

Lomond Mountaineering Club - Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: 8:30 pm Wed 20th of November 2013

Location: Lismore

Present: Aaron Outhwaite
Julian Hearne
Michael McAnenay
Burly Cumberland

Apologies: Martin Fitzsimmons
Ivonne Iser
Dave Wood
Matt Bridgestock

1. Membership secretary workload and Website

Essentially very little of what was discussed at the last committee meeting has been addressed. Much of this focuses around the website.

Again it was felt that a conversation about the website really needs to happen with Matt present. As this seems to be unlikely Aaron will talk to Matt to try and arrange for the changes to be made to the website.

The main initial change is to redraft the contacts section of the website. New members looking information on the club should contact the president, new members looking to pay should contact the membership secretary and people looking to make hut bookings should contact the hut custodian.

It was suggested that the Wednesday night email climbing list should be scrapped. Members almost exclusively use the forums to organise Wednesday night climbing. As a result several new members have been confused by the lack of traffic on this list.

Jules wanted to know if it was possible for hut stuff to go straight to his personal email account.

Assuming the club website is hosted separately it was felt that having several admins might help to support continuous development of the site. Lack of search was also highlighted as a problem again.

On the membership list side it's clear that there is no central list available to the entire committee. This has caused some issues with regards to requests from the MCofS and for Jules via the increasingly unregulated key list for the hut. It's felt that we need to do something to enable holding this information centrally, either on the website via the documents section (only accessible to committee members) or via another solution (Dropbox?).

2. Hut

The hut maintenance meet and BBQ didn't happen. Richard however did help Jules to carry out some maintenance and was treated to a pub lunch on the club.

Jules raised the issue of hut keys again. This was brought up last year and Veronika spent some time updating the key list with the members list. Again it's not clear where this information has gone. When Jules issues keys he doesn't actually know if people are members. That combined with not retrieving keys from lapsed members means there are a lot of keys in circulation. Jules thinks this could be as many as 60. Yet again we discussed a new lock or changing the combination. The combination lock is still partially broke. Thus buying a new Yale barrel and collection of keys may be the cheapest option. We'd probably at least want these stamped by a locksmith to reduce duplication. If such a clean break change is going to be implemented then we should have better data collection in place before the new

lock is fitted. We should also make the switch at the beginning of the membership year. The question is still posed as to how much of a security risk all these extra keys are. Aaron to discuss with Matt options for storing data.

Richard has suggested the digging of a trench around three sides of the hut. The internal floor level is below that of the outside ground level. Such a trench may encourage water to flow around the hut the hope being that this will help reduce the damp. No one had any objections if the volunteers can be found.

The carpet for the hut is getting mouldy again. Thus we are on the look out for some free second hand carpet. It was also felt that the hut will need painting again next summer.

The issue of finding a permanent hut was raised again. We don't think we could support two huts and given the stress caused with Manse barn originally taking on a hut in the far north might be too much. Michael wondered if any of the estates in the Glencoe area might have an old building we could use. Michael will talk to Richard about this as he's been looking into the estates for work.

3. Membership

As previously, posters advertising the club was discussed. These would be placed in climbing shops and at the climbing walls. A5 or less in size. Actually action this time, Aaron and Michael to look into this.

4. Meets

Normal winter meets appear to be organised and will hopefully go well this year.

An Alpine meet in the summer was discussed. Try and get in the diary now and choose a location in an area with a broad range of activities including low-level stuff in case the weather is bad. Martin and Michael to talk with members with alpine experience. It was felt an early date would potentially enable people to get the cheapest flights possible.

5. Social

The annual dinner went very well. The next social event will be the Christmas curry on the 11th of December. Some people complained about the curry being cramped last year. Moving the bigger restaurants of Byres road would help address this. However we need to know how many people are going in advance to book these venues. They are less flexible. Post to forum now and put a deadline for booking table on site. Michael to organise.

The annual Burns dinner will be on the 22nd of January. No venue confirmed but Michael is thinking about Munros on Great Western road.

Final suggestion is a slide show possibly in February. Alternatively we could possibly get someone to talk? Find venue. Several options for external speakers suggested as was the possibility of opening such an event to non-members.

6. Other Business

MCofS

The new MCofS club development officer has been in touch with us asking if he can offer us any sort of support. The feeling was that we should ask him about help with finding a new hut/getting grants in place and see if this is something they will help with. Burly to reply to MCofS.

T-shirts and windproofs

Do we want more t-shirts? Still talk of 80th t-shirt. We need to order 20 really and at least 12 requests before we could break even on new t-shirts assuming we stick with the current design. Jules will post to forum to see if anyone wants a new t-shirt and establish possible demand.

Michael stated that Ivonne is looking into the possibility of getting some club branded Montane windproof smocks cheaply via Cotswolds sponsorship.

DWP

Department of work and pensions have been in touch with the club. They are investigating a former member. They are looking information with regards to financial records for former member who was in the club. Again they got in touch with Ivonne who couldn't help them as she had no access to any former records. Dave and Aaron are now dealing with DWP.

Meeting ended 21:42