INTERLØPERS

(www.interlopers.org.uk)

Chairman: Colin Eades
1 Nettlingflat Cottages
HERIOT, Midlothian
EH38 5YF

Treasurer: Robin Galloway
7 Whitedales
EDINBURGH
EH10 7JQ

Secretary: John Barrow
3 Charlton Grove
ROSLIN
Midlothian
EH25 9NY

0131-440-2136
info@interlopers.org.uk

FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING, FORTY FIFTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 23 November 2020, held on-line via Zoom

Present: John Barrow, Jane Carcas, Colin Eades, Robin Galloway, Katherine Ivory, William Ivory, Rob Lee, Graham McIntyre, Ali Masson (no Apologies for Absence).

In view of the continuing restrictions introduced to try to counteract the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, it had been decided to hold this Meeting on-line using Zoom.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 7 Septenber 2020 were approved. There were no Matters Arising from these Minutes.

2 Secretary's Report

Several new members had joined the Club since the last Meeting. These included Matthew Leitch, James Taylor, Valentin Dolle, Craig Hogg, and Zoe Harding. It was also hoped to persuade Francesca Capaldi and Michael Adams to join us.

3 Treasurer's Report

Robin reported that there had been no substantial change in the Club's finances in the past six months. There was still approx. £11K in a High Interest account. There would be some refunds of entry fees received for the Dechmont Law event which had to be postponed.

He mentioned that, thanks to Lorna's efforts, there was now a stock of new Club kit.

4 Events

William mentioned that the Local Event at Mortonhall duly took place. Thanks were due to Katherine and her team of helpers. Under the circumstances, it was considered to be a success, with 78 competitors.

However, because of the greater level of restrictions, it had been decided to cancel the Local Event at Dechmont Law on 8 November.

Two points were noted from the experiences at Mortonhall. Firstly, there was the issue of competitors leaving kit while they took part; secondly, the sign-up sheet system was felt to be quite efficient.

As for the forthcoming SOL on 13 February, Tessa and Murray Strain had agreed to be Planners, and Caspian Richards would Organise, with Max's help.

Although the BOC Individual in 2021 had been arranged for the weekend of 6/7 March, it was felt that this should not influence whether we try to hold a Local Event on the Saturday. In fact, it was felt worthwhile to set down markers for the first Saturdays in March, April, May and June for Local Events, probably using the general plan of alternating between Edinburgh and West Lothian each month. After more discussion, it was suggested that we go for Craigmillar on 6 March, Polkemmet on 3 April, Almondell or Calder Wood on 1 May, and Dechmont Law on 5 June. John would register the dates with BOF.

ACTION: John

Given the Club's commitments at the 6-Days in August, and a possibly-rescheduled SOC in October at Tentsmuir, it was agreed not to attempt to organise an INTrepid Weekend in 2021.

William reported that he had received an e-mail from the City of Edinburgh Council about their Public Space Management Plan. He would circulate it to the Committee, and we should consider submitting a coordinated response by the deadline of 20 January.

Ken Daly had intimated that he had had several requests from FVO to use our map of Kinneil Wood for training sessions. He was concerned that agreeing to this mught jeopardise any plans we might have to hold more substantial events there in the near future. However, after some discussion, it was agreed that we should allow FVO to use the area for training and ROMPs. William would respond to Ken.

5 Juniors

The ESOA Junior Training programme had begun, and approx. 30 attended the session held recently at John Muir Country Park. With the more stringent Tier system of anti-pandemic measures in place, though, it was not practical to continue with these sessions for the time being.

6 Training and Development

The weekly programme of off-road Club runs was continuing. These were now all registered as BOF Activities, and Graham McIntyre was providing John with participation numbers for submission to the BOF database. Thanks were due to Graham and Morag for overseeing these runs.

Katherine mentioned the series of webinars which the SOA had been organising, and she commented on how useful they had been.

7 Marketing

There was a significant discussion on improvement of the website. This included how to display recent News items, and a rationalisation of main Topics. Graham had been working on a new Results template. There should also be better integration with the Club's Facebook and Twitter accounts. It was hoped that these measures would lead to a more coherent approach to the management and appearance of the website.

8 Mapping

Graeme would be asked to follow up his suggestion to investigate the Harburn Estate, near West Calder, for a potential mapping project.

Similarly, Max would be asked to further investigate Portmore Loch.

Colin mentioned that he and Lorna had been for a run around the grounds of Newbattle Abbey, an area which should be able to support at least a Local Event.

It was stressed that the Club was short of conveniently-accessible areas which might be able to support a SoSOL or larger sized event.

It was suspected that some areas had had mapping updates carried out which had not been added to the master versions, most of which were currently held by Graeme. Colin felt that, as Club Mapping Officer, he should retain all latest versions for all the Club areas.

9 Captain

The Final of the 2020 CompassSport Cup/Trophy had been cancelled. There had been a suggestion that it might be held over until 2021.

The Individual BOC would take place on the weekend of 6/7 March 2021. However, at this stage, the BOC Relays had not yet been re-scheduled; there was a hint that there were permission problems.

It had been confirmed that the 2021 JK would not take place.

It had not yet been decided whether to try to hold the SOC in 2021, and whether to try to use Tentsmuir as had been intended for 2020. However, fixtures congestion might have an effect, given the 6-Days and the SOL programme. There may be more definite news by the time of the next ESOA meeting on 8 December.

Rob mentioned that Norfolk O.C. had issued an invitation to all Clubs to participate in their Virtual Christmas Cracker team challenge. More details were on that Club's website..

10 Newsletter

Katherine had produced a bumper 23-page issue of the Newsletter. She mentioned that she had received some further material which could be held over to form the basis of the next issue, in the New Year.

Jane wondered if it would be a good idea to prepare and distribute a Club Christmas card. Katherine and Jane would give the idea some thought, and this could involve circulating the Club for content ideas.

11 Socials

Lorna had organised a very successful on-line Bake-Off night on 8 November. The competition had been won by Jane.

Several ideas were suggested for future events in the New Year. These included a Christmas Scavenger Hunt, an indoor sports evening, and perhaps a Strength and Conditioning session, maybe conducted by Zoe Harding.

Given the level of on-line events, the idea of setting up a Club Zoom account was mentioned. This would be investigated.

12 A.O.B.

The editor of SCORE had been in touch, wondering whether the Club would support an Interløpers-themed issue in April 2021. Katherine would respond to Bridget Khursheed, the SCORE Editor.

It was suggested that a Whatsapp group be set up. Ali would coordinate this, and asked for people's phone numbers.

The next Committee Meeting would be held at 7:30 on Monday 1 February 2021, almost certainly using Zoom..

The Meeting closed at 9:37pm. John Barrow – 26 January 2021