



Cumbria Canoeists.

St Bees

23/5/02

Present:

Nigel Timmins.

J Weatherill

Matt Ellis.

Colin Litton.

M Clark.

M Thompson.

J Singleton.

Andy Morris.

John Crosbie.

Colin Litten

Alastair Yates

Joe Stalker

Apologies: from Roger Ward, Annie Jukes, Nick Mortimer, Steve and Liz Farthing, Ann Hurst.

Nigel started the meeting with an apology from our new chairman Roger Ward and as everyone was in agreement he chaired the meeting.

Minutes from last meeting were approved.

RCO report. A welcome to our new RCO Matt Ellis.

With regards to course authorisations he is managing to return them by return of post, so there should be no hold up. He reported there were a large number of closed courses all have been authorised. All Cumbria courses are now on the website www.cumbriacanoeists.org.uk

Quality assurance is a priority for Matt and he will be trying to get to see some courses.

LCO's have received a job description along with an RCO job description and he sees his job as supporting LCO's and keeping in touch with all Contracted Course providers. He proposed a meeting with LCO's and Contracted Course Providers but in an effort to keep meetings to a minimum a proposal that this meeting be scheduled for the next update day in Keswick November 23rd. This was accepted so please note this in your diary all CCP's and LCO's.

CDO Report. Attended the English meeting on March 2nd. Jack Russell spoke on the topic of motivation, a very enlightening talk. The next day was the main meeting and the English coaching development plan was considered and 5 items were highlighted for priority.

1/ Develop a modular level 3 award. Graham Campbell has already done some work on this so he is to report back on a modular level 3 competition award.

2/ A review of the QA programme – basically increase the number and range of coaching courses to be assured. New people have just been appointed e.g. Matt Ellis, Martin Meling and possibly Dave Helliwell in the North. A phone QA project is to be instigated soon.

3/ A review of coaching resources followed by an overhaul where necessary. A list is to be brought to the next CDO meeting on the 13th

June. I would envisage a note in Code first highlighting what is available. An overhaul may well take much longer!

4/ Review of internal and external partners in the BCU. E.g. Sports Coach UK, and Pat Mee, an expert on dyslexia based in the NW region.

5/ Establish a communication/volunteer strategy in coaching.

Other items mentioned were:

Level 2 coach remit. There has been some confusion in the past in relation to journeys led by level 2 coaches. It must fall within the Level 2 'terms of reference' e.g. sheltered water.

The normal duration of a journey can be up to a day, unless the journey is bank supported in which case the duration could be longer. E.g. Leeds Liverpool canal. Trips need to be risk assessed. Guidance notes are to be produced and circulated in Code.

Young People Programme and Cadet Leader Award.

Some people still felt there was a place for the Junior Instructor award (Level 2). ECMC will ask UKCMC to re-visit this.

Next meeting open to all LCO's is the 14th September.

Awards for all

Application for this was put in on 10th March. This was for a trailer and number of specialist boats. It was thrown back, as the bank statement was out of date and the constitution not signed. It has now been sent and the last correspondence was 13 May, returning the bank statement and saying they may contact us again to help consider our application. We are still waiting to hear something!

Revalidation/update

Next update day is November 23rd at Calvert Trust, Tithe Barn in Keswick. It will be an informative, fun day with a chance to catch up with the Cumbrian paddling scene. Pyranha have been contacted again to see if they will come up.

Remember you can use the **self-assessment** forms for revalidation available in CODE, December 2001.

Northern region

Nigel Timmins attended the meeting on 19th March in Corbridge. It was mostly NE information but of interest was:

Sites - Prudhoe is well worth visiting. It is a grade 2 with good flow even in low water. Some work on improving the site is in the pipeline. Lloyd Allen is the freestyle rep for Northern region and is based there.

Free freestyle sessions going at Teeside, contact them to find out.

Hexham weir has been identified by environment agency as a possible site for paddlers. Wylam weir fishermen still not giving any access.

Web site. Keith Morris has set this up and is keeping it up to date.

www.cumbriacanoeists.org.uk

Please, please send him material to put on web site e.g. links to your club, stories, courses, etc.

National and regional courses / events.

White water race for juniors have been held at the Burrs site (Bury). A similar event at Prudhoe was superb with a good attendance of some 55 kids.

Bobby Timperley held a successful talent camp at Teeside on 13th July. There was coaching for juniors in slalom, freestyle, marathon, white water racing, and polo.

For you diary:

14th September BCU Disability awareness course ring Peter Jackson 01642 678196.

Also Calvert Trust in 2003 January 20/24th

Tyne tour 2/3rd November

Open canoe symposium YMCA 9-10 November.

Also at £5 per session

Tuesday 06 August – Fuelling Performers - (Venue Allerdale)

Monday 23 September – Injury Prevention and Management - (Venue Copeland)

Monday 04 November – Funding and Promoting Your Club - (Venue Allerdale)

For more information visit their web page on www.sportscoachuk.org.

