

NAIRN COASTAL ROWING CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Being held at Nairn Bowling Club, Albert Street, Nairn

At 10.00am

On Saturday, 14th March 2026

MINUTES

Attendees: Alison, Matt, Dot, Mairi, Kirsty, Kristin, Sally M, Pam, Rob, Andy, Sue, Greg, Sylvia, Stella, Kay, Neil, Berny, Catriona

Apologies: Gail, Martin, John, Frances, Cleo, Bob, Nick, Jeanette, Jimmy Young, Tom, Gillian, Valerie, Colin, Heidi, Ian W, Ian B, Laura, Lucy, Lauren and Leah.

Alison welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Approval of the AGM minutes from 22nd February 2025

Proposed by Dot, seconded by Matt

2. Chair's report: Chair Report AGM 2026.pdf

There were no questions on Alison's report.

Andy wanted to acknowledge and thank the committee and the bosuns for their work throughout the year.

Acknowledgement also goes to the Ladies 60+ crew who won Bronze World Champion at the World Championships in Stranraer, plus congratulations for all the other crew successes.

3. Treasurer's Report: 2025 accounts summary.docx

Matt presented a summary of the Club's finances. The main points were:

- A deficit of £907 and this was due to the purchase of a replacement road trailer for Esther.
- The balance is ~ £15,000 so reasonably healthy
- Our primary source of income is from Membership fees (about £3000) and Member donations (£1705). Both these are slightly down from last year.
- This is the first year the club has reimbursed members for towing to regattas.

- Our running costs are increasing (rises in electricity, insurance for boatshed etc). Our membership fee income doesn't cover running costs.
- The club can claim Gift Aid on member donations. In order to claim Gift Aid on donations made by bank transfer each individual needs to complete a Gift Aid declaration. Please limit transactions to no more than £30.
- A reminder when paying by bank transfer to add a reference for the payment.

Robbie questioned if a new trailer was a justifiable expense as it was only used occasionally. Since the old trailer was unsafe to use and not repairable and the electrics were also faulty, the committee took the decision to replace the trailer.

4. Approval of Accounts for 2025:

The Financial report and Accounts were approved subject to the approval of the independent examiner.

Proposed by Berny, seconded by Sally M

5. Approval of independent examiner for next year: Steven Bain of Ritson Young

This was approved by the members present.

6. Sailing Club Affiliation:

Alison outlined the background to the proposal to an affiliation among the water sport clubs in Nairn. Stuart Fox, commodore of the Sailing Club, has produced a draft affiliation document to work with initially with the aim to foster further collaboration and shared use of facilities.

Alison asked the members present for their comments. Several members made supportive and positive comments including:

- we have relied quite heavily on the Sailing Club in the past for storage and support for events.
- that extra collaboration would give a greater voice to watersports in Nairn.
- shared benefits of working together, for example having a local outdoor first aid course.
- there could be a greater opportunity for funding if we are part of a larger group.

The proposal to affiliate with the Sailing Club was agreed unanimously by a show of hands from the members present at the meeting.

Andy requested that members be kept up to date with progress on affiliation, for example having a regular item in the monthly newsletter.

7. Set membership fees for 2026:

The membership fees have remained at £50 for some time now. However due to increased running costs of the club, inflation costs and the cost of affiliation it was recommended to increase the membership fee to £55 for full membership.

Proposed by Mairi, seconded by Sally M

Matt stressed that the club would continue to offer concessions to the fee as we didn't want finance to be a barrier to joining.

It was agreed that members should pay their membership fee by the end of April and a reminder would be sent out.

AOB:

There was no additional business.

Committee re-election- Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership secretary, committee members

The current committee were happy to continue. The members present all agreed to their re-election.

Chair - Alison

Vice Chair - Dot

Treasurer - Matt

Secretary - Laura and Catriona

Membership secretary - Mairi

Committee memes - Nick, Kirsty, Sally M, Sally W, Bob F

Meeting closed 10.50am

Chair's Report AGM 2026

I can hardly believe it is a year since I took up this post because it seems to have passed so quickly. Part of that I am certain is because we have a committee who work well together and who have a wide range of skills and knowledge, so my first and foremost thanks are to them for their diligence in coping with everything from roller doors, fire alarm test schedules, affiliation documents and encroaching sandbanks at the harbour mouth, our agenda is nothing if not diverse.

Our year started with the challenges of the World Championships and it was a delight to see our club so well represented and to achieve such good results. The flip side of a Worlds year is that there are not so many other regattas to compete in but hopefully this year will offer more chances to compete and to share the social life of our sport with other clubs. Aside from competition we have had several social events and these have been a good chance for us to get together as a club and get to know one another better.

We continue to have a good number of people to have a go at coastal rowing so there is a constant influx of new people coming into the club. However as more people want to row, we need more people confident to cox the boat. We have moved forward with that and had another cox's course and opportunities for those who wish to cox to develop their skills, but the committee are ever aware that this is something we need to continue to monitor through the year ahead. One of the particular tasks for this year has been what an affiliation with others watersports in Nairn might look like. We have had many conversations among ourselves and with the sailing club and the kayak club, and it is now at this point that we need to decide whether we wish to take this forward into the coming year.

What of the year ahead - we plan for a Regatta of our own in 2027 and we will start looking at potential dates very soon. We also have a couple of events planned for this summer and you may also have ideas to share. Relationships with others who enjoy being on the sea and changing and developing through affiliation and also an invitation from Inverness Rowing Club to be involved in their Outreach Program. All of this is in early stages but we will keep you informed of progress through the newsletter.

In conclusion, on behalf of all the members of the club, I want to thank the members of the Committee, the Bosuns and all those who look after the boats, boatshed and equipment; all who help with the newsletter and our online presence and publicity. Those who help with coxing and training and those who have helped with social events and health and safety advice; also everyone who co-ordinates and supports the "come and try" sessions which bring new members into the club. Thanks also to the Bowling Club and to the Sailing Club for hosting us for our indoor events. We are all indebted to everyone who helps to me keep the show on the road so we can all enjoy being out on the water - Thank you to you all.

NCRC treasurer's 2025 accounts summary

Receipts: £7,170
Payments: £8,077
Deficit: £907

Balances on 31st December 2025:

Club charity account: £5,305
Savings account: £10,108
Total: £15,414

Receipts:

Membership fees: £2,983 (63 members)
Kit purchases: £1,863
Member donations: £1,705
Other donations: £270 (£100 Murray Travel – Worlds, £170 SCRA development day)
Fundraising: £240 (raffle and club cards)
Savings interest: £80
Key fob deposits: £30

Payments:

Purchase of Esther road trailer and launch trolley: £2,224
Club kit purchase: £1,856
Insurance: £1,438
Purchases for the boathouse and skiffs: £741
Room hire: £420 (£170 reimbursed by SCRA)
Reimbursements for towing: £385
Nairn BID fee: £225
Rent: £202
World's entry fee: £150

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Electricity: £141

Website and online calendar costs: £126

Highland Council slipway fees: £99

Winter trailer storage: £50

Club running costs (total payments excluding one-off trailer purchase, club kit purchase and world's entry fee): £3,657.

Difference between club running costs and membership fee income: £674 deficit.