

Lomond Mountaineering Club - Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: 8 pm Tue 9th of July 2013

Location: Dram

Present: Aaron Outhwaite
Ivonne Iser
Dave Wood
Burly Cumberland
Julian Hearne
Michael McAnenay

Apologies: Martin Fitzsimmons

1. Membership secretary workload

Ivonne raised the issue that the workload is much higher than she expected. Virtually everyone appears to contact her with regards to anything related to the club. This she feels is because her number is the only one public. She also pointed out that the club email account has thousands of emails in it and it's hard to know what has been done with what.

It was quickly agreed that Aaron would deal with enquires from new potential members. Michael also offered to deal with any general enquires and was happy for his number to be made publically available.

Burly agreed to sort out the club email account and forward mails onto the relevant people if requested. A quick discussion was held about splitting the email up into separate accounts, but it was felt that it should be kept as one account at least until the effect of better management is assessed.

2. Website

Much conversation revolved around the website. In this world of highly refined web services people seem to get upset when ours don't match those of large commercial companies. Ivonne raised the fact that people phone her when their accounts haven't appeared after an hour or two.

The standard issues that have come up time and again are: nickname problems especially when identifying payments, password issues, time to enable a new account, lack of mandatory fields such as address, lack of search and the endless discussion of adding incident reporting.

This conversation really needs to happen with Matt present. The things which could probably be fixed easily are: some wording stating that it takes us some time to manually enable new accounts usually within x days, under *become a member* adding the presidents details as well and stating that you can join via any committee member in the pub in Ivonne's absence, making more fields mandatory for new members which are useful such as phone numbers and addresses.

3. Banking and money

There was a debate about having an online bank account. In essence Dave prefers not to have one and it was agreed that the status quo should remain. However BACs payments are still a problem due to poor referencing and monthly account statements. A possible separate account for BACs payments was discussed as was potentially using only PayPal and cash. On the cash front it was decided that any committee can collect membership money in the pub if Ivonne isn't there. They are responsible for informing Dave and Ivonne as well as passing the money on. Obviously you need to get the persons details.

Payment options should be reviewed and finalised before 2014/15 membership year.

4. Hut

There was some discussion of alternative huts. Aaron has been keeping an eye out in Torridon direction. Given our limited finances we'd probably have to acquire somewhere that was currently un-habitable and then apply for grants etc. to turn it into a fully-fledged hut. While this was not dismissed it was felt that a hut that far north wouldn't act to replace Manse barn and ideally we would like to own something in the same geographical area. Maintenance of a hut that far north may also be an issue as the hut custodian etc. are unlikely to be passing by or able to pop up.

Jules is planning to have a hut maintenance meet and it was agreed that he should be able to offer a free BBQ (max spend of £50) as an incentive to get people along to help. Provisional date of the 20th of July.

5. Membership

Aaron and Michael discussed trying to get the membership up further by placing some posters in places where people might be climbing/interested in climbing. Climbing shops and the walls were suggested. Aaron is to look into some A5 posters.

6. Meets

Martin wasn't present and appears to be doing an excellent job with meets. Michael is planning to try and organise some more walks via the forum over the summer.

7. Social

A date for the annual dinner needs set. The 9th or 16th of November was suggested. Venue to be decided but it was accepted that we should return to the highlands as usual. Michael mentioned youth hostels/Kings house/Onich hotel as possible venues.

Christmas curry - suggested dates of the 11th or 18th of December.

Burns dinner on the 22nd of January.

Possible slide show of member's activities in November. Lismore won't work so it would have to be some other local venue with a suitable space.

Meeting closed at 21:55.