INTERLØPERS

(www.interlopers.org.uk)

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THIRD COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTY SIXTH YEAR

7.30pm, Tuesday 7 February 2012, at 11 Wilton Road, Edinburgh

Present: Tricia Alston, John Barrow, Pat Bartlett, Ken Daly, Colin Eades, Ann Haley, Rachel Kirkland.

Apologies for absence were received from Rob Lee and Chris Galloway.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 23 November 2011 were approved.

2 Matters Arising (Action Items)

- The creation of a Business Plan for the Club was still in hand.

  ACTION: Ken

- There had been no further progress on writing a potted history of the Club.

  ACTION: John

- Colin mentioned that the addition of appropriate text to the maps was straightforward. However, creation of a logo was quite difficult. With older versions of OCAD, it wasn't possible to create a detailed image. It needed a newer version of OCAD, with Adobe Creator, for which a significant personal licence fee was required. Colin would try to find out from Graeme if he felt he had the expertise with his University-acquired copy of OCAD to be able to produce a Club logo.

  ACTION: Colin

- With the arrival of the September 2011 edition of "Score" in the first week of December, John felt moved to contact Donald Grassie, who subsequently replied. It seemed that an important letter was omitted from that issue, but that this letter would be sent round to Clubs in due course, explaining the SOA plans to reduce the number of issues per year. No such letter had yet been received.

  There might still be other matters which the Club would want to draw to the SOA's attention. One of these might be the method chosen to determine the Club groupings at the 6-Day Event.

- John had yet to contact Barry, regarding the make-up of a Club First Aid Kit.

  ACTION: John

- Information on where to obtain map packs for the Craigmillar Castle permanent course was now on the Club website. However, there might be some issues over Ordnance Survey copyright if people wanted to download copies of the map from the website.

- No errors in the Telephone List had come to light.
- John had been in contact with Janette Maison at the Heriot Watt regarding the possibility of holding a SoSOL at Riccarton on 29 April. See "Events".
- John had managed to find out from the BOF database what qualifications were apparently held by Club members, and had contacted those members to try to get confirmation of the accuracy of the database. He had yet to analyse the responses.
- An e-mail had yet to be sent out about recommending that Club members who were potential or actual event organisers should attend an Event Safety Workshop.

ACTION: John

- John had obtained confirmation from Colin that INT and MOR were the only Clubs involved in organising Day 4 at Oban 2011. He had replied to Lindsey Knox indicating our agreement to an equal split of any surplus allocated to that Day.
- There had been no indication from BOF yet on any plans to try to set any rules for Club-only membership.
- There was brief discussion on making a bid for an SOA Development Fund grant - the deadline was 1 March. The main suggestion was to obtain an SI Starter Kit, but we should not be pressured into preparing a bid in the next few weeks. It was agreed that we should continue to support the use of SportIdent in preference to Emit.
- There were plans to organise a "Big Weekend" in October, and these would supersede the original idea for a SoSOL at Gullane Dunes. See "Events".
- It was suggested that we should wait for an invitation from Paul before trying to obtain a date for a SOL in the Spring of 2013.
- It was recognised that an update to the map of Norman's Law would be needed, but there had been no offers to date.
- Pat had forwarded the e-mail from ESOC, regarding an open invitation to attend their Club Nights at the Royal High School.
- There was some discussion on possible venues for holding winter training sessions. See "Training".
- Ann reported that the gym at KB would not be suitable for Club training.
- John had been able to have a look at the proposed new website. See under "Website" for further discussion.
- Events conspired to prevent the holding of the Christmas Party in December. See "Socials".
- See under "Training Weekend" for discussion of this item.
- Members were to be further encouraged to use the marketing templates.
- John had established that he was indeed listed as a Fixtures contact in the BOF database, along with Paul. He had obtained a list of all Club contacts in that database from Jessica Gouge at BOF Office.

3 Secretary's Report

John mentioned that the biennial renewal of the Club's internet name registration with Namesco would soon be due. It would cost £23.99 for a further two years.

He pointed out that he had recently set up several e-mail aliases for the Club Officers in the Namesco database so that, for example, e-mail for treasurer@interlopers.org.uk would currently be directed to Pat. Ken wondered if it was possible to arrange for e-mail emanating from any of the Officers to show this e-mail alias in the "From" field of the e-mail. John would try to find out.

ACTION: John

John also mentioned the holding of the SOA Development Conference at Fordell Firs on 26 May. Ken had marked the date in his diary.

The annual BOF Association/Club Development Conference would be held on 20 October. Pending the publishing of the Agenda, no decision could yet be taken on whether someone from the Club should attend.

John read out an e-mail from Claire Macpherson, the SOA Partnership Director, regarding a programme of Sport Relief Community Cash grants which were available for small projects in Edinburgh and Glasgow. Ann asked for a copy of the e-mail.

ACTION: John

Tessa Hill had e-mailed the Club, asking if we had any 8 year-olds whose parents might agree to their being included in a Growing Up in Scotland survey designed to follow the progress of a group of children. John had identified 6 such youngsters in the Club, and had circulated their parents asking them to contact Tessa directly if they were interested.

An enquiry had been received from a Jane Lewis, saying that her 12-year-old son was interested in orienteering. John would reply appropriately.

ACTION: John

4 Treasurer's Report

Pat referred to the draft Budget for the Year which he distributed at the last Meeting, and mentioned that he felt there was unlikely to be any change to his projected small surplus of approx. £80. There might be a small perturbation because of some doubt about the level of the surplus from Oban 2011.

The CATI at Cammo on 26 November made £95.

