INTERLØPERS

(www.interlopers.org.uk)

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FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTY NINTH YEAR

7.30pm, Wednesday 20 May 2015, at 26 Swan Spring Avenue, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Pat Bartlett, Max Carcas, Colin Eades, Rob Lee, Barry Owen and Pat Squire. Ken Daly was in attendance.

The Meeting was chaired by Colin.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 18 February 2015 were approved.

2 Action Items

The Action Items listed on the Actions spreadsheet were discussed, oldest first.

- Writing up the history of the Club was still Ongoing.
- John had derived a list of software, as he understood it, and had passed it to Ken. Ongoing.
- Thanks to a lot of hard work by Ken, delivery of the Development Plan had now been achieved.
- Ken had identified aluminium A-frames, which would serve as display boards. He would order two.
- Ken had matters in hand to acquire a new String.
- The Permanent Course on Dechmont Law had been checked. Of the expected 29 control sites, 3 were missing, and 3 were without plates. The latter would be fixed, ending up with 26 controls. West Lothian Council would fund printing of the updated map. This item was now considered to be Complete.
- Paul would attend to bringing the Permanent Course at Craigmillar up to scratch.
- Hector had written a piece for the Elite section on the website, and John had posted it under the "Membership" tab, together with a couple of Ken's photos.
- Paul, Jane C and Rob had contributed to the updating of the Event Registration Card, which was now felt to be in an acceptable state.
- John had managed to locate the link to the Club's photos on Flickr, and had included this link on the website, under "Gallery".
- Pat S reported that there had been no developments since New Year, regarding identifying any further Team Leaders for the 2017 6-Days. Consequently, it seemed that there were still 9 posts to be filled. It was felt that there would be some movement on this issue, once this year's 6-Days and WOC had taken place.

- There was some further discussion on the legality of publishing O-maps on websites. It wasn't clear whether there were any copyright issues with the display of maps in Routegadget. It seemed that maps based on a LIDAR survey would not infringe any copyright. (It was pointed out that the maps in Graeme Ackland's database were based on the O.S..)
- Pat S reported that an event had been registered in the 2016 SOUL Series, on Saturday 9 April (the day before the Club's SOL).
- In collaboration with ELO, ESOC and RR, a Summer Series of informal Wednesday evening events was now in place (having begun on 6 May). Events would continue until early September.
- There had been no further developments regarding the production of a publicity poster sponsored by Tiso.
- John had notified the Club membership about the location of the Junior Handbook pages on the website.
- John had circulated the Club, asking for volunteers to undertake the updating of the map of the Mortonhall Estate. Pat B pointed out that we were legally unable to pay any Club member to take this on. Of those who had responded to the request, it was suggested that the Galloways should be asked to do the work. Colin would pursue the matter.

ACTION: Colin

- Davie Frame (TAY) had eventually responded with the details of land ownership on the Culteuchar and Dron map, as he understood it. See later under Events.
- Ben Bate had agreed to audit this year's Accounts. Item complete.
- Pat S had spoken to Hilary Quick about arranging a course for Event Safety Training. Hilary responded by saying that, until the 6-Days and WOC were well past, she would be unable to progress this issue.
- Ken will draft a Business Plan for consideration at the next Ordinary Committee Meeting.

ACTION: Ken

3 Secretary's Report

Robert Findlay (ESOC) had e-mailed Clubs, asking if any SI kit they held could be borrowed for the 6-Days. It was doubtful if our kit could be lent out, given that it was the subject of a loan agreement with BOF. John would check with BOF, and notify Robert accordingly.

ACTION: John

SOA had distributed a spreadsheet, detailing proposed responsibilities for organising SOA events in the next 10 years. Apart from the ongoing commitment to acting as lead Club in either the SOA Individual or the Relays every three years (continuing with the Relays in 2017), the only event involving the Club directly would be the Score Championships in 2024.

