

**Minutes of the Devon Orienteering Club Committee Meeting**  
**Ilstington Village Hall**  
**8<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**Present:** Bryan Smith (Chair), Rob Parkinson, Alan Simpson, Ruth & John Chesters, Tom McMurtrie, Roger Green, Helen Taylor, Andy Reynolds, Matt Atkins, Tom Lillicrap

**Apologies:** Nicholas Maxwell, Georgia Jones, Steve Perrelle, Damian Wilson,

Bryan welcomed members to the meeting, and highlighted some recent Devon club successes, notably at the JK, which was attended by more than 50 club members. Our Juniors continue to be successful, with strong performances at the recent World Schools event in Estonia.

The committee paused to remember Sue Gard, who died recently. An appreciation was included in the recent Mailchimp, and several members of the club are able to attend her funeral.

Prior to the formal meeting agenda, Alan Simpson led an interactive discussion of the options for use of SIAC at our events, which we will be 'trailing' at the South West Middle Distance and the South West Sprint Championships. It was agreed to review the options after these two events.

**1) Minutes of the previous meeting**

**ACTION**

*Minutes of the previous meeting (13/3/19) were agreed.*

**2) Matters arising**

*VAT for car parking* – BS to progress this matter with NM

**BS/NM**

*Activities* - MA will be putting on a MapRun event at Exeter Quays on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Details have been posted on the webpages and included in the recent Mailchimp, and will be added to FB. It was noted that the Club needs a MapRun co-ordinator.

**RP**

*AGM* – following discussion, it was agreed that the Devon League 18/19 certificates will be presented at the Club Champs on 30<sup>th</sup> June. BS and RP will discuss arrangements for the AGM in September (separate AGM and Committee meeting?), to confirm at the July committee meeting.

**BS  
BS/RP**

*Registration tent* – AS, RG and AR will investigate the options for a more robust registration tent.

**AS/RG/AR**

*Club President* - BS has yet to receive a response from Sir Harry Studholme (Chairman, Forestry Commission, and local landowner) to become our President.

**BS**

**3) Development Plan 2018-21**

*Membership, in particular publicity* – BS introduced the discussion of this key area of the club development plan. MA reported that our current membership stands at 217 (including 8 OROX), of whom 167 are seniors. This represents an increase on numbers at the same time last year, which is very positive. It was noted that the Introduction to Orienteering courses being run at Haldon by SP and DW are making a positive contribution to our membership, as attendees who successfully complete the course become club members. It was agreed that our focus must be on continuing to recruit, and to retain members.

Following discussion of the question 'What do we need to do to raise the profile of the club, publicise orienteering events in Devon and elsewhere in the region?', the following points were raised:

1. Exploit links with QO and Kerno more fully (note: joint events planned for 19/20 season).
2. Ensure that members are aware they are welcome at events run by other clubs in the Region - RP to add information to web and FB pages. MA to add to Mailchimp postings. **RP/MA**
3. Ensure that information about the club is available at Permanent Courses (action by club members with individual Permanent Course responsibilities). **DW**
4. Publicise future events at each event - a) on results slip; b) cards to hand out at events. (New cards need producing) **SI team  
BS/RG**
5. All committee members are encouraged to watch the recent BOF recruitment webinar ([www.britisshorienteering.org.uk/webinars](http://www.britisshorienteering.org.uk/webinars)). **ALL**
6. The club needs to exploit Permanent Courses more effectively. It was agreed to discuss further at the next committee meeting. **DW/RP**
7. BS will investigate whether we nominate a club photographer **BS**

#### 4) Fixtures

TM updated the committee on fixture developments, and tabled the current fixture list. Once again, committee members were encouraged to view via the spreadsheet in Dropbox.

*Recent events* - it was noted that we lost two league events due to bad weather, but that the Haytor and River Dart events were well attended. It was agreed that the best 3 from 5 will count for the 18/19 league, with certificates to be presented at the Club Champs (publicise on web and via June Mailchimp) **Tim Gent  
RP/MA**

*Future events* - TM highlighted plans for future events, and noted the significant contribution that club members are making in support of events run by QO and Kerno. It was noted that scheduling joint league events is not straightforward, due to clashes with other events elsewhere in the SW region. Arrangements for the Caddihoe 19 (Burrator) are in place and progressing well. NM raised some specific issues regarding courses, which will be discussed with the controller. TM highlighted that the key posts for the TT20 need to be filled.

*Events offer* - JC asked whether we need a clearer statement of our fixtures policy; TM & BS highlighted the current club offer in terms of events that we put on throughout the year. It was agreed that we publicise our offer more prominently to club members via the web, FB and Mailchimp. **TM/BS/RP/  
MA**

#### 5) Committee Responsibilities

BS noted the key roles that will become vacant in September, and discussed some options for filling these posts, notably Chair and Access/permissions. It was noted that RP has agreed to remain at Secretary for one more year. BS will discuss further with individuals. **BS**

#### 6) Finance Report

*Current financial position* – AR tabled a statement of the current financial position, noted that the club's finances are currently healthy, and that recent events that ran have shown a surplus. It was noted that there are key major commitments in the not-to-distant future, notably replacement of SI kit. It was agreed that the club will pay entry fees for the CSC final in October. It was also agreed that the club purchase a small banner to take to events - Toria Wimpenny has agreed to source. RP to confirm with Toria. **AR/RC  
RP**

#### 7) SWOA and BOF items

Several items were highlighted for information in the recent SWOA committee meeting minutes (13/3/19) that was circulated to all committee members:

*SW league* - Christine Vince has confirmed that following discussion at the recent SWOA committee meeting, next year (19/20) will see a nine-event SW orienteering league. The name 'galoppen' will not be used!

*Access issues* - In the light of the postponement of the Southern Champs in the Forest of Dean, Peter Hart (BOF) has asked that clubs report significant access problems to him, so that he has a countrywide perspective on access issues

**NM/BS**

*BOF competitions review* - committee members were alerted to recent BOF competitions rules changes ([www.britishorienteering.org.uk/rules](http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/rules)).

*SW Sprint Championship courses* - SWOA have proposed that in future the SW Sprint champs adopt the urban age groupings (Vets, Supervets, Ultravets etc). This was agreed.

**RP**

*Level B events* - the recent communication from Christine Vince highlighting the importance of Level B events was noted.

### **8) AOB**

*Haldon POC* - John Pearce and Wilf Taylor were thanked for the efforts they have put in to develop the Haldon POC; it was agreed that our very visible presence at Haldon is a key tool for raising awareness of the club. SP and DW are currently running an 'Introduction to Orienteering' course at Haldon.

**BS**

*SIAC* - to be discussed at the next meeting.

**AS**

*AGM* - proposals to be confirmed at the next meeting (possible MapRun/AGM/food), with possible alternative date for the September committee meeting.

**BS/RP**

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

**Venue:** tbc Clyst St George Village Hall, EX3 0RE or Ilsington Village Hall (RP to discuss with HT)

**RP/HT**

**Main item for discussion:** tbc