A cheque for £445.50 had been given to the ESOA, representing direct payments for SOA Relay teams from ESOC and INT. John mentioned that this money would almost certainly go towards supporting the Area Juniors, particularly in attending the Inter-Area Championships.

A bill for repair of the ESOC/INT generator would probably be forthcoming.

5 Events

5.1 JK 2012

Preparations were now "full-on".

5.2 SoSOL 2011/12

John had been in contact with Janette Maison at the Heriot Watt regarding the staging of a SoSOL at Riccarton on 29 April. Janette had asked about our requirements, in terms of facilities, and John had replied with details. So far, no further reply had been received.

ACTION: John

5.3 Street-O Series 2012

Volunteers would soon need to be identified to organise events in the Summer Street-O series. Ann would be happy to put one on, perhaps in the Firhill/Steils area, but not until later in June after the end of school exams. Pat suggested he might be able to organise one at KB, perhaps using his front garden as the assembly area.

Rachel would be happier not to be involved with an event at the Gyle. She expressed more interest in putting on a CATI, and Ken suggested she might like to seek Paul's advice on this.

5.4 Big Weekend

Preliminary registrations had been made for an Urban-O and a SoSOL on the weekend of 6/7 October, with Ken and John as nominal Organisers. John said he might be prepared to actually take on the SoSOL, but it would depend on his being able to obtain a renewed driving licence in the summer, after the usual renewal application failed last September because of problems with visual acuity.

There was some discussion over the format of the Weekend, including whether we wanted an Urban event, a Middle Distance, a Night event, or whatever. It was known that JOK's plans for their annual Sprint event in the Lakes had fallen through, and there had been a suggestion to incorporate this in our Weekend. However, the eventual outcome was to go for the original format, i.e. an Urban event (in the newly-formed SOUL Series) in the Livingston area, followed by a SoSOL on the Sunday, probably at Calder Wood.

5.5 SOL 2013

As mentioned in Matters Arising, it was agreed to wait for Paul to issue the usual invitation to SOA Clubs to bid for a date in the 2013 SOL Series, and then to apply to stage one in the Spring of that year.

6 Mapping

Nothing further to report, apart from the need to push ahead with making arrangements to extend the map of Norman's Law.

7 Equipment

Ann had investigated the purchase of suitable stakes for maze orienteering, and had discovered that a pack of 87 could be bought for £50. It was agreed to proceed with this purchase.

It was noted that a pole in the new tent still needed to be replaced. Colin would try to find out the current status from Paul.

ACTION: Colin

8 Club Captain

Ken reported on a couple of issues from Rob.

There had been a good response for participants in the CompassSport Trophy round at Faskally on 19 February. It was agreed to offer no subsidy for this SOA round but, if the Club qualified for the Final on 30 September, a total subsidy for entry fees would be provided.

The next concern would be in forming Relay teams for the JK and BOF events. An e-mail would be sent out asking for expressions of interest. Entry fees for both events would be subsidised, such that Juniors would pay nothing, and Seniors £10.

ACTION: Rob

9 Training

The Club's training programme was currently up-to-date on the website.

There was some discussion on the possibility of using the Inch Park Community Centre for winter training sessions. Tricia reported that the use of a changing room there would cost £10 each night. Colin reported that the Crags Centre provided very basic facilities, with no lockers, but he didn't know what the hire charge might be.

10 Juniors

Nothing more to report.

11 Newsletter

Issue no. 158 had appeared, to general acclaim.

12 Website

The new website had gone "live" on Friday 27 January. Some work still needed to be done on various sections, but the fact that the site was now public was felt to be most important. Individual members were encouraged to contribute material as appropriate. There was some discussion on the appearance of the front page, and how it might be improved. It was suggested that a standing announcement of the date of the next Committee Meeting should be set up.

ACTION: John

The Committee was very grateful to Graham McIntyre for all his work in setting up the new site, and advising everyone how to contribute to it.

13 Socials

The delayed "Christmas Party" was finally held at the Inch Park Community Centre on Sunday 5 February. Members brought drinks and food, and Paul had organised some courses around the Park, as well as making maps of the permanent controls in Craigmillar Woods available. There was an excellent turn-out, and all enjoyed the use of the Centre.

Tricia wondered if a Summer BBQ would be welcomed. She suggested that Vogrie Country Park would be a good venue.

14 Training Weekend

No consensus had been reached on selecting dates for a Training Weekend in the Spring, and Graham had not suggested any. It was recommended that efforts to put one on be deferred for the time being, and perhaps it could be re-visited in the Autumn.

15 Marketing

People were encouraged to continue using the templates which Tricia had prepared.

ACTION: All

16 A.O.B.

- Colin mentioned that he would (probably) be featured in an episode of The Adventure Show, to be screened on Tuesday 14 February on BBC-2 at 7pm. The item was a feature on the Mountain Marathon.
- He also mentioned that Mairi had entered a competition to design football strips, and had managed to make the final 30 selection. The reward was a trip to Hampden Park. Unfortunately, she didn't win.
- John mentioned that, at the end of March, he would retire from his job at the Royal Observatory, having been there since October 1970. He would be able to retain his e-mail address there for the time being.

- Ken mentioned that Gillian Godfree had asked for help in staging an event for her Brownie pack in April/May. She wondered if anyone in the Club would volunteer. It would be helpful if a venue and a date could be identified soon.

The next Committee Meeting would be held at 7:30pm on Tuesday 17 April 2012 at 12 Dryden Place, Edinburgh.

N.B. Subsequent to the Meeting, owing to several people being unable to attend on the above date, the Meeting was re-scheduled for 7:30 on WEDNESDAY 2 MAY, still at 12 Dryden Place.

Ken expressed the thanks of the Meeting to Pat and Su for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 9.42. John Barrow – 9 April 2012