

Minutes FOCCR Committee 13 September 2023 at LSC at 1900

Attendees: Lucie, Iain, Doreen, Lynda, Donald, Gary, Janes, Arthur and Jacqueline

Apologise: Ross

1900 - Introduction - Lucie

AGM Friday 27 October at 7pm in Largs Sailing Club. After member feedback it was agreed not to have a Halloween party before the AGM but instead have a social get together after AGM. Social Committee to propose gathering after AGM - **Jaqueline (11 Oct)**

All existing Committee members have put themselves forward for re-election at AGM, apart from youth rep Lynda who has previously indicated that she would like to resign from the role and a suitable replacement will be proposed at the AGM.

All committee members to provide chair with summary of activities for their area of responsibility to be used in annual report for AGM - **All Committee members (11 Oct)**

Write to all members notifying them of AGM date and time - **Iain (25 Sept)**

AGM agenda to be issued to members - **Lucie (20 Oct)**

1915 - Maintenance - Donald

Only facility available locally able to carry our full refurb is at Maritime in Irvine. We are aware that our prime contact, Martin, will be leaving soon so need to make contact with them and see what status is for us using them going forward. Iain to contact David Mann and report back on Maritime future plans - **Iain (29 Sept)**

Any in year minor maintenance will be carried out by club members. Donald has offered his shed at home as a possible location for any repairs that required to be carried out under cover.

Make enquiries with Fairlie Quay (Simon) as to the possibility of their capability in carrying out skiff refurb this winter - **Don (11 Oct)**

The Training & Safety committee have a list of work they would like to be carried out on one skiff over the winter. List to be sent to Don for review - **Gary (22 Sept)**

Based on above list proposal for the best way to tackle it, facility and rough costs - **Don (11 Oct)**

1930 - Finance - Jane

Finances in good health. Finance status was circulated to committee before meeting.

In setting membership fees for 23/24 season committee agreed that fees, if possible, should cover fixed costs whilst remaining affordable to all members.

Fixed costs include 2 full refurbs of skiffs are £4700, each refurb approx. £1250. Reference discussion above in Maintenance, committee agreed that there may not be the need for a refurb of both skiffs in year as our plan is to stagger skiff refurbs to one/year therefore on this basis fixed costs for 23/24 would be around £3450. We anticipate having average 80 members through year so committee agreed that membership fee for 23/24 season will be proposed at AGM to increase from £35/year to £45/year. Youth membership fees will remain same at £10/year.

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1945 - Membership - Iain

Membership at 96 with 7 awaiting taster. We expect to lose a number of members, circa 15-20, at the next membership renewal in Nov 23.

Membership renewal will be similar to last year in that once AGM has agreed fees for 23/24 season (1 Nov 23 - 31 Oct 24) members will be given till end Nov 23 to pay fees or be removed from FOCCR membership. Reminders will be sent to members through Nov.

1955 - Training & Safety - Gary

Training has gone well this year with no major safety issues. With darker nights rowing activity will revert back to mostly weekend rowing.

2005 - Youth - Lynda

Youths had a lovely row to Wee Cumbrae recently before the older youths went off to university. Older youths intend to continue to row and will train with the closest club while away. We now have 5 regular rowers - one of which is new. We will try to recruit new rowers and approach schools & local clubs. South West region clubs have been contacted re encouraging youth rowers and positive responses from a few clubs who would like to meet to discuss this further.

All parents have been advised we will be looking for a new person to co-ordinate youth rowing.

2015 - Coxes and Rota - Lucie

Discussion again on how we encourage more members out onto the water. Weather has been against us this year with a number of local rows and regattas cancelled. Feedback from members is that timings of some rows don't suit. People prefer early morning rows on weekends etc plus rowing technique not always full and cancelled, maybe change to introduction to race training etc. These issues to be managed in October schedule and through cox whatsapp - **Lucie (11 Oct)**

2025 - Regatta - Doreen

It's been a rather disappointing couple of months for participation in SW regattas. Our recent attendance at the Nith Raid proved fruitful however with FOCCR's retaining the trophy for another year but sadly the Bellringers Raid at Annan was cancelled due to bad weather conditions. The crew competing

in Castle to Crane also did us proud with third place in their category, followed on Saturday by FOCCR's coming a close second behind Troon at Rhu Regatta.

