

Minutes of BDCC AGM, Friday 23rd March 2018, 7.30pm

1 Apologies: Debbie Taylor, Brian McCusker, Andrew Robertson, Scott Laporte, Abi Foggo, Lucy-Rose Harvey, Alistair Taylor, Marion Gibbon

2. Present: Committee - Al Riches, Fee McCusker, Dave Blyth, Hugh Davies

Others – Jon Malins, Pete Day, Maggie Masters, Stef Harvey, Louisa Hall, Chris Price, Terry Griffiths, Ian Gibbon, Martin Home, Tim Lee, Hazel Middleton

3. Minutes from last year's AGM: agreed by all present.

4. Officers' reports:

- Chair (Al) – Successful year, lots of hard work by committee, taken part in slaloms and canoe polo tournaments, won Interclubs Slalom Sports trophy, decent membership, not as many trips as hoped but still offered a variety.
- Welfare Officer(Fee) – Attended Welfare Officer's course, where it became clear that we didn't have in place the necessary policies and procedures to ensure the welfare of all our members. Therefore, wrote new policies/updated existing ones, seeking advice from British Canoeing on several issues. Also carried out secretary's role, preparing Agendas for meetings and typing up minutes.
- Publicity Officer(Hugh) – Secured £500 grant from Heritage Foundation for a gazebo we can use for stalls/changing etc. Now have advert for club in Letchworth 'Out and About' magazine and the Comet newspaper.
- Health & Safety Officer (Debs)– had one incident on a trip but this was managed with great skill by the trip leaders and no further action was needed. Put together trip safety policy and procedures for club to follow. Managed bookings for loans and returns of club equipment to and from the boathouse. Debs also passed on her thanks on behalf of her family to all in the club for their help and support over the past 20 years and she wishes the club many more years of happy, safe paddling as she moves onto new ventures.
- Treasurer (Dave B)– Membership is down from 79 to 68 this year; however, membership fees received are similar due to the increase in membership fee last April. Pool takings are up by 1% due to the increase in pool fees; however, the increase in fees was a lot greater than 1% so we are still not getting enough members at pool sessions. Pool cost have gone up by 4% 2 years running (well above inflation) so there is still a shortfall in pool costs. All repair costs this year have been funded by sale of equipment (thanks to Terry for helping with that). Due to the grant secured by Hugh, we now have an operating surplus of £357.

5. Agree accounts: Acceptance of accounts – proposed by Fee, seconded by Hugh.

6. Election of new Committee:

- Chair: Al Riches Proposed by Hugh, seconded by Maggie
- Secretary: Maggie Masters Proposed by Al, seconded by Dave
- Treasurer: Dave Blyth Proposed by Al, seconded by Hugh
- Welfare : Fee McCusker Proposed by Al, seconded by Dave
- Development: Tim Lee Proposed by Al, seconded by Dave
- Publicity officer: Tim Lee Proposed by Al, seconded by Dave
- Health & Safety: **VACANT**
- Fundraising: **VACANT**

7. A.O.B – none

Meeting finished at 7.57pm

After the meeting, Hazel Middleton agreed to take on the role of Health & Safety Officer.

Presentation of Awards

Club member of the year- Fee McCusker

Most improved paddler – Hugh Davies

Canadian Paddler – Dave Blyth

Competitor of the year – Chris Price

Endeavour Trophy – Abbi Foggo

Most regular member – Scott Laporte