

Dane reported that this has been a very bad year for summer sessions and the club had raised hardly anything. There has not been a Wednesday when it has not been raining, and this has put a considerable amount of people off. It is unlikely that we will be able to increase the cash flow over the winter months as of course pool sessions only just pay for themselves. It was proposed by Tony and seconded by Dane that the club needs to restrict its spending until we have recouped sufficient monies to pay the BCU subs.

Tony reported that the club will require the sum of £1,000 for courses between now and March 2009. Tony proposed, seconded by Alison, that all courses would be paid for by coaches, but the club would reimburse those fees once we had sufficient funds.

Tony reported he would now look into a Sports For All lottery grant, which he understands we can claim up to £10,000—although this must be spent within 2 years. Dane Butler advised that there is a Lincolnshire Youth Association grant and there are grants of up to £10,000 available. Tony and Dane confirmed that they would obtain the appropriate application forms.

6. **Future Events**

Ripon on the 20th of September 2008 was cancelled, as it is important that both Tony and Kevin prepare for their Level 3 assessments in October.

It was agreed by all present that we would do a Hack Falls run for competent paddlers in February or March 2009.

The Fun Day and Barbecue will take place on the 13th of September 2008. It was agreed that there be a river trip from Farndon to Newark followed by a play and general fun on the weir. We would charge the sum of £5 a head, which will all be spent on food (proposed by Dane and seconded by Alison). Tony reported that he had 6 or 7 spot prizes available to be handed out during the barbecue. Alison agreed that she would take names and organise the shopping.

Pool sessions have been booked as follows, all from 5pm to 7 pm:

- 11th October 2008 (instructors only)
- 18th October
- 25th October
- 1st November
- 22nd November
- 29th November
- 6th December
- 13th December
- 20th December

Cranwell pool have already cancelled the 8th of November 2008. Alison proposed that she would contact Cranwell to see what pool sessions were available from January until April 2009, seconded by Tony. Dane also proposed, seconded by Alison, that we offer Cranwell a new pool boat to be left at the pool.

The Wednesday evening sessions are now taking place at Newark weir. The last session will take place on Wednesday the 27th of August 2008.

The AGM will take place on the 15th of November 2008. It was agreed the same format as last year would be followed and there would be a potluck supper.

7. **Website**

Barry was congratulated on his hard work and all present agreed that Sleapaddlers now have one of the best canoe club websites at www.slea-paddlers.co.uk.

8. **Trailer**

Thanks again was given to Steve for all the hard work he has carried out in respect of the trailer.

9. **Duck**

It was agreed that the duck, which is presently with Steve and Adam, should be presented to Harry on the next Wednesday evening session at Newark.

10. **BCU**

The BCU have now put us on the website and have apologised that we were "hidden."

Tony proposed that at the AGM we minute, there has been no contact with the BCU and we send a copy of our minutes to the regional coaching officer, seconded by Patricia Matthews.

It was proposed that future minutes should have a section on membership.

11. **Membership**

Alison reported that we have 40 membership forms, but that includes family members, some of whom do not paddle. In January it was agreed that all the forms would be sent out to members again. It was proposed that future minutes should have a section on membership.

12. **Photographs**

It was proposed by Lorraine and seconded by Alison that we prepare for the pool sessions a sheet for consent to photographs and a reminder that no photographs are to be taken at Cranwell pool, and that no parents are to be on the poolside.

13. **Any Other Business**

- i. Tony confirmed he would speak to Dawn about setting up a canoe safety test for those who required it.
- ii. A Conningsby Scout group have approached Dane asking for a session for canoeing. It was agreed that Dane would approach Conningsby Scout group to offer them a pool session on the understanding that they would meet the lifeguard cost of £25, and in addition there will be a fee per head for each Scout.
- iii. All present were reminded to e-mail Dawn at Holme Pierre Point Canoe Club to petition against the changes to the Holme Pierre Point whitewater course.
- iv. Discussion then took place as to how to deal with difficult paddlers. It is the usual problem of children not wanting to paddle and being seemingly forced by parents. It was proposed by Tony and seconded by Patricia Matthews that we have a floater coach available to be last on the water. He would then be available to help coaches with difficult paddlers and he would also be first off the water at the end of the session.

As far as paddlers' behaviour or kit (adult or children) are concerned, then where an adult is concerned the coach would immediately speak to the adult in relation to the kit; where a child is concerned, then the individual coach should speak to the parent to explain what the difficulty is. Tony as chairperson should also be informed of the difficulty. If a problem persists, then the coaches will again inform the parent and on that occasion will inform the parent that the problem will be logged and the child protection officer should be informed (proposed by Tony, seconded by Alison).

- v. Barry agreed to look into Paddle Power to see if Danny and Harry could use any of the Newark sessions as part of their Paddle Power.
 - vi. Sophie reported that when she had gone for a recent eye test, Specsavers had hinted that they might be prepared to offer sponsorship. Sophie agreed to write a letter or contact Specsavers to see if we can investigate the matter further.
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14. **Date of Next Meeting**

To be arranged.
