

MINUTES OF - LOMOND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB 2012 AGM

STIRLING CASTLE WED 18TH APRIL 2012 8PM

Meeting was deemed quorate with 21 members present (including committee).

Attendees:-

Richard Baynes (c)
Matt Bridgestock (c)
Julian Hearne (c)
Iain Gilbert (c)
Helen Moore (c)
Martin Fitzsimons (c)
Dave Wood (c)
David Foster
Jim O'Donnell
Michael McAnenay
Aaron Outhwaite
Ivonne Iser
David Griffiths
Alistair Farish
Danny Church
Veronika Juranova
Petrina Traynor
Lisa McGuinness
Burly Cumberland
Florian Urban
Chris Husbands

Apologies were received from Kevin McGrath.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST AGM

No objections were raised to the minutes of the 2010 AGM and these were approved.

2. ELECTED OFFICERS REPORTS

a Presidents Report – Richard Baynes

Richard stated that the club had enjoyed another good year!

b Treasurer's Report – Dave Wood

The accounts were taken to the end of February to allow auditing by Dave Foster in advance of the AGM. The Club financial year will now run 1st March to end Feb but this audited period is therefore 15 months which will distort the figure slightly. Dave commented that haphazard accounting in previous years made detailed comparisons difficult but the general picture was healthy.

The club holds £4,717 in funds which is an apparent fall since the end of 2010 however late payment of MCofS insurance fees last year (approx £650) fell into 2010-12 accounts.

Dave confirmed the deposit account had been closed as it attracted no interest

A question was raised about the Annual Dinner and it was confirmed this generated a modest 'profit' of £60.

MINUTES OF - LOMOND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB 2012 AGM

c Hut Custodian's Report – Jules Hearne

Jules confirmed we are exempt from rates, however we now are 100% metered water supply and this has increased costs by more than a third over the year, compared to the previous flat fee arrangement. The current costs are approx £90 per quarter. The Alex Macintyre hut has an historical exemption from metered water rates, however it is believed the LMC Hut is linked to the Hotel hence the water meter. An approach has been made to the Council but no response has been forthcoming.

The biggest expense has been a total of £600 to fix the toilet and related stuff (frost damage). Jules confirmed that the stop cock had been fixed, however the outside tap was still a concern for water loss and will be investigated.

It was confirmed that the insurance has not been paid and that we now rely on MCofS insurance for 3rd party cover which has been confirmed as adequate. This results in a near £300 saving in expenditure annually.

We still retain only an 'informal lease' on the hut and this has been in place for 5 years or more. The relationship with the hotel is strong enough that we are content to maintain the status quo.

On other minor issues, we need to change the rate on the electricity meter, once we work out how to do it!, and the broken back window needs to be fixed.

At least two work meets are proposed for this summer, a strimmer is now available at the hut and a minimum two visits to cut the grass are needed.

The stove issue is covered under AOB.

d Meet Secretaries Report – Martin Fitzsimons

We held 16 meets over the period since the last AGM (2 Winter Seasons) with 104 weekend bed spaces booked. Martin advised an 86% attendance rate with a loss overall of £245. This is at least comparable or slightly better than previous years. 5 trips were full, 5 made a loss and the remainder were camping meets. The most significant losses were on the Smiddy (2 out of 8 attended, but it is the lowest cost venue) and the CIC hut. Both lost approx £75.

Overall it was felt the programme was good and losses manageable.

e Membership Secretaries Report – Helen Moore

Membership currently stands at 63 plus 5 Honorary Members which represents a steady increase from 56 in December 2010 and 45 in 2009. It was noted that a number of members are 'inactive' and/or living outside Scotland for whom the MCofS insurance is the principle benefit.

f Web Coordinators Report – Matt Bridgestock

The website continues to function well and no problems reported.

Richard raised an issue of etiquette, whereby having raised a thread on the forum seeking interest for a particular day, it was then 'hijacked' by subsequent contributors to different days or other matters! It was kindly requested that people start new threads to avoid confusion!

MINUTES OF - LOMOND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB 2012 AGM

2 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Changes to the constitution were discussed and proposed as follows, principally to reflect changes in the administrative year and makeup of the committee.

Add to Clause 7.1	Honorary Webmeister
Add Clause 8.10	The Webmeister shall be responsible for matters relating to the club website including access and content
Amend 9.1 to read	1 st March to end of February
Amend 10.1 to read	Subscriptions shall be due annually immediately after the AGM. Subscription year is 1 st April to 31 st March
Amend 10.2 to read	New Members joining after 31 st December shall pay a reduced annual fee.
Amend 12.1 to read	The Annual General Meeting will be held in March. Four weeks notice is required
Add to 12.2	...whichever is the lesser
Add to 14.2	...whichever is the lesser

The proposed amendments were put as a motion to the members, proposed by Jules Hearn, seconded by Iain Gilbert. This was carried.

3 SUBSCRIPTIONS

a Subscription Level

The MCofS fees for the coming year are rising to £14.25 per member, a £1.25 increase over last year. It was noted that the MCofS offer reduced subscriptions only in the final quarter of the year and the suggestion was made by Dave Wood that we bring our subscription terms into line. It was also highlighted that the alignment with the MCofS year would make cash flow and managing club finances easier.

A motion to make annual subscriptions £25 with a reduced level of £10 after 31/12/12 was proposed by Chris Husbands and seconded by Martin Fitzsimons. This motion was carried.

A motion to make annual subscriptions for students and unwaged £15 and £5 after 31/12/12 was proposed by Dave Wood and seconded by Martin Fitzsimons. This was also carried.

