**Nairn Coastal Rowing Club**

minutes for the AGM held on Saturday 26th of February 2022 at 10am held in Nairn Bowling Club, Albert street.

Attendees: Bill Wright, Ian Addison, Martin Lugg, Pam Gordon, Robbie Gordon, Sally Ward, Tom Hodge, Gillian Hodge, Mairi Ryan, Sam Dalziel, Bob Ferenth, Greg Sparrow, Sally Moore, Andy Walker, Sylvia Bochel, Ian Bochel, Cleo Welsh, Valerie Wareham, Stella Matheson, Kay Mcdonald, Sandra Gardner, John Farquhar, Frances Farquhar, Kristin Duncan, and Gail Duff.

Apologies: Berny Welsh, Kate Ashton.

Last year's minutes proposed by Robbie and seconded by Bill.

**Chairman's Report** was read by Bob Ferenth in Berny's absence.

Thanks were given to, John Farquhar for regatta duty, Pam and Mairi for membership, Sally Ward for the diary, Martin as chief cox, Pam and Robbie for tea, coffee and biscuits etc., Fran, Sylvia and Kristin for the days baking, Bob for the boathouse planning etc., Ian as treasurer, men's team for their win at Strathpeffer and Robbie for walking events.

**Treasurer's report**

Presented by Ian Addison

The accounts are in a reasonable condition at the time of the AGM but it is apparent the club will have to find ways of fundraising as costs will increase this year once the boathouse is built. Future costs will include electricity etc.

**Boathouse** Bob

Hopefully the boathouse will be complete by the end of May beginning of June this year. The last few queries on the building warrant have been answered after a meeting with Paul Heggie. There will be no running water to the clubhouse as the cost was prohibitive. Previous building quotes are likely to increase as a result of Brexit and Covid-19, however further money may be available from the Davidson Trust. Appreciation of the help from councillor Tom Heggie was noted.

**Club Constitution** Bob.

1. Within the Club, the Trustees can be known as the Committee. Carried with 25 votes
2. Renaming of President to Chair and Vice President to Vice Chair. This was carried with 25 votes.
3. Allow members of less than one year to serve on the committee, carried with 25 votes.
4. Give Social members full voting rights, carried with 25 votes.
5. Change membership to run from March instead of January, carried with 25 votes.

**Election of Office Bearers.**

Berny Welsh-- Chair

Bob Ferenth-- Vice Chair

Tom Hodge-- Secretary

Sally Moore--Treasurer

Mairi Ryan--Membership

Sally Ward--General Member

Stella Matheson--General Member

Valerie Wareham--General Member

Proposed by Ian Addison, seconded by Cleo Welsh and carried by 25 votes

**Membership Fees**

After a discussion, it was decided to increase the annual membership fee by £5 to £45, under 26 years old to stay at £20 and Social membership at £10. The donation for rowing sessions will stay at £2 per session. Payment by bank transfer would be preferred over cash by Sally Moore. Fees are due on March 1st and will be included in the next newsletter. Carried with 23 for and 2 against.

**AOB**

1. The current constitution was felt to be overcomplicated. Bob explained many clubs/charities used the same template but simplifying it would be discussed at the next committee meeting.
2. Sally M pointed out that a data protection officer was required. To be appointed at the next committee meeting.
3. Members felt that sub-committees would be required to help with the workload of the running of the club.
4. Fees were discussed again to try to have the correct balance between membership and rowing donations. No change to what was agreed above.
5. Easyfundraising was discussed and Ian pointed out that it could bring funds in to the club. It is to be explained in the next newsletter.

**The Boathouse and the future.**

The future of the club is very much tied up with the building of the boathouse and a possible amalgamation with the Sailing and Kayak clubs. The creation of a Nairn Water Sports Club was thought to be the way forward with the building of new premises in the area of the sailing club maintenance yard to incorporate the harbour master's office and facilities for club members and visitors. Our new Boathouse will show what can be achieved . The Sailing Club building is in disrepair and it was thought could be sold off to a developer.  Bill informed us of the existence of the Nairn Water Sports Association and it is planned to resurrect this. Once these members have met, we can look at approaching the Sailing and Kayak clubs with the aim of forming an umbrella association. Bob has spoken previously to the Chanonry Sailing Club and he felt their past experience could be of help to us. It was acknowledged that the Sailing Club helped with the start-up of our Rowing club. Once new councillors are in office after the May elections, it was felt we could approach them for help with our vision in future proofing water sports in Nairn.

Meeting closed at 12pm