

PENTLAND CANOE CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 16 November 2021 held be via video conferencing

Present:

Ken Nicol	Ben MacGregor	Nancy Speirs
John Speirs	Gary Stronach	Neil Parkin
Mandy McIntyre	Louise Litchfield	Emma Summers
Mark Cleminson	Iain Baikie	Kayleigh Henderson
David Shand	Mike Grain	Sue Rainbow
Gary Youngson		

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Ian Borland; Gerald Urquhart; Christine Deighan; Abby Scott

2. Minutes of the 2020 AGM

The draft minutes had previously been sent out to members prior to the meeting.

The minutes were proposed Mark Cleminson and seconded by Gary Stronach

3. Chairperson's Report

The Chair (N Parkin) presented his report. A copy is given in Appendix 1.

There were no questions.

4. Treasurers Report

The Treasurer gave an overview of the accounts. A copy is attached in Appendix 2 (copy attached). As of 31 March 2021, the Club had £18,020.19 in the funds. These were distributed as follows:

- Pool Equipment Fund: £ 4,197.96
- General Equipment Fund: £ 8,057.02
- General Fund: £ 5,765.21

In presenting the accounts, the Treasurer made the following comments

- There was a reduction in the balance of around £500 from the previous accounts. This was due to a reduction in income from kayak hire (due to pandemic) and grant payments which were awaiting refund from the Caithness & North Sutherland Fund
- No consideration of asset value was included. The Club has considerable assets in equipment
- There were no payments for insurance on the premises. This was mainly due to exclusions due to proximity to water.
- Due to the type of account, there was no interest payments.

The accounts were accepted by those present.

It was noted that at the time of the AGM, the accounts totalled £19103.53 .

5. Constitution Revision

The Secretary stated that there were no proposals to amend the Club Constitution.

The meeting noted that current version of the Constitution was Issue 12 dated 28 November 2017.

6. Election of 2022 Committee

A number nominations had been received by the Secretary prior to the meeting. These were: Neil Parkin (Chair); Gary Stronach (Treasurer); Ken Nicol (Secretary); Emma Summers (CPO), Gary Youngson, Louise Litchfield, John Speirs, Nancy Speirs; Mandy McIntyre and Christine Deighan. All agreed to serve on the Committee.

The members agreed to the following serving on the Committee from 1 January 2022:

Post	Name
Chair	Neil Parkin
Secretary	Ken Nicol
Treasurer	Gary Stronach
Non - Executive (Child Protection)	Emma Summers

Post	Name
Non – Executive	Gary Youngson
Non – Executive	John Speirs
Non – Executive	Nancy Speirs
Non – Executive	Christine Deighan
Non – Executive	Louise Litchfield
Independent Accounts Examiner	To be agreed by the new committee

Mandy McIntyre was co-opted onto the Committee.

A vote of thanks was given to Sam Robinson for all his work on the Committee. Although now longer wishing to serve on the Committee he was still willing to be involved in the repair of equipment.

7. Membership Fees and Equipment Fees

Membership Fees

The meeting was informed that the 2021 Membership were

- Adult: £50 (SCA members: £45)
- Family: £75 (limited to 2 adults and 2 youths under 18) (SCA members: £65)
- Youth /Full Time Education /Unemployed: £25 (SCA members: £23)
- Associate: £13

Following a discussion, those present agreed the 2022 Membership Fees would be unchanged. The primary reason being the financial impact of the pandemic to Society.

- Adult: £ 50 (SCA members: £45)
- Family: £75 (limited to 2 adults and 2 youths under 18) (SCA members: £65)
- Youth /Full Time Education /Unemployed: £ 25 (SCA members: £23)
- Associate: £13 (under 14)

Equipment Fees

Those present were informed that the current fees were set at a flat rate of set at £5/event and these had not changed for several years. However in recent years new equipment prices had increased with a plastic sea kayak now being in the region of £2000 each and river kayaks in the range £1000 - £1300

Following a constructive discussion , those present agreed to the following club member equipment fees for 2022

- Summer Evening Sessions: £5.00
- Day Trip: £10.00 (adults); £5.00 (Youth/ Full Time Education / Unemployed)

Those present also agreed to the following for Non Members:

- Non member (member of an SCA Affiliated Club): As per Club member.
- Non members (Club Come & Try Activity): As per Club members
- Non Members (all others): Double the Club member rate

8. Awards

a) **Broken Paddle**

The Clubs first award and dates back to 1984. This is given to the most interesting mishap which has occurred whilst canoeing.

Nominations:

Gary Youngson

For his energetic gymnastic display at Noss Head during his Advanced Sea Kayak Leader Assessment. The exact details on the acrobatic display are only known to a few who are sworn to secrecy. Maybe Gary will provide further information. However his kayak and equipment suffered - broken thigh braces; lost hatch cover and damaged paddle float. Maybe the Award should be called the "Broken Float Award."

Ben MacGregor

Having cancelled the Thursday night session due to prevailing winds and heavy surf. A few "hardy souls (fools)" went out, the surf was really meaty and quite a struggle to get through. While surfing a big wave Ben got wiped out and there was a loud noise reported, people concerned for him ran to see if he was okay. As he struggled out of his boat the noise was discovered to have been his paddle breaking.

The recipient for the award was **Gary Youngson**

b) **Improver**

The award was first presented in 1991 and is given to an individual whom is considered to have improved their canoeing skills during the year. The recipient of the award was decided by the Club Committee.

