



Minutes of Committee Meeting at George Hotel, Largs -1930-2100 on 12 May 2022

Attendance: Lucie, Louise, Jane, Doreen, Iain, Donald, Lizzy (Training & Safety committee rep)

Apologise: Lynda

Introduction

The issue around the suitability of the existing two club launch trolleys and two club road trailers has been raised by the Training & Safety committee and by club members due to the number of accidents/incidents and issues associated with handling, safety of members, ease of using as originally intended, damage to skiffs, ease of launch/recovery, etc. It was therefore agreed we should have a stand-alone committee meeting to discuss and agree the best way forward to ensure safety of members when using this equipment.

Discussion on need for a new launch Trolley - Club owns 2 launch Trolleys (both at LSC)

As highlighted in above paragraph based on a number of issues with safety, members hurting backs when using trolleys, heavy and difficult to move around etc. Discussion around possibility of modifying the existing trolleys to address the issues experienced by members. It was felt that the issues highlighted above plus the cost to rework and age of existing trolleys it did not warrant looking at modifying. It was therefore felt that the time was right to look at a new trolley. It was agreed that if we do elect to buy new trolleys, when the timing is right, we should look to sell them.

New trolleys options were discussed. It was agreed to focus on an example that is used by a number of other rowing clubs sourced from Mersea Trailers and has been seen in action by a number of club members. These have the advantage of capability to be launched by one person, have rollers that centre the skiff, easier to launch/retrieve skiff and safer to use than existing.

Discussion on need for a new road Trailer - Club owns 2 road Trailers (1 at Irvine/1 in LSC)

Discussion highlighted a number of issues with the existing trailers primarily in man handling required to put the skiffs into the trailers (circa 6/8 strong people required) plus damage to skiffs during transportation. Discussion started around the possibility of modifying the existing trailers, again it was felt that the safety issues highlighted above plus the cost to rework and age of existing trailers it did not warrant looking at modifying and that if we went for a combo trolley/trailer

we would need to purchase a new trailer. It was agreed if we decide to purchase a new trailer, we should retain the second existing trailer as the club rarely/once a year (Castle to Crane) needs to road transport two skiffs at any one time and sufficient numbers can be planned/arranged in handling skiff into trailer for this event.

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Committee Decision

A number of options for next steps were proposed and discussed. Based on the Training & Safety committee recommendation, members wish list event recommendation, a mail to all members from chairperson advising of committee approach and chairperson addressing those who responded asking further questions it was unanimously agreed by the committee that we go ahead and purchase one trolley/trailer combo at cost of approx. £2150. We have club funds available to support this purchase. It will be on a 10-14-week lead time from Mersea Trailers (through Dave Ashton to provide local support/warranty if any issues) - **Action Donald (11 June 22)**.

It was also agreed that we will review the need for a second new trolley based on experience of using and member feedback on the new trolley/trailer combo.

As highlighted previously it was agreed when appropriate we will look to sell any trolley or trailer that we believe to be surplus to requirement once we have new equipment.

Next meeting at Largs Sailing Club 1230 on Saturday 11 June 2022.