



CROESOSWALLT ARCHERS: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

Venue and Date: Held at the Shropshire Paddlesports Club, Queen's Head. 26/04/23 at 19:00.

Present: Bob Batts, Colin Chapman, Chris Innes, Tony Faulds, Steve Ellis, Daniel Francis, Alan Jones, Steve Taylor, Alex & Jill Hollingshead, Kathryn Tatham, Svet Panov, Peter Geddes.

Note: Comments made by attendees are noted by their initials. Minutes are typed by Kathryn at the time of discussion and subsequently reviewed by Alan to verify accuracy before distributing.

Discussion:

| Agenda Item | Discussion |
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| Welcome | <p>BB started the meeting by welcoming all those present and opens the discussion on the minutes from last year; as none present have objection to past minutes the committee considers them read and accepted.</p> <p>BB then leads to presentation of the committee members – reports will be attached where applicable but key points highlighted.</p> |
| Chairman's Report – Alan Jones | <p>See report for full details, key points are as follows:</p> <p>AJ noted a big change for the club was the re-orientation of the field in line with the new pathway to the side of the beginner's course. This new orientation of the main range and the beginner's range has been set up in accordance with AGB regulation and hopefully this will be permanent.</p> <p>The club has received healthy response from beginner's courses, but numbers are not as high as 2022.</p> <p>The 2022 beginner's courses totalled 46 participants over 5 sessions. The club implemented that the course be 3 hours over 4 consecutive Saturday's, with 2 weekends in between courses, this will continue for 2023. Note to members the fee for the course has increased to £80. The courses will also now be run with the 1 coach with at least 1 helper allowing more respite for others.</p> <p>There are no taster sessions currently planned but this is on the agenda to organise.</p> <p>AJ offers congratulations on behalf of all members to Colin Chapman and H. Pimborough for completing their developmental course.</p> |

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| | <p>Kathryn Tatham and Daniel Francis are also currently training to be Session Coaches; when qualified the club will have 5 coaches.</p> <p>The winter shooting was hosted at St. Martin's school, during this period 354 attend over 20 sessions (average 18), the fees for the hall meant that the club subsidised £109 for the indoor season. CI queried if the prices for the school will rise for next year, however, it is unknown at this time. It is also noted that targets are still stored at the school rent free. AJ notes that there is a possibility of members paying upfront for the forthcoming season, but this will be put to members nearer the time.</p> <p>Throughout the summer, the club hosted various competitions such as the Heritage shoot, County Clout, 'Start Archery Week' and Cae Glass Community games. It is anticipated that the club will host this year's Heritage and Clout shoots.</p> <p>SP queried who would host Silver Dollar shoot- unknown at this time.</p> <p>The club has also planned monthly informal shooting competitions to give experience to all archers, introducing them to competition environment, and perhaps encouraging them to participate in formal competitions.</p> <p>Alan took time to give thanks to all members who have helped the club with coaching, maintenance etc.</p> |
| <p>Treasurer's Report – Alan Jones</p> | <p>See report for full details, key points are as follows: AJ notes finances of club are relatively healthy and provides a financial breakdown of 2022 in comparison with 2021. Key points of note: Total income £12078.86 for 2022 / £6859.97 for 2021 Total Expenditure £7705.49 for 2022 / £4983.90 for 2021 Net Account - £4373.37 for 2022 / £1876.07 for 2021</p> <p>AJ and BB do comment that part of the expenditure is for the lawn mower repayments that AJ and BB purchased with own fees, the club is currently repaying this loan, when complete the mower will be owned by the club outright.</p> <p>PG queried if part of the expenditure is rent for the field, which it is noted that we do not pay rent for the land, the only expense is from ground maintenance, some members put forward what rent would likely be for the field and it was estimated to be around £5000-£10000 a year.</p> <p>AGB membership price remains the same this year. Expenses such as fees for the Heritage shoot is regulated by the county. The committee does comment that there are alternatives to AGB membership such as the Archery Field Society, however if not registered with AGB there is a difficulty in competing with other clubs.</p> <p>The club is covered with insurance by AGB, however, non-archery related issues are not covered, so keeping £10,000 as contingency in account in case of liability etc. CI suggests having additional funds in the club as £10,000 in this age is not much against liability pay outs. PG asks if any equipment is insured, which it isn't. TF notes site is secure, so chance of theft etc is low. BB has previously tried to get insurance but would not cover.</p> |

