



**Cymdeithas Rhwyfo Môr Cymru  
Welsh Sea Rowing Association  
Executive Meeting Agenda  
Sat 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

**Members present –**

Nigel Bowen, Chrissy Canning **New Quay**, Carol Davies **Llangrannog**, Rachel Mills **Borth**, Nick Gregory, Laura Ludwinski, Chris Haines **Aberystwyth**, Tim Knowles **Beumaris**, James Smyth, Lee Robinson **Fishguard**, John Eddington **Aberdyfi**, Maggy Clarke, Pippa Owen, Geoff Wood **Porthmadog**, Tina Gorrindge **Neyland/Llangwm**

**Agenda –**

- **Apologies**

Pete Fletcher, Towy, Ynys Mon, Dylan Evans, Danielle Milliner, Caernarfon, Jill Gloster, Mike miles, Charlie Martin

Time Guillotine imposed – meeting to finish at 3pm

- **Minutes of the previous meeting**

It was requested that there be a separate membership sheet to show novices for hosting clubs. CD to action this.

Update on coaching – no further forward – no news from WR on this either. TK stated that David Thompson was going to Beumaris to assist with coaching, could he help. NB suggested that clubs contact their local MP to help get recognition as a separate entity with Sports Wales. JE suggested creating a document clubs can modify that could be used. NB stated that there are more counties along the coastline. TK asked what was needed for courses. CH stated that both coaches haven't received ratification to complete with both being frustrated at the lack of support from WR. CC will contact both and find way forward.

Porthmadog asked if clubs in the north can hold two races next year to attempt address the discrepancy of numbers of race in the south/north leagues. To be put on the October executive agenda to be ratified at the next AGM in 2016.

Barmouth Paddle row – clubs are covered if they enter this event. Action, ask organizers for risk assessment.

- **Update on dale/boats**

NB explained that Chris Harding couldn't attend the meeting but updated everyone present with emails from Chris. CH has had meeting with Dick Morgan since the last meeting, Dick was not aware of the haste needed regarding boat spec. There appears to be a large grey area over who owns what regarding the boats – this investigation is still ongoing, Dale own all the interior moldings but exterior fixtures can be bought online. CH is making inroads into finding this information out. CH suggested trying to find records of the money given to start Celtic longboats from Sports council for Wales. NB and CC were told by WR that historically, the sports council of Wales had provided a large amount of monies to kick start Celtic longboats – what is not clear is who had input into the design of the current boats. The pembrokehire longboats were used as a starting point to create a universal boat – Celtics. CC pointed out that in the past when clubs were asked for issues regarding boats, not many came forward. It was stated that we do not

need to put ourselves in a position to upset Dale. Due to possible legalities it was proposed to put the tender process on the back burner – **all in agreement**. JE stated as point of interest one of the companies that had requested to be considered for tender of future boats had just gone bust. It was also suggested that the royalties from the boats increase from £100 to £250 in order to attempt to cover the cost of a future mold. Dick Morgan states that the current mold, while new, is only fit to create 50 boats. **All in agreement**.

- **Cardiff millennium event**

14 boats have registered to enter with NB. Club rowing the whole distance will need to submit risk assessments. Porthmadog would like to send a boat then link up with clubs along the coast. NB expressed concerns over safety boats and risk assessment issues. CH explained issues encountered during the 'Stonehenge' project, with big issues rowing in the shipping channels etc. Porthmadog suggested 'tag' rowing along coast instead. NB stated the object was to be seen coming in to Cardiff. Also, many other issues such as the size of support boats. Porthmadog would like to contact clubs especially the s.wales clubs as they know their areas better. CC to send email out with clubs, to which they would contact porthmadog. JE will need a highly detailed risk assessment for the whole event.

- **Proposals from Beumaris –**

1. The WSRA annual accounts shall show a balance at the end of the year which is carried forward to the start of the next year.
2. The balance at the end of 2014 shall be reported to the WSRA Executive.
3. At each AGM one or two members shall be appointed to check the annual accounts for the coming year and to report their findings to the next AGM.
4. If professional assistance is needed to manage the accounts, the WSRA will pay for this.

Before any discussion NB had the following statement –

Can I first say that I am not happy with the underlying innuendoes of this proposal. I have been associated with the WSRA either as a member of a club or on the committee for the last 15 years and not once has the credibility of the WSRA accounts been brought into question. A full copy of the accounts were sent out via email to all clubs (all be it due to circumstances beyond my control) a week later than the AGM, showing all the up to date balances. Why you feel the need to have the accounts checked by two members when they are audited by a firm of accountants in Fishguard every year is beyond me. As I feel this is a very unnecessary proposal, I therefore suggest that it is held back for the next AGM when more exec members will be present to debate it.

CH agreed that these proposals should be discussed at AGM – all in agreement. TK stated they had thought the accounts would go out prior to the meeting to discuss any issues. Also queried if there were any issues would they then be discussed at the executive meeting or pushed on to the following AGM. NB explained the Pete usually attends the meetings to answer any questions or queries but was unable to make it due to work commitments. TK stated apologies from Beumaris if offence was caused. NB said that clubs can contact Chrissy or himself to answer queries.

- **Publicity-**

1. discuss promotional video

JE declared an interest as one of the quotes came from an Aberdyfi rower. Some committee members had looked into obtaining quotes for a promotional video as discussed at last meeting, with quotes ranging from £300 - £1800. NB had done tentative enquiries as it is unclear about aviation license. LL stated that a drone may not be able to film if people are present. She will find out rules and inform the

committee of these. PO proposes that the committee go ahead to find the best package with a maximum spend of £500 – **all agreed.**

2. discuss photo competition for WSRA Calendar

Danielle had proposed that the wsra do a photo competition. Discussions regarding this, Proposals are – no photos to be submitted until after the GRR/Cardiff event and each club is limited to submitting 12 photos each. The committee can then decide on the 12 winners, which can then be turned into a calendar. It was stated that printing companies may be more willing to sponsor printing of calendars should the funds be donated to charity. Various charities suggested – still to be confirmed which charity. CD suggested that the winning 12 pictures could be announced on the evening of the end of season presentation dinner.

3. discuss photo gallery on website

Clubs can send their photographs into Danielle to be used on the wsra website – all photographs used must have permission from the photographer.

• **AOB**

Savona – Porthmadog went out to Reno last year and would like to offer something in return. CH explained the limitations encountered last year for funding. It was suggested to explain to our Italian friends that we do not receive funding to try work something out as they are keen to participate in our league again this year.

Paperwork = NB stated that clubs are not sending all their affiliation paperwork and event risk assessments in, so the committee is having to chase these items. It is not the committee who are requesting these documents, it is the insurance brokers who entrust the committee to ensure all paperwork is completed and sent in with correct time stamps.

• **Date of next meeting** – July 2015, to be confirmed