

Cumbria Canoeists Thirlspot Thirlmere, 20 September 2005

Present:

Nick Mortimer	Paul Wilson.	John Sherwin
Richard Ward	Nigel Timmins.	Tim Mather
Roger Ward	Mark Davies	Gavin Smallbone
Mac Knowles	Gordon Furness	Pete Knowles
Andy Morris	Matt Ellis	Janice Weatherill
Gareth Field	Alison Falconbridge	Sean Mc Grath
Julie Cunningham		

Apologies: from John Crosbie, Annie Jukes, Jill Davies, Alan Aldred, Jim Wilson.

Minutes from last meeting were approved.

CDO Report – Nigel Timmins

Coach update – Problems in finding a venue. The event will take place hopefully on Nov 27th 2005 the venue will be confirmed shortly.

Awards for All boats, used fairly frequently this year, 2005. Mike Mills from Whitehaven and Duddon CC are using boats this month.

Request for help from Askham girl guides to coach one star and two star training. Contact Eileen.jennison at btopenworld.com if you can help

NT organised the BCU grant of £1000 that has now been transferred into our bank account.

NT ran an Introduction to **Long Term Paddler Development (LTPD)** in the NE. Will probably run a similar session at the Cumbria update day.

Past events: Youthfest at Teeside in June 2005 was very successful. Although no clubs from Cumbria went.

A freestyle day on September 11th 2005 also very good and supported by paddlers from Carlisle Club.

Eden Rivers Trust have some money to pay for a project officer for 6 months to explore expansion of the Ullswater trail. Anyone interested please get in touch with NT.

Matt / Mark and NT did a training event (jolly) for staff at Eden Rivers Trust by taking them canoeing on the Solway estuary to surf the Eden Bore. Very successful for those of us who had appropriate boats and could keep up with the wave! Matt Ellis will be selling his boat soon for something that knows how to surf!

Important: Star tests being revised and some major changes are likely. There will be an update at the coach update day. Suggestions are in line with LTPD and 2 star will be generic. Candidates will need experience of both canoe and kayak in 2 environments and either 2 competitions or 2 journeys. 3 Star will be on moving water grade 1 and 2. 4 star on grade 2/3. Peer responsibility will be an aspect in both of these awards. The above is still under discussion.

Forthcoming dates 2005:

- October 22nd 2005 Durham Division B WW race
- October 23rd 2005 Wavehopper National Championships at Slenningford on the River Ure.
- November 5th/6th 2005 Tyne Tour with junior wavehopper race scheduled for the Saturday morning. Boats provided free of charge with coaching first and a race in the afternoon.
- Nov 11th -13th 2005 Canoe Symposium, YMCA Lakeside.
- Nov 19th-20th 2005 Sale on Saturday, and then Bury WW race and wavehopper races on Sunday.
- Nov 26th 2005 Equity symposium at BCU Nottingham.
- Nov 27th 2005 Provisional Cumbria update day.
- December 10th 2005 NW region update day at Mersey Sport Liverpool.

English Coaching Manager Richard Ward came from Nottingham to join the meeting. He invited Cumbria Canoeists to send up to 3 people to the BCU briefing day on Sunday October 16th 2005.

Richard Ward also talked about volunteers and how the BCU supports them. The meeting was asked for nominations of volunteers who deserve a letter of thanks from the BCU.

26th November 2005 will be the BCU equity day so anyone interested in this important issue. Please put it in your diary and get in touch with NT if you wish to attend.

RCO report – Matt Ellis.

On the website there are lots of requests for courses, but RCO finds it difficult to help as he is now out of the loop as to what courses are running. There is a need for closed courses to also go on the web. A request to CCP's in the area to notify the webmaster with their courses.

There is a need for a more tangible network to **support aspirants** at different levels – again course information on the web would help them as well. Matt would like all LCO's to consider their position and confirm that they are still interested in standing. He would like more involvement in the near future.

