



**Eskmuthe Community Rowing Club
Committee Meeting
Monday, 8th November 2021 7:45pm on Zoom**

Present: Committee - Gaynor, David, Pauline, Kari-Ann, George, Felicity, Simon, Amie

Members - Michelle

Apologies:

Minutes of previous meetings: Sep 21 Minutes – David proposed, Kari-Ann approved, Felicity seconded. Aug 21 minutes to be brought by Gaynor to next meeting.

Correspondence - Morar House care home

Letter sent asking about sponsoring club. Would like some branding shown. Acknowledgment that we want to build good relationship. Suggestion to arrange meeting with them to discuss.

Rowing report - October-November 2021 (David)

It's been another very busy month, with rowing on the sea taking a slight back seat for a couple of weekends as we took to the rowing machines to do our 500 Miles more on land to match the 500 we (almost) did at sea.

It was an epic undertaking but the club rose to the challenge. About 70-75% of members took part and it was great to see so many children getting involved and really enjoying it. We could have a brilliant Under-19 team at Skiffieworlds 2031!

We have raised more than £1300 on the Just Giving page for the Rowathon and another £300+ in cash. Thanks especially to Dave Clark, whose mum went round her various clubs to raise money and to Ed, whose mum and gran gave a total of £100.

Thanks also to Felicity, Wendy, Pete and David/Gaynor for the loan of the rowing machine and everyone who helped in any way - especially Eoin, our very own Carol Vorderman.

We have carried on recruiting members, with Gail, Clare (another of Pauline's neighbours), William, Josef and Mairi all joining since the start of October. We now have 66 members and have eased off new rower sessions as it is challenging to bring in so many people at the same time and so much else has been going on. We will maybe do a couple more new member sessions this month.

We still need more coxes (Ciara has now stopped coxing for Eskmuthe) and plan to organise an online coxes' training session and invite all club members to attend. Even if people do not want to cox, it's definitely helpful for them to listen in to the training to understand more about what it involves.

We are trying to prioritise bringing through new coxes and Andy has already been out twice as a cox in training. Fox is also starting to train as a Fox-cox.

After a suggestion by rowing organiser-in-chief Eoin, coxes are now posting their rows to go live at the same time at 7pm on Monday. It would be interesting to hear what people think about this.

We're starting to put on more training sessions to give people a chance to get warmed up for Skiffieworlds. (Gaynor can update on how we are going to rotate the oars).

We also took part in a row to accompany the COP26 pilgrims on the first leg of their walk to the climate summit.

Actions:

- **Invite all members to Coxes training (with a new name), Gaynor & George to meet to decide on time for session.**
- **Encourage new coxes to have a go when it's calm – all current coxes**
- **Pauline to post tide app to TA to help members plan ahead**
- **Suggestion to change time of rows being released to 9.30pm on a Monday & Sunday. David to discuss with Eoin.**

Treasurer's report – Pauline

Please see Pauline's Treasurer reports for Sep & Oct 21 for details.

Oct 21 £3.5k income, £1.1k was World's accommodation fees which is ringfenced. £75 insurance paid out. £50 income being investigated.

Sep 21 £105k income for Boatshed. £7k cost on electrical cable work (initial payment). New member, Emma paid annual fees.

Actions:

Ask members to check they've paid RowAround £5. David to add reminder to newsletter, Pauline to post on TA.

Collection to be set up for Nic & Craig, possibly using viing.com – Felicity

Simon to be new authoriser for bank account – Pauline to contact him

Boatshed - Gaynor

We have secured a further £40k from ELC's Communities Fund. I have asked Wendy to look over the council's Ts&Cs to enable us to get the cash and she said they were standard. I have sent these to everyone, so please have a read. We need to get the building contract signed by Zest, our builder, to comply with the conditions and I have asked (again) for this to be done.

This cash injection puts us in a good position financially and we still have an application for £10k from the Benzie's Trust to hear from.

The building warrant application has been re-submitted, so we have to cross everything until we hear back.

George and I met with SPEN about moving the electricity cables under the building footprint and dates are set:

'Morrisons will excavate the site boundary for the cable diversion Tuesday 30th Nov

SPEN Jointer will be on-site Friday 3rd Dec to connect the diversion,'

I have informed Zest of the dates as it would be good if a rep was there.

I have informed Durisol (the blocks for the build) that the warrant has been submitted and will keep them informed of future developments. I also thought it would be good to inform all of our funders and will do so. I also put a post on TA for all club members.

Cables being worked on, with Ian overseeing. Once warrant comes in Ian to start on foundations and club can build walls. All weather dependent.

Actions:

Write letter to go to businesses – approach is to be in person rather than email - Felicity

Boat maintenance - Gaynor

Graham, George and I got together to look at all the oars the club has as we are concerned that we could get to the Worlds and no longer have a decent set. We decided to take the best set of oars out of the boats and 'keep them for best'. There are no full sets of oars any more as various renegades keep breaking them. We do have a mix-match of oars that we believe will work quite well. A couple need a bit of work on them and will be brought to the boats when finished. Please do not ask where the good oars are going to as if we tell you, we will have to kill you!!!

Our lovely Graham has also asked joiners RF Slight from Tranent to track down suitable wood and dress it as an in-kind donation to the club. They have agreed and are sourcing wood. Dressing the wood will make it easier for us to make the oars and is vital just now as we don't have a workshop.

SCRA AGM - George/Simon

Freshwater sprints & AGM. Wendy Clements treasurer's report. Income up over year, mainly from RowAround Scotland. Given £6.5k to film. £11.5k balance at end of year. Sue gave RowAround Scotland, Eskmuthe were mentioned as highlight. Discussion on Royal West, lots of regions taking part. Saw snippet of film. Skiffieworlds update, not much to report other than discussions with ferry companies and carnet are ongoing.

Thank you to all Covid officers in clubs. Sport Scotland now updating SCRA along with other sporting bodies. RowPorty thanked SCRA for the man overboard video which they had to put into action.

Well done to George & Simon on their medals!

Safety – George

George has purchased extra safety equipment, including a throw line, foil blankets and knife. Still to order lights and new mayday notice. Rest of existing equipment to be collected together. New chocks have been purchased also.

Action: Additional items from SCRA winter rowing safety equipment to be purchased - George

Skiffieworlds - David

Logistics – Eskmuthe minibus?

Accommodation – almost sorted, last check needed

Training/Team Selection – to be discussed.

Initial meeting 9th November, Ship Inn.

Privacy Notice - David

Policy will need to be updated to media and social media to cover use of photos on social media & print media. Follows query from club member.

Actions:

David to follow up with Wendy about updating membership form.

Eskmuthe Social – Gaynor

8th Jan 2022 suggested with Elvis and Bowie theme with the Normans! £10 ticket, no food from club, possible nibbles from club. Rugby club provisionally booked.

Any other business

- Area Partnership 21 – Kari-Ann to represent club. Will run taster sessions. APP has given up £10k. Possible costs associated with equipment needed for vulnerable groups. More info needed to discuss. Discussed Michelle helping with her role in social work. **Action:**
Gaynor/Kari-Ann/Michelle to meet and discuss
- Kate's Christmas Cards – price to be decided, everyone ok with going ahead.
- Next meeting Monday 13th December 7.30pm