



**Minutes of Queensferry Rowing Club AGM
Held on 29th October 2020
Zoom, 7.30pm.**

Members Present:

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Donal Ferrie | Anne Purcell | Rory McIntyre |
| Marianne Sandison | Marion McDowall | Donna Martin |
| Alexander Thiboutot | Mike McDowall | Kieran Martin |
| John Howell | Tracey Vincenti | Gareth Jones |
| Lorna Bark | Alistair Sturrock | Lesley Jones |
| Tansy Lee Moir | Elizabeth Furrie | Beth Christie |
| Rachel Holburn | Ralph Hopkins | Mike Breewood |
| Peter Holburn | Peter Locke | Alison Breewood |
| Mel Chambers | Janet Locke | Sharon-Homan-James |
| Anne Flannery | Gabe Levy | Richard-Homan-James |
| Jan Boyle | Alan Duch | Christine Thomson |
| Maria van Dalen | Stephanie Durning | Keith Thomson |
| Douglas Carse | Frances Wilson | Louise Innes |
| Jennifer Gunn | Alan Sutherland | Barbara Agnew |
| Stuart Ridge | Mark Meredith | Kevin Mc Gavin |
| Pat Stephenson | | |

Captain Anne welcomed all to the meeting and thanked members for such a good turnout. Donal and Mike monitoring the chat on screen. Tansy is hosting the zoom so has control to mute and unmute/video etc.

1. **Apologies:**

Apologies from Rachel Dillon, Cherry Kelsey, Tony Bacon, Jenny Thomson, Valerie Alexander, Rebecca Gates.

2. **Approval of 2019 AGM Minutes:**

Proposed by John Howell and seconded by Alan Duch that Minutes of 2019 AGM be passed as read – approved.

3. **Approval of EGM Minutes:**

No objections! Approved by Donal Ferrie and seconded by Tansy Lee Moir.

4. Matters Arising:

£2000 minimum funds to be left in the bank account, Mike Mc Dowall. No objections. ***The current Committee had agreed but not sure which month.***

5. Captain's Report: (please find a copy attached)

Captain, Anne Purcell presented her report which she confirmed would be available on the website and is also attached with these minutes.

- Training continued throughout the winter until the pandemic. Lots of creativity and new ideas, skills and talents in all subgroups. Great way to involve all members.

The report this year is mainly a list of thank you listed in the report.

- RH is standing down from arranging club kit, so now need a new volunteer.

6. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer presented the income and expenditure report for the year. (please find a copy attached)

Keith and Alan Duch raised the question of money which is ringfenced (from back in November 2017). If we are in a situation where income has dropped (diminished income) eg the current situation what happens?

- Mike Mc D suggested that the money could be used for a new boat or buying land/premises over the next 5 years. ***The Future Sub Group/Club Development will look into this next season.*** It was investigated briefly but due to COVID restrictions a lot of people were not available to meet ie council members etc. Stephanie investigated the land around Port Edgar but there is none available at present. The Future Group also investigated other holdings in SQ that the council owns but there is not much available and not much that is any better than we have already.
- AP spoke as a Nifty Knotter (ringfenced money) and said it was to ensure that it does not get frittered away.
- The money should be used for other things, not every day to day expenses.
- Would like the money to be used sooner rather than later and a decision needs to be made on what.
- MS said that fundamentally, fixed costs should come out of membership fees.

MMCD mentioned that the new rent was £900 per year and so over 5 years that will amount to £4,500 and that the current rateable value is a lot less. (£1,600), so instead of spending £4,500 on rent we could find out the selling price and perhaps buy the building?!

- Stephanie also looked up the council rates for 2017 and it was more than this, roughly around £1,500 so we have quite a good rental price.
- Anne F mentioned our loose affiliation with PEYC and will investigate this as an option.

- Sharon also suggested that we could align with the Sea Cadets.

7. Reports from subgroups:

(please find attached copies of reports for the following subgroups)

Training Team

Green Initiative

IT

Return to Rowing

- MS gave a brief update on COVID – The Scottish Government moved from phases to tiers. SQ is in level 3 so organised sport over aged 18 is still suspended!