Access. Colin gave us a run down on recent events. The BCU lobby of MP's has gone well though a number of MP's have not signed the early day motion (110 have though). Some local people have been contacted to write and remind them to do so.

Joe mentioned that they had gone to see Jack Cunningham but his secretary reminded them, that he was a very keen angler!! He however listened to them and seemed supportive?

The Brathey management plan has been circulated though not to the BCU!! But fortunately Colin has got hold of a copy and will be making comment. It does at least recognise that it is heavily used by paddlers. Contact him if you want to find out more.

Lazonby parish council has written to ask how they could improve things at the launch spot on the Eden at Lazonby. As Matt Ellis is a resident (and he has his free Eden fishing pass) he will follow this up. Jim Wilson also to be contacted.

Steve Mitchell from Howtown Outdoor Centre, who now owns the small house next to the falls at Armathwaite, has expressed interest at helping put in some stiles to improve access past his land.

Derwent. All seems quiet and Copeland CC often paddle the section from Broughton Bridge to Workington. The weir in Workington is often used by freestyle paddlers. No fishing can take place on the weir as there is a fish counter on it, so conflict should be at a minimum?

Eamont is available to paddle at anytime except November. You must pay £10 per group or £20 per year to Dalemain estates. M Thompson of Howtown to find out what access arrangement they have regarding paddling the lower Eamont and Eden to Langwathby.

Lune is still paddled but restrictions still apply. Good section from Rigmaden Bridge down to Kirkby Lonsdale ring Andy Clifford.

A lot of talk about putting all this information on the web site. A request by John Crosbie. However Colin pointed out we need to be very careful what we put on a site with a public domain and anyway he still prefers River Advisers to be contacted so that they are aware of what is being paddled and when. LAO's will provide info on their rivers on the web site?

Kent – request to disinfect boats so that we do not destroy the English crayfish!! Some talk about this and really feel it is not practicable or helpful. i.e. which disinfectant should we use?

National Aspects.

Padiham development has hit a few snags and will now be put back a year.

John Crosbie went to the Local Access Forum about CROWac and they were concerned that as they were looking at access in the Lake District it did not cover water access. They feel it should, so will address it?? J.C. to feed in info to the agenda and back to this group.

Lune - foot and mouth access issue. A BCU member has been given a suspended sentence by the BCU of 5 years loss of their coaching qualifications for hiring out equipment to a group in the knowledge that they would be paddling on the Lune which at that time had a F&M restriction on it. Contact Nigel Timmins if you wish to know more on this.

Newsletter. NT raised the issue of the cost of the newsletter. Nothing to be decided now but we need to think about it for a decision for next meeting or later. Nick Mortimer has 100 names to who he sends email copies at almost no cost. We send 350 paper versions out. We get £500 from the Northern region BCU to run our affairs. We spend nearly £300 of this on postage, paper, photocopying etc to send out our newsletters. Is this a good use of our money? We need to consider, 3 options.

- 1/ Continue as we are -it is a service of our BCU membership.
 - 2/ Put the newsletter on the web site, send email copies and send paper versions only to those who attend and all centres, canoe shops and clubs.
 - 3/ Only put newsletter on the web site and send email copies to those who want them.
- Contact NT if you feel strongly on this and /or come to the next meeting.

Club news.

Copeland CC. On the 6th June they will be trying to complete the 3 L's -- Loch Lomond, Lake Windermere and Lake Bala in under 24 hours. They will be raising money for the Lifeboat Institute. Pool sessions as normal are full.

West Cumbria CC. Invite other clubs to join in their events. Visit their web site at <http://freespace.virgin.net/wc.cc>

They have kindly offered to help organise and provide chips at next years St Bees meet so long as we hold the meeting on their club night i.e. Wednesday. See you all there!!!

Duddon CC. Lots of sea paddling. They were successful in their awards for All bid (well done) a fleet of Lightnings is on order!!

Polo event organized by **Lakeland** was very successful with 5 teams in the event.

AOB

JC highlighted First Aid for Cumbria, a funding stream. Information copied and now sent out to clubs. NT will put a bid in for some boats to rent to club members cheaply.

Don't forget Awards for All is still available just ring 0845 600 2040 for an application pack.

Guides in production. Stuart Millar is producing a guide to Cumbria and the Northwest. He is interested in any stories notes etc. contact him at stu@callwild.demon.co.uk

Also Franco with the BCU is to produce in late 2003 a white water guide to England – much like the new Scottish guide.

Please, please if you have not done so, get your name and email to Nick Mortimer so that this newsletter can be sent via email to you.

Just email Nick with details of your email address to CumbCanoeNewsLtr@onetel.net.uk

Next meeting 7:30 pm Ambleside Golden Rule. Thursday
19th September.

River Brathay paddle beforehand - 6pm at Brathay Hall
/river car park