Alison Campbell (HWUOC) had e-mailed, asking for help with course planning and/or control hanging for the Scottish Universities Championships, to be held on either 10/11 or 24/25 October 2015, probably at Riccarton. It was pointed out, however, that there would be contention with other events on both of these weekends. On 10/11 October, ESOC had a Local Event, followed by a SoSOL incorporating the ESOA Championships, while, on 24/25 October, there would be a clash with the Tinto Twin and the Junior Home Internationals. John would reply to Alison.

The SOA had asked Clubs if they had any concerns about the permissions process for events being held on Forestry Commission land. It was understood that Terry O'Brien had already tendered a query on our behalf about the difficulty of obtaining permission to use Drummond Hill. However, as far as the use of Tulliallan was concerned, we had encountered no problems. John would respond to Roger Scrutton.

ACTION: John

BOF had written, notifying us of the selections for EYOC, JWOC and the World Cup, and inviting the Club to consider supporting the athletes financially. There had also been a formal application from Alex Carcas, on behalf of himself, Freddie, James Ackland and Mairi Eades, for support from the Club towards their expenses in attending the World Schools Championships in Turkey in April. It had been initially suggested that an offer of £75 each be made for WSC support, but the Meeting recommended increasing this to £100, and then waiting to see if any applications relating to EYOC and JWOC would be forthcoming.

4 Treasurer's Report

The final surplus from Race The Castles was £1500. It had been agreed to give £200 to Illegal Jack's for use of facilities.

It was expected that the surplus from the SOL at Gullane Dunes would be in the region of £2000.

The finances for the SoSOL were still to be finalised. One item possibly outstanding was any charge to be made by the Scottish Police College - Pat B had e-mailed Colin Inverarity to find this out.

The overall Club Accounts for 2014/15 were still to be finalised.

As an aside, it was agreed to set the date of the Annual General Meeting at Thursday 18 June, to be held at The Steading.

5 Events

Thanks were expressed to all involved in both the SOL at Gullane Dunes and the SoSOL at Tulliallan.

5.1 Local Events

The two Local Events in Livingston had taken place, although the turn-out was rather disappointing. Ken was congratulated for bringing these events, and the associated Permanent Courses, to fruition, in conjunction with West Lothian Council.

In the event, Paul was unable to identify any suitable date to hold a Local Event in the Edinburgh area.

The Summer Series of Wednesday evening events had begun, with events hosted by RR, ELO and ESOC. The Club's first event would be on 10 June, organised by Robin Galloway. The Series would continue until 9 September.

Looking further ahead, it was suggested that suitable dates for holding Local Events on Saturdays in the Autumn should be investigated, in liaison with Janet Clark.

5.2 Scottish Schools

The next major involvement for the Club would be the Scottish Schools Orienteering Festival on Friday 5 June at Dechmont Law. Paul was planning courses, while Ken was the Organiser.

5.3 2015 6-Days

Andrew MacPherson had e-mailed, asking for Team Leaders to be identified for various tasks at this year's 6-Days. Colin suggested that, at this stage, it was likely that the most important areas would be for the two Starts, as well as providing manpower.

5.4 2015/16 SoSOL

Efforts should be made to find out whether a suitable date could be found to hold an event in this Series. It was suggested that, if a date in the Autumn could be found, we should try to use Riccarton. If the Spring of 2016 were more appropriate, then Calder Wood could be considered.

As an aside, it was suggested that it might be a good idea to extend the map of Craigmillar eastwards, towards the Jack Kane Centre, and that perhaps Scott or Hector could take this on.

5.5 2016 INTrepid Weekend

Now that a date had been registered for a SOUL event on 9 April 2016, plans could be developed to formulate an INTrepid Weekend including this event and the SOL the following day. John suggested that, if we wanted to use Culteuchar and Dron, efforts should be made very soon to establish any restrictions on the use of the area at that time of year (such as lambing or shooting rights).

5.6 2017 Scottish Championships Weekend

ESOC had proposed using Newtyle Hill for the Individual on the Saturday, 27 May. It was suggested that a Relay area be chosen in a similar part of Scotland. The matter would be raised at the forthcoming ESOA Committee Meeting.