Our own rescheduled regatta on Saturday 14 October of course is approaching and I have had confirmation of attendance from Troon, Arran, Royal West/Gourock and Stranraer. Agreed to invite Glasgow and Rhu. I will arrange a meeting of the race team and committee between October 2nd and 6th to finalise details. The catering team are well organised.

FOCCR have put 2 teams (Arthur & Iain B leads) in for the "5 miles from home" event to take place on 1 October.

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A white paper on 23/24 regattas proposal was circulated to the committee before meeting for review. Discussion at committee agreed some amendments and a rewrite to be submitted for agreement at next committee meeting - **Iain (11 Oct)**

2045 - Social & Fund Raising- Jaqueline

£1000 grant awarded to us by Kilburn Wind farm Community Trust to help with the costs of regatta, Medals, trophies, Rib- hire, skiff and oar preparation, venue, band, catering. In keeping with the award we have organised a stall promoting our Eco friendly Initiatives ; Recipients of the SCRA Green Flag, beach cleaning, recycling club kit, and celebration of local sea life as photographed, videos or art by club members.

Catering for regatta - burgers, soup, home baking, plus sustainable food and recipes available (Vegan for the environment), inclusive of vegan/vegetarians/ celiacs etc. Sustainable food choices to be highlighted in connection with the grant award from Kilburn Wind Farm. Home bakers have to provide a copy of their recipe ingredients for completion of allergen checklist. This was included in poster/FB post.

Ceilidh in the Masonic hall, with Chanty Dyke playing. 48 members attended, ticket price was agreed at £10 adults /£5 under 18's. Snacks provided. A few club members commented on the ventilation, size and layout of the hall and it's suitability for this kind of event. Raffle and 'Push £1 coin to prize' raised funds for the club. Total for the ceilidh raised was £196.00.

Discussion about non-members attending club events. Agreed that club events are for club members but would encourage direct family members (parents of youth, etc) to attend if they wish. As to wider involvement, volunteers, etc, it was felt we would need to access that on an event-by-event basis.

Social committee are meeting 14th September to discuss future events. LSC booked Friday 27th October at 7pm for AGM. Christmas Party Hawkshill Bowling club booked Friday 8th Dec 7-11pm. Need to confirm Skelmorlie

Skanks and catering. Future fund raising Ideas discussed - Car Treasure hunt, coffee morning, Big Raffle prize e.g. Dyson Hairdryer, tickets £10.

2100 - AoB - All

Quote for new Tyron Curry youth oars - £750 plus £100 delivery in 4 weeks from order. Committee supported purchasing these oars. Once we receive and use these oars if they are found to be what we are looking for order a set of adult oars and use as "race only oars" - **Arthur (11 Oct)**

Review all FOCCR oar sets and decide which ones to keep, rework or sell - **Arthur/Gary (11 Oct)**

Review FOCCR child protection policy to be included in relevant documentation - **Lucie/Lynda**

Constitution to be signed by Chair/Secretary. Lucie send signature to Iain - **Lucie**

Review FOCCR booklet - **Iain/Lucie (11 Oct)**

Agreed to source FOCCR bobble hats - **Lynda/Jane**

We have purchased 2 new inflatable lightweight tents for use at regattas etc. Agreed to retain one of the old heavyweight FOCCR gazebos and sell other - **Iain (11 Oct)**

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Discussion around recent inappropriate, personal and out of context comments made by an individual member on FOCCR whatsapp regarding another member and related group's within the club. A number of members have commented how unsettling this was and a number of cox's have indicated that they would no longer wish to cox the individual.

Committee unanimously agreed that the individual's comments contravene the key principles 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 of our constitution and the individual's membership should be terminated as soon as possible. Chair to write to the individual and advise them of the committee decision - **Lucie (15 Sept)**

2130 - Closed

Next Committee Meeting Wednesday 11 October at 7pm in "The George" in Largs.