

Teign Scullers Members' Meeting

at 19:00 on 4th November 2020, via Zoom

Minutes

1. Attendees

Gordon Yeates (chairing), Marjorie Roome, Zane Steers, Carole Atkinson, Mark Eastman, Brian Malone, Andy Darkin, Mark Kodolanyi, Mike Cullen, Maria Endean, Jane Axam, Emma Lauren.

2. Apologies for absence

Alex Pugh , Cathy Phillips, Steve Lee, Martin Beek. Patrick Forster and Mel Dyke hoped to join us later.

3. Approval of Minutes of last All Members' Meeting (9th October 2019)

The Minutes were agreed. There were no matters arising and not covered elsewhere.

4. Election of Sculling Section Officers and Committee

Zane was elected chair and our RTRC Main Committee representative, replacing Gordon Yeates who wished to retire, having been our chair since 2015. Gordon was thanked for his work for the club and was asked, and agreed, to stay on the committee pro-tem to provide continuity.

Marjorie Roome was re-elected Secretary (and Safety Officer). Jane offered to help.

Patrick Forster and Wendy Blackburn will take over co-ordinating with South West Coastal League from Andy Darkin and also take on encouraging coastal rowing and building coastal crews.

Zane was thanked for his efforts in reclaiming three boats (Dragonfly, Derrymore and Flash) to use. He was asked to take change of maintenance, with help from Gordon Yeates and Andy Darkin (Andy for coastal boats). If Jim joins us permanently then he also has very relevant engineering skills.

The following officers and roles were not discussed and therefore continue:

Carole Atkinson as Club Captain, WEARA Representative and Publicity, Mark Eastman as Club Head Coach, Sally Livett managing Juniors.

5. Update on the effect of English national lock down

A lock down has been announced and is in the process of being legislated.

Although BR seem to allow private rowing in singles from the slipway rowers would not be able to use club facilities so would have to remove their oars from the hut. Boat Insurance (via the club) and the use of club racks could also be moot.

It is unclear whether the harbour authorities will allow recreational navigation and there would be unlikely to be safety cover.

So we think that we will be unable to row at all until lock down rules are eased.

6. Operation of coxed crew boats

There was a extended discussion around the training of coxes.

There are too too few of us trained as sculling quad coxes, with consequentially a heavy load on those we have.

We need to make more efforts to offer coxing opportunities, in good conditions with an experienced cox on board to offer advice and encouragement.

For fine boat outings we have no recognised qualification process.

With coastal coxes training we have migrated through a variety of schemes. Formal training courses (including classroom sessions) have been tried but found to be very resource intensive. Present practice is to require 10 training outings with an experienced cox and the outings logged and signed off before a cox can run an outing unsupervised. Given the challenges of operating in the harbour and out to sea it would seem unwise to ask less. Gordon has a template for a log.

It was further agreed that the person i/c of an outing should provide a suggested crew/cox allocation in advance of the outing. Coxes in particular need to be prepared to cox as they need to bring appropriate clothing and (in the case of trial coxes) to be willing to cox on the day.

With a number of seine/gig RTRC members now joining us in sculling we have members who have experience in coxing seine and/or gig boats but not necessarily sculls. We should be looking into how to expedite their approval to cox sculls.

We are testing out use of cox boxes as the audibility of coxes, particularly given the need to mask, can be a problem.

7. Membership issues

We agreed that we should award Life Membership to Alan Gillespie. This will require us to get RTRC approval. Mark Layton should be approached.

Numbers of full, intermediate, novice, trialists. Comparison to previous years: Marjorie to provide an analysis to Gordon ahead of the RTRC AGM.

RTRC trialists can have 3 trial outings free, other trialists 3 trial outings at £5 a trial. After that they need to decide if they want to join us and pay the appropriate RTRC membership/supplement.

Trial monies are taken as cash and kept in a box in the hut.

8. Novices

We sought feedback from Novices as to the operation of Novice Training and Capsize tests. There were several expressions of thanks to Mark Eastman and Zane for running these.

9. Boats

It was agreed we needed to get some winter covers for our coastal boats. Zane should see what can be obtained.

10. Award of President's Cup

Zane was awarded the Presidents Cup.

11. AOB

It was agreed that a number of more routine items in the Agenda could be left to the committee to progress.

Marjorie Roome

RTRC Sculling Section Secretary