Matt Bridgestock pointed out that MCofS fees were due to rise again next year and future increases could not be ruled out. Our subscription is however in line with other clubs.

B Multiple Club Membership

The issue was raised of members of multiple clubs who could in effect pay for their MCofS cover more than once. The MCofS have now implemented unique ID for each member whether individual or club which should help prevent this from occurring. This does however raise issues for the LMC along with other clubs, namely should we accommodate this by offering reduced subscriptions to those who can demonstrate it has already been paid elsewhere, or maintain subscription levels regardless with the presumption in favour of insuring all members?

After some discussion two motions were debated and voted as follows:-

"It is up to existing MCofS members whether they wish to pay MCofS subscriptions through the club and they should present themselves to the Membership Secretary to ask for a discount". Proposed Dave Griffiths, Seconded Martin Fitzsimons. Voted 9 for, 10 against. Motion defeated.

"Membership stands at agreed rates for all even for members of multiple clubs".

MINUTES OF - LOMOND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB 2012 AGM

Proposed Aaron Outhwaite, Seconded Chris Husbands. Voted, 12 for, 3 against, 4 abstentions. This motion carried.

A related issue was raised by Richard as to whether we can save payment of MCofS subscription for the lifetime honorary club members if they are members of other clubs. This to be further investigated by writing to these members - John Porter, Willie Johnstone, Ken Johnstone, George Christie and Lawrie Travers.

4. MEETS PROGRAMME

The general opinion is that the selection and variety of huts has been very good. Richard questioned whether we should retain the September meet as this was poorly attended. It was agreed to keep it so long it remains a low cost venue (it was the Smiddy in 2011). Martin confirmed the CIC has not been secured for 2013 yet.

5. SOCIAL PROGRAMME

This 80th Anniversary Year it was proposed to hold the Annual Dinner at a Glasgow venue in November to mark the occasion. It was pointed out that Lawrie Travers is 91 and many other longstanding club members are also unlikely to be able to travel far so it would be fitting to hold an event they could all hopefully attend. A meeting of the committee will be held soon to plant the event.

This proposal was put to a vote, proposed by Jules Hearn, seconded by Florian Urban, and carried.

6. HUT ISSUES

Jules proposed that Hut Fees be increased for non-members from £4 to £5 per night, with members remaining at £2. This was seconded by Iain Gilbert and the motion was carried.

Bank Holidays are not currently let to other clubs but Jules stated that there had been lots of interest to use the Hut at these times for more than 2 nights. Although an LMC Hut Meet coincides with a Bank Holiday many members felt that the availability of the hut was important in case of last minute decisions. It was agreed to retain the current arrangements - without resorting to a vote.

It was mentioned that the Hut needs a new visitors book and some pens!

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

All positions were available for nomination. Richard Baynes, Iain Gilbert and Helen Moore had indicated their intention to step down.

a) President

Chris Husbands was nominated for the post of Club President (again!) by Florian Urban, seconded by Burly Cumberland.

b) Secretary

Burly Cumberland nominated by Aaron Outhwaite, seconded by Dave Griffiths.

c) Treasurer

Dave Wood nominated to continue in post by Helen Moore, seconded by Matt Bridgestock.

MINUTES OF - LOMOND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB 2012 AGM

d) Hut Custodian

Jules Hearne nominated to continue in post by Dave Griffiths, seconded by Matt Bridgestock.

e) Meets Secretary

Martin Fitzsimons nominated to continue in post by Alistair Farish, seconded by Dave Griffiths.

f) Membership Secretary

Veronika Juranova nominated by Helen Moore, seconded by Burly Cumberland.

g) Webmeister

Matt Bridgestock was nominated to continue in post by Jules Hearn, seconded by Martin Fitzsimons.

h) Environment Officer

Kevin McGrath had indicated he wished to continue with access, conservation and environmental matters in this non-full committee post. Nominated to continue in post by Michale McAnenay, seconded by Dave Foster.

i) Social Secretary (New Post)

Aaron Outhwaite was nominated by Petrina Traynor, seconded by Florian Urban.

8. DONATIONS

It was confirmed that donations are 'traditionally' made to the MRT the club has made most use of through the year. This year it appeared that none had been used (?), so a donation of £100 to the Glencoe MRT was proposed by Michael McAnenay, seconded by Jules Hearn. This was carried.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A Website – Veronika advised that the website needs some updates – this will also need to include new committee details etc.

B Manse Barn History – query has been received concerning the history of the manse barn which is an important historical example of a Lochaber 'barn'.

C Craigallion Memorial

Richard advised that funds were being raised for a memorial at the Craigallion Loch which played a key role in the depression era development of climbing in the Glasgow to Arrochar area and beyond, including the founding of the LMC. Legendary names such as Jock Nimlin refer to this location as the meeting place with a fire never allowed to go out. More information is available on the attached link and Richard has covered this in a – yet to be published – newspaper article. <http://www.glasgowwestend.co.uk/out/outdoors/Hutters.html>

Richard proposed a £100 donation to the fund, seconded by Dave Griffiths, and the motion was carried

D Stove for the Hut

Richard advised that the cost to install the acquired stove with an insulated flue is estimated at around £400. He noted that correct installation is important and that a full professional job

MINUTES OF - LOMOND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB 2012 AGM

might cost around £3k which would make it unaffordable. The hotel was consulted about 2 years ago on the matter but may need to be consulted again.

Matt Bridgestock offered to get a price for installation and for someone certifying our installation.

Jules confirmed that the hut custodian would become responsible for maintenance and general upkeep of the stove once installed.

Alistair pointed out that members and other hut users would need to bring / source their own wood – no foraging in the local scrub!

E Next AGM

The date for the next AGM was set as March 13th 2013.