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| | <p>BB puts forward to the group to start a fund to buy own land etc which may benefit club in future, TF is in support given rise in cost of land and SP agrees with freedom it would give with ability to request more funding etc.</p> <p>Regarding corporate days, AJ notes the potential financial rewards but comments that the club would need to have more membership assisting rather than same core members to avoid burn out.</p> <p>DF asks what the club aims to spend the remaining £6000 in the account - AJ responded that current income vs expenses is balancing out overall, so this money will cover shortfall expenses until membership renewal in October.</p> <p>BB highlights that if the club folded, assets would go to Shropshire Archery Society which is in the club's constitution.</p> |
| <p>Secretary's Report – Bob Batts</p> | <p>BB commented that he would firstly like to offer his thanks to Alan and Tony who have undertaken a lot of BB's roles due to some personal issues.</p> <p>Comments on the improvements year on year since moving to the Ironworks, particularly when facing difficulties with Covid etc.</p> <p>In 2022 the club had good uptake of members from the beginner's courses.</p> <p>'Start Archery Week' hosted around 160 kids on the day, the club will be hosting this again on May 19th, AJ will be circulating an email requesting volunteers to assist.</p> <p>The Heritage competitions have grown since coming to Ironworks with lots of archers attending the shoots hosted by the club, again the club will be hosting in the summer.</p> <p>The club also participated at the Cae Glas Park Sports Day, a few comments were put forth by various people present, that the club had the busiest section on the day, but not much feedback or recognition. BB states the club will participate again this year but have noted that if response is similar, we may not go again.</p> <p>BB finishes the report commenting on the club's recent awards received from AGB, the 'On Target Community' and 'On Target Young People'. Awards will be showcased in clubhouse and BB is enquiring if he can get flags associated with awards.</p> |
| <p>Welfare Officer's Report – Emma Aplin</p> | <p>Nothing to report. With other commitments EA has decided to step back from this role. BB has offered the position of Welfare Officer to Jill Hollingshead, which she has accepted, congratulations are offered by all those present.</p> |
| <p>Safety Officer's Report – Tony Faulds</p> | <p>See report for full details, key points are as follows:</p> <p>TF began his report by stating the issues which the club has faced for the past year, mainly the orientation of the range and training range. The primary issue is that the newly created footpath interfered with shooting area. There is currently one outstanding requirement – under AGB rules the range needs to have a permanent fence to limit public access (rather than rope which is</p> |

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| | <p>currently used). TF has put in formal request with AGB to review the range and to provide new risk assessment.</p> <p>BB does indicate that he has spoken AGB, and the responses received imply that as long as the range has more than 20 yards overshoot on either side, AGB will be unlikely to come. TF does comment that the rope currently used provides some safety with limiting public access to the range but will require signs to for the public not to cross.</p> <p>BB reiterated that the club requires Clive's permission (Ironwork's owner) to put anything permanent in so this will need to be discussed.</p> <p>TF concludes that Risk Assessments for have-a-go's etc were all reviewed last year and remain valid to current date.</p> |
| <p>Membership Officer's Report – Tony Faulds</p> | <p>See report for full details, key points are as follows: TF took over position and reviewed figures.</p> <p>The trend of membership renewal and end of year membership are on the increase. TF notes need to work better on retaining membership as although year on year the membership has increased, the gain of memberships is flattening off.</p> <p>Ended on 103 members but started with around 76 members. Not much feedback on the members that leave, other than some youth members cite educational reasons such as going to university or general lack of desire to taking archery further. Some comments from associate members e.g., commitments to own club, family commitments. Also notes the socio-economic crisis which may be assisting in this.</p> <p>CC suggested we do not offer much to members but hopes that with increased events like competition monthly shoots, the club may encourage membership. BB also comments that this is normal for clubs to lose members in winter.</p> <p>Membership as follows. 2020 - 39 > 50 2021 - 50 > 83 2022 - 58 > 103</p> <p>TF reiterates comments made by AJ above that there are only a few members that assist with events, so to progress the committee requires help, but hopefully there will be an improvement with the new members of the committee. The noted events that will require extra assistance will be Cae Glas Park, 'Start Archery', Heritage and Clout mainly.</p> <p>After discussion on membership fallout and if there are certain trends if certain bow styles are leaving the club more than others