The recipient for the award was **Kayleigh Henderson.**

c) **Sea Voyage Trophy**

The trophy was donated by Terry Jones (one of the Founder members of the Club). This is awarded annually to the person, who in the opinion of the Committee was responsible for the best sea kayaking expedition / trip of the year.

In considering the recipient, the Committee considers the number of people who took part and the “enjoyment” due to weather, exploring, scenery and distance

This was award to **Neil Parkin** for his Dunnet Head and Summer Isles trips.

9. AOCB

Ken Nicol informed those present that

- The SCA Club Volunteer Conference should return in April 2022 (depending on COVID) .
- He was in contact with Highlife Highland about a running a 2 day first aid course

Gary Youngson an update on the Christmas Market Day being run by the Thurso Community Trust on 4 December 2021. Those interested in helping should contact Gary Youngson.

Neil Parkin closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending.

Appendix 1: Chairman's Report (2020 to 2021)

Chairman's Report (2020 to 2021)

The Club has had to continually adapt over the last year to everchanging COVID

advice. The committee and coaches have put in a lot of work to try and keep the club active as possible in these difficult times. Unfortunately, this has had an impact on what we were able to provide to our members.

Despite another difficult year club is in a good position (members, coaches and trip (sea) leaders and the finances are strong.

Ken (Nicol) The Club Secretary does a massive amount of work to keep the club running so smooth, from arranging funding and keeping everyone informed by sending out the numerous emails and communications. (Thank you for your continued efforts).

Equipment

The sea equipment is in storage for the winter season. Thank you to all that were able to assist with washing and organizing of the club equipment.

Funding

The funding from Caithness & North Sutherland Fund to help individuals gain certain qualifications closes at the end of this year (2021). The Club is very grateful for there assistance and extending the offer throughout the pandemic.

Protecting Vulnerable Groups

Thank you to Emma Summers, our child protection officer, for sorting out the disclosure of the committee, coaches and all the helpers, anyone who works with children or vulnerable adults must be 'disclosed' and this involves a lot of work

ensuring as a club we keep everything up to date. Getting this right is absolutely essential in this day and age, thanks again to Emma.

Club Stores

The Cub has 3 stores (the Beach Store, a container at Thurso Leisure Centre and the internal store at the Leisure Centre's Swimming Pool.

Some maintenance requirements to the pool container have been identified. The club are looking into carrying out the maintenance in the early spring. We may need to ask members to assist with some of the works. I would ask members to volunteer to help with this.

Events

With the easing of Government guidance allowed the club was able to run the open water training sessions through the summer months. This was well attended and saw some of the clubs' members take to the open water for the first time.

Big thanks to all who helped out on Thursday evening's and those who assisted in all the behind the scenes production of risk assessments and keeping abreast of the ever changing SCA COVID guidance.

A number of trips took place including:

- Skerry circumnavigating Eilean Nan Ron.
- Skirza to Duncansby Stacks
- Dunnet Head (Brough to Dwarwick)
- Summer Isles
- Orkney weekend

Just to name a few.

There was also the "annual" outing to Freswick Castle. Thank you to Ben MacGregor for organising this event again this year. Again, the format had to be modified this year but it was still very enjoyable. Due to unforgiving weather conditions it was not possible to get out on the water, some of the

club members took a walk along the cliff tops, while others (me) laid on the beach flying a kite awaiting the return of the others.

A number of members also attended other non club events. These included

- Orkney Symposium
- The Highland SUP Skills Weekend

A number of Club members supported the Thurso Community Development Trust harbour day. Despite the wet weather, a number of people expressed interest in Paddlesport. Thank you to those who helped out. The Trust is also organising a Christmas Market and Gary Youngson is looking at what the Club can do to raise funds. Please help and support Gary in order to keep our costs down. The Trust's is also organising the New Year Soakin' 2022. The Club has been asked to help out with safety support. If you can help (water or land based) please speak to Ken Nicol.

Courses and Training

A number of members completed a variety of BC awards these included:

Advanced Sea Leader training: Gary Youngson, Iain Baikie, Ben MacGregor, Bradley Morrell and Neil Parkin.

Advanced Sea Leader Assessment: Gary Youngson, Iain Baikie, Bradley Morrell and Neil Parkin.

SUP Sheltered Water Award Assessment: Ken Nicol, Christine Deighan, Nancy Speirs and Emma Summers.

We hope that these individual and others will continue to gain further awards.

The Winter pool sessions have just commenced. I am delighted by interest shown in the Come & Try Sessions. As ever we are grateful to the Thurso Leisure Centre staff for their support and assistance in running the pool sessions.

The club can always benefit from more qualified coaches and leaders. If you are interested in finding out what is involved, please ask.

As Chairman for the past year and would like to thank you for your support through such a challenging and changing year and look forward to adapting and getting members back out on the water in the months to come.

Neil Parkin

Appendix 2: Accounts



Statement of Accounts for the Year ending 31st March 2021

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Balance c/f	18,529.45	CSC	20.00
Subscriptions	645.00	SCA	110.00
Pool	82.00	Refund Subscription	
Equipment Hire	140.00	Equipment Maintenance	166.86
Club Clothing	460.00	Club Clothing	377.10
Grants		Repaid Training Grants	1,059.90
CANSF - Training	2,090.90	Course Fees	2,805.00
Course Fees	740.00		
		Website	110.40
		Gifts	
Easy Fundraising		AGM Trophys	17.90
		Cash	54.00
		Bank (book)	17,966.19
	22,687.35		22,687.35

G Stronach
Treasurer

(G Stronach)
29/10/21

J Ridgley
Reviewer

J.A. Ridgley
27/10/21

K Nicol
Secretary