

**ALNMOUTH COMMUNITY ROWING
EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

7.30pm 10TH July 2018 at the Boathouse, Alnmouth

Present: 23 members (Meeting Quorate). Apologies received from John Woodcock, Jeremy Clines, Clive Church, Sue Perry, Jane Davidson, Andy Mellor, and Rachel Blake.

The meeting was chaired by D Foote.

Amendments to the Constitution of the Club

Cessation of membership.

The existing wording is as follows:

8 CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1. Any member may resign giving one month's clear notice in writing to the Secretary
- 1.2. A member shall be deemed to have resigned from the Association if, after due notice in writing, they have not paid by 1st March the annual subscription which became due on 1st January. They may however rejoin at any time during that year subject to the provision of 7 above
- 1.3. Within 1 month of cessation of membership, a member shall remove all personal effects from boats or premises used by the Association.

D Cant explained the background to the proposal to add a further section to this wording as follows:

- 1.4. In the event the personal effects have not been removed and all reasonable attempts to contact the member have failed, the Committee is empowered to dispose of the personal effects in whatever manner is suitable.

This was to give the Committee authority to deal with any property left by a former member not complying with clause 1.3

The above change was proposed by Peter Drew, seconded by Pauline Fearey and approved by the majority of members present.

Membership Categories

D Cant explained the background to the proposed addition of a new class of membership, being social membership at a subscription of £15 per annum. The main reason was to recognize and accommodate persons who wanted to support club activities without wanting to row.

The amended wording including the additional membership class (highlighted in section 1.3) is set out below:

3 MEMBERSHIP

1.1. Membership of the Association shall be open to anyone interested in the sport of recreational rowing regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.

1.2. The Association may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The Association will keep subscriptions at levels that do not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.

1.3. Classes of membership:

The Committee shall determine classes of membership from time to time as required, but they shall at least include

- Full members for those 18 years or over at 1st January
- Social members for those who want to participate in non-rowing activities only
- Junior members for those who are under 18 years of age at 1st January
- Visitor members for short term visitors to the area

1.4. Only full members are entitled to vote

The above change was proposed by Charles Jones, seconded by John Ellis and approved by the majority of members present.

Club risk register

D Cant explained the background to this important new document and encouraged members to visit the club website and read the document, as well as several other important safety and operational documents also available on the website. He also stated that the risk register was a living document and he would welcome any thoughts and suggestions from the members to improve it. J Cant thought it should include a section on rowing away from home waters.

Build of a Second Skiff

D Foote handed round a presentation and spoke about the background to the decision to propose the build of a second boat and a number of key points as follows:

- A build meets the aims of the club's constitution;
- Alnmouth Parish Council are providing a new 5 year rental agreement on the boathouse;
- The disposal of the boat Elfie frees up her road trailer for this project, saving some £1800;
- Preparation is needed pre-build, such as clearing the boathouse, building workbenches and adding more lighting;
- There would be a sequence of boatbuilding activity through the autumn and winter;
- The average would be 3 sessions a week, each session lasting at least a couple of hours;

- The plan is to build the oars early , in order to give members some experience before getting on to the skiff;
- Members would be required to help with activities such as fund raising , promotion and reporting on social media, relations with Alnmouth and the Parish Council;
- Funding would be required and sources would include grant bodies , sponsors and members;
- If a major sponsor came forward, consideration would need to be given to use of the sponsors name, such that it did not contravene Scottish Coastal Rowing Association rules.

D Foote then answered questions from the floor:

- Membership number were increasing with 18/19 new members this year. A second boat would provide more flexibility and enable rowing on company. Also one boat could be available in Alnmouth if the other boat was away.
- The cost of the kit is approximately £1500
- Some members would be happier if the funding was in place prior to going ahead. A funding committee would need to be formed to raise funds.
- It was envisaged that there would be a core of 10-12 members routinely involved, with numbers varying depending on the tasks. Unskilled members were encouraged to participate but maintaining a reasonable speed is a key factor. A number of members indicated by show of hands they were keen to get involved in the build.
- A questionnaire had been drafted, covering members' skills and interest in the project and whether members would be prepared to make a financial contribution. This would go out shortly to all members if the meeting approved the build.
- Several current members had been involved in the build of Pride of Aln and other boats. Help and advice could and would be sought from other clubs when appropriate.

The build of a second skiff was then put to the members. The build was proposed by Dave Foote, seconded by Ewan Paton and approved by the majority of members present.

Any Other Business

P Drew highlighted a situation where cars had driven over parking cones designed to reserve space for him moving his kayak. After discussion it was agreed to progress the idea of creating a polite sign to display alongside the traffic cones.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.