



**Eskmuthe Community Rowing Club  
Committee Meeting  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 8pm on Zoom**

- 1. Welcome and apologies**
- 2. Minutes of previous meeting**
- 3. Actions Update**
- 4. Correspondence**
- 5. Club report**
- 6. Regatta Events**
- 7. Treasurer Report and Harbour Fees**
- 8. Boat Shed**
- 9. Boat Repairs**
- 10. AOB**
- 11. DONM**

**Minutes**

**1. Welcome and apologies**

In attendance: Gaynor Allen (Chair), David Lee, Pauline Crerar, Georgina Brown, Kari-Ann Johnston, Jude Durnan (Minutes), Diarmid Jamieson, Wendy Barber

Apologies for Absence : Stewart Page, Felicity Cameron

**2. Minutes of previous meeting**

Approved: David Seconded: Pauline

**3. Actions Update**

David has organised the RowAround Scotland pictures in Facebook and they are on the SCRA Facebook page – lots of Eskmuthe faces in there.

All other actions are covered in the minutes.

#### **4. Correspondence**

ERC has received an email from the Dunbar Club passing on information about a pilot which would involve clubs trawling for microplastics - Sue Fenton, who organised the online RowAround Scotland event, is organising a meeting about this.

Colin Beattie MSP sent congratulations to the Club about receiving the £67,000 funding after seeing the report in the Courier about this.

#### **5. Club Report**

March-April 2021: (still no) rowing report

With infection numbers falling and vaccination numbers rising, we are still hopeful that we will be able to row again from May 17th. Some members have already been looking at tides for that day (Monday) and planning time off work for midweek excursions!

It's still not clear what restrictions we will have to follow to return to rowing safely and what the impact will be on organising training sessions and taking part in regattas this summer. It's likely the SCRA will issue some kind of guidance ahead of any re-start. It's probably only then that we can make a definitive decision about our own regatta on Saturday July 24th.

We still continue to have new people asking to row - 4 more since the last meeting. They have all received holding replies saying we need to get existing members back first, but I do feel that we should try to bring keen new people in fairly soon after the re-start. We have always said we're open to anyone who wants a go and one of our strengths has been the regular influx of new people.

We've had a quieter off-water period, although some members are back out kayaking again. Can I also suggest that we hold the event we discussed, The Story of Eskmuthe, on the evening of Saturday 24th April? This would be a picture-led journey through the history of the club to whet people's appetite to get out again - to relive some fun events for long-standing members and to allow newer members to find out a bit more about the club's story.

Gaynor and I are happy to lead on this, with the idea being that we would talk over the pics for about 30-40 minutes, have a break for drinks and chat - and then do another half hour or so. The emphasis would very much be on anecdotes and fun.

RowFit continues to work very well, with a variety of new people joining in. Michelle is doing the fitness blender session every Saturday and Wednesdays alternate between Gaynor's yoga and Andy's row/run classes, in partnership with the running club.

## **6. Regattas/Events**

There is no further news on what might be possible at the moment.

## **7. Treasurer's Report/Harbour Fees**

We made £108 from RowFit this month and £100 was spent on seat cushions. We have 3 seats and 2 coxes seats, so we are still one seat short, but hope to have this in time for rowing starting again.

The Club donated £130 to Resilient Musselburgh, but as they received a big donation they felt it appropriate to return this. Pauline will ask members if they would like this to go to another charity or to remain in ERC.

## **8. Boatshed**

So close and yet so far!

### **Lease**

The lease has been approved by both parties, the deed plan has been drawn up and is awaiting approval from us, and we hope to have the lease by June 1. Huge thanks to Wendy for this.

### **Warrant**

Chris, our architect, is dealing with the fire report and will have this and everything else into the council at the end of this month. I have contacted Gordon Eadie, our structural engineer, to ask what he needs to do and the timeline.

### **Builder**

We think/hope/pray we can take on a builder who is working with Durisol at the moment. If this works out club members will be able to help build the walls under the supervision of the builder.

### **Builder**

Diarmid Jamieson will be meeting with Damian from DJC Building Services who is currently building a property in Portobello as he is able to take on the Boatshed build. Damian does not use many subcontractors and is able to do the foundations and utilities as well as the build. He is also happy for Club members to help build the walls as he would supervise and direct us under his insurance and warranty. He will need to give the Club a quote for this work alongside the other quotes already provided.

The Club needs to provide 3 quotes

## Funding

Sports Scotland could ask to be part of the planning meetings for whoever gets the tender. Sports Scotland will allocate a contact to work with the Club as the boatshed build progresses. The Club needs to provide updates and follow the terms and conditions of the funding.

The Committee needs to know how Sports Scotland provides the funding and whether it is staged, when and how much funding is released at a time as the contractor will need payments at certain times and may need money up front at certain times during the process. Contractor may also send invoices which need to be paid within a certain timeframe e.g. 14 or 28 days and they would agree this in advance.

Can the Club access this money when they need it, considering that the funding is coming from two different sources? The Community Good fund will provide the entire amount in one go as long as the Club puts in writing what we need and costings.

A timeline and project plan is needed so we can provide a schedule as to when we pay the builder e.g. money for the foundations and for the building of the walls. The Club needs to have all these figures in a spreadsheet with a timetable for projected expenditure.

## Time Frame

The Club needs to consider what services each company can offer as well as their price and also the time frame in which they are able to do the work. The Lease starts on 1<sup>st</sup> June (?), so preparatory work could start before hand – e.g. fencing the site, digging up ground for soil tests for foundations, and utilities. The Boatshed is being built on the site of an old garage behind the residential care home next to Fisherrow Harbour.

The Building Warrant also needs to be completed, which the Club may not have until the end of June and this needs to be rubber stamped by the council. Gordon Eadie is working on the building warrant.

The Lease will unlock the site investigations – Wendy Barber to inform the solicitor of date of 1<sup>st</sup> June. The site investigation can't be done prior to the start of the Lease as it would be very expensive – around £8,000 – whereas if it is done after the Lease is in place it would cost around £2,000. The details of the Lease are agreed, ELC are waiting for us to come back with a start date – 1<sup>st</sup> June. The Club will then pay per year and have the responsibility for the land from that point which should be fairly risk free, but the area does get very busy in the Summer and we would need to ensure that people don't go on to our part of the land.

Fire Regulations - the Lease has a deed which shows the red line which covers the building and one metre access around it. The plan shows the footprint of the building and a one metre access strip, but this is a notional boundary as to get to the Boatshed we have to go across Council land – there is no maintenance strip, only access to the building. During the build the Club could apply for permission from the Council to leave building equipment in other areas of the car park – it should be okay to ask for this during the build.

Fire Report – Chris is working on this to send to ELC and hopes to have this done by early May. He has been in extensive talks with the Council to ensure everything complies with the building regulations. The conditions for this need to be done within a year, so needs to be ready by the end of May. It may be possible to get a few weeks extension to the Fire Report if the ground can't be dug up until June.

The Club will need to contact The Harbour House Care Home as their fence has been built very close to the area where the Boatshed will be built and the builder will need access. Whoever is contracted to do the build will need to discuss the details of this with the Care Home owners.

Pauline and Gaynor will be signing the document on behalf of the Club to say what is planned – Diarmid to check this over before signing. This can be signed with terms and conditions before deed plans are submitted.

**9. AOB**

**10. DONM**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 8pm Zoom