6 Juniors

Max reported on some Junior issues.

The Jamie Stevenson Trophy event was coming up. It was expected that the Club would be able to field a strong team.

Congratulations were due to Alex for coming second in the Classic race at the World Schools in Turkey, just 12 seconds behind the winning Finn.

The Junior Training sessions were continuing.

Max had organised a Schools event at Heriot's, which attracted 120 participants. The Club's SI training kit had been used.

Max confirmed that Alex was the Junior representative on the Committee.

He showed some designs for a Club jacket, which should be shown around the membership. It was suggested that quotes could be obtained from the suppliers which FVO and MAROC had used.

7 Mapping

It was suggested that the Galloways be asked to do the field survey updates for Mortonhall. Then the OCAD work would need to be done, possibly by Hector or Colin. Alternatively, Open Orienteering could be used.

The map of Gullane had been partly extended westwards for use at the SOL on 8 March. There was a possibility of further extension round the coast, but access permissions would need to be established.

ACTION: Max

Ken would circulate a list of small areas which might have some potential for local events.

8 Equipment

Acquisition of a String and Display Boards had been mentioned under Actions.

9 Club Captain

The JK and BOF Relays had now passed, with the Club's Open Men's team triumphing on each occasion. The SOA Relays were about to take place. He would e-mail the Club with suggested teams for the event.

Rob reiterated that the CompassSport Trophy Final would be held on 18 October in the Lake District, and asked everyone to keep the date free.

There was no information about the holding of an 8-Person Relay this Autumn.

10 Child Protection

Barry mentioned that he had received an e-mail from Hilary, informing that the SOA would adopt an updated PVG scheme.

11 Newsletter

The latest issue which appeared in late March was very well received. It was suggested that the next issue should be timed to appear in June, although it was recognised that it might be too late to include a notification of the AGM.

12 Website

There were several favourable comments about John's and Graeme's efforts to at least keep the website up to date.

13 Socials

The next social function would be the post-AGM meal. John would book The Steading, with the Meeting beginning at 6:45, followed by the meal at 8. Members wishing to attend the meal would be asked to contact Max.

It was mentioned that, as part of the arrangements for the use of Illegal Jack's during Race The Castles, the Club had been offered two free dinners.

14 Marketing

Ken suggested that the proposed Business Plan be renamed the Marketing Plan.

15 A.O.B.

- Pat B reported that Colin Inverarity had now replied to his e-mail, confirming that there would be no charge for the use of the Scottish Police College for the SoSOL. This would enable Pat to finalise the Accounts.
- Ken mentioned that he intended to draw up a set of Job Descriptions for Committee posts.
- There was a brief discussion about the possibility of a merger with ESOC. John had e-mailed Margaret Dalgleish, to see if ESOC were still contemplating the issue.

  At the time of the Meeting, Margaret had not yet replied to that e-mail. However, Ken had spoken to her separately. Margaret indicated that, as far as she remembered, ESOC had dropped the idea not very long after the initial exchange of messages in 2012/13. She also said that she would reply to John in due course.

  Once Margaret had replied to John, we would be in a position to report to the AGM that, at least from ESOC's perspective, there was now no desire to pursue the merger idea. Consequently, the AGM would be recommended to consider the matter closed.
- Formal Notice of the AGM would be distributed in due course. All Committee members present indicated that they were prepared to be re-elected.

  As for the question of a Chairman, those present at the AGM should be asked at the outset if a volunteer would offer to conduct the business of the Meeting. For the items usually included in the Chairman's Report, there were some suggestions about who could contribute: Pat S could provide a list of events; Max could comment on Junior issues; Rob would be able to mention the various successes achieved by members, including the Relay events; the Club Champion should also be mentioned.

The next Committee Meeting would be held on a date to be fixed by the new Committee, to be elected at the forthcoming AGM.

Pat and Jennie were thanked for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 10.30. John Barrow – 31 August 2015