Social Fundraising

Technical

- MB is stepping down as Chairperson for this group. Keith would like Moira Sinclair officially thanked in the minutes, for her donation of the kitchen in the newly refurbished shed.

Technique and Training

AP passes the meeting to MMCD to Chair for the election of Office Bearers and Committee Members (2020-2021). There is one space available for a Committee member and postal votes have been counted for the position of Captain between two members – Donal Ferrie and Keith Thompson. AP gives a final thanks to the 2019-2020 Committee.

8. Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members:

The Office Bearers and Committee stepped aside, and Mike McDowall took the Chair. Usually at this stage the chair seeks the assistance of a member of the club as teller for the counting of votes for the appointment of committee members. However, due to the current pandemic, postal voting took place and he thanked Georgina Bark and Arnie Bark for counting and he confirmed that he has seen video links of the process. A total of 100 postal votes were sent out, with a return of 80. It was an incredibly close election!! All Committee member nominees had fulfilled the requirements of the Constitution. The results were:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Captain | Donal Ferrie |
| Vice Captain | Marianne Sandison |
| Secretary | Lorna Bark |
| Treasurer | Anne Purcell |

Committee Members:

Alan Sutherland
John Howell
Douglas Carse
Lesley Jones
Gabe Levy
Stevie Watson

The one space remaining for a position on the Committee was opened, and Anne Purcell proposed Beth Christie, seconded by Marianne Sandison. It was therefore agreed and confirmed that Beth Christie was took the final Committee member position.

- Anne Purcell thanked MMCD for chairing, and Keith for standing for Captain in the election.

Donal welcomed the new members of the Committee and thanked Keith. Donal is looking forward to next year which will still be difficult with not knowing when we can row, and the ever-changing restrictions issued by the Scottish Government.

9. Subscription Fees – (Please see options A to D in Treasurers report, page 2)

The Treasurer reported the committee's suggestion to suspend subscriptions for this year (2019-20) on the understanding that one of the benefits was that members had an opportunity to use the money to buy a lifejacket. This was agreed unanimously. The proposal regarding an increase to the subscription fees for next year (from April 2021) was voted on electronically.

- Those present at meeting agreed via a poll on screen, and there were NO objections. Those in multiple households used their vote via the chat or email.
- **Results A= 6, B= 23, C=7, D= 4.**
- **The final option chosen was Option B: an increase of £5 for individual members and £5 for family members in 2021/2022.**
- **It was also agreed that there would be NO fees until April/May 2021.**
- Rachel H queried the Junior Membership. **It was agreed to keep this the same at £20.** No one disagreed!
- Gabe questioned what the club intended to do with its healthy bank balance, with or without the Knotter's contribution.
- MS in her Covid Officer capacity said that because of the difficulty in cleaning life jackets they are a higher risk. Members were encouraged to buy their own lifejackets in order so rotation of life jackets could happen more easily. However, this is **voluntary**, and the club would still provide life jackets.

10. Constitutional Amendments –

Mike McD had proposed seven changes to the Constitution (**Clauses 3, 4.2, 4.4, 5.1, 5.5, 5.6 and new clause 6.3**). After some discussion it was agreed that the proposal be amended to exclude two items (proposed changes to clauses 4.2 and 5.1) for later debate. The amended proposal put by D Ferrie was seconded by J Howell and agreed.

11. Any Other Business:

- Beth suggested purchasing a second hand rowing machine. This has been discussed previously, but the issue is space! We have had one in the past, but it was not used. ***This discussion will be continued at a future committee meeting.***
- Usually a presentation takes place for thanks to the Captain, however this year DF and LB will present AP with a gift at a social distance.
- Mike B received a gift (from LB and DF at a social distance) for acknowledgement of his time as a valued member of the committee for the last couple of years
- Marion is also to receive a gift for acknowledgement of 6 years as Treasurer and a valued member of the committee since 2014.

DF closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending the AGM and looking forward to meeting and working with the new members of the Committee.