11- 13th November 2005 is the Canoe symposium. Level 4 and 5 coaches are needed from the region to run sessions and **local guides to work alongside coaches** who don't know the local rivers. There will be some family orientated sessions so please book either as a participant or as a helper.

Contact Gareth Field kayakandcanoes at yahoo.co.uk
or Tom Sibald tomandcath at nascr.net

Regional Access Advisor report – Mark Davis

RAA has had lots of requests about **canoeing on the Lakes**. RAA would like information about speed boats and infringements on speed limit as there has been a move back onto lakes other than Windermere.

The **steps on the Eden** are now in place at Lazonby and Cumbria Canoeists are responsible for minor maintenance. Would people please clear debris when they are there or notify RAA, Nigel or Matt that something needs to be done.

Mark had a look at a local extraction management plan. No real concern but interesting we are now circulated with things like this.

Eden. People have booked but have been seen by fisherman getting out on bank – please stick to agreement and pass straight down without landing except in an emergency.

Leven. The Fish counter has now been taken away on the Leven. EA were going to put fish counter on the Rothay but thanks to some hard work from St Martins College, it is now not going ahead.

Greta. A meeting is planned for October 2005 and changes to the existing agreement are very likely. See additional notes at the end of this newsletter. A big discussion about access on the Greta followed. It was finally left that Mark would report about outcomes from the forthcoming meeting.

Crake. Looking to replace the signs. We will put the BCU logo on signs, after the meeting felt we should, although the BCU are not happy about the agreement as it goes against present policy. Thanks to Nigel and Roger for there work whilst Mark was away.

Middle Derwent has a strainer across it, be very wary it is dangerous. EA are going to clear it but it might take a few weeks.

Request for another **river clean up**. Eden Rivers trust is organising for the Saturday November 19th 2005 between Langwathby and Lazonby exiting at the new canoeists steps.

Clubs

Lakeland. Got demoted but finally put back into division 3. Polo has lots of interest. Tim Mather who has moved north may try to organise a pool session at Penrith.

Duddon. Dock development still likely to go ahead. Pontoons are perfect for polo. Lots of star tests done and 24 on a white water safety day. Using a 2nd pool session as it is so popular. Trips to Scotland and the river Wye as well as to the Washburn and Tees. Three members working towards their level 2 coach award.

West Cumbria. Membership is rising, mainly adults. Held 3 week modules over the summer on different aspects of e.g. sea canoeing, open canoeing etc. These were very popular. Quite a number of weekend meets have been held.

Carlisle. A number of level 2 trainees but difficult to keep up with the youngsters since the kayakojacko training session. Everyone is pulling tail squirts and cartwheels!

Website

Nick Mortimer is now running this but he doesn't want it like that. He is going to set it up so that each club and the officers have access to it so we, as a group, can run it and keep it up to date. Money will be needed for hosting facility, proposed by Matt Ellis and seconded by Mark Davis. All our email addresses are encoded so they are safe and will not get spam.

AOB

Mike Tinnion is proposing a **sea kayaking weekend** on October 15/16th 2005 at Kirkcudbright, all are welcome, especially experienced people who are willing to help.

John Sherwin raised a concern over the **lack of reply** to letters sent into BCU. Richard Ward asked that in future letters are addressed to him as he will answer them. Did highlight some concerns about the assessing standards of those running 2 and 3 star canoe awards. Matt seconded this. This is something we can and will address at the update day.

Pete Knowles talked about the forthcoming **winter lecture series**. He has four aims - to promote paddling, bring paddlers together, inspire and hopefully be profitable. The first will be in January 2006, possibly Doug Cooper. There was some discussion about a south Cumbria venue with the Brewery Arts Centre being a possible location. Cumbria Canoeists are happy to support any shortfall, but the events were very successful last year.

16th November 2005 is the paddling evening on the **Kendal Film festival**.

Meeting finished approx 9:45pm.

**Next meeting 7:30 pm 24th
January 2006.
Location to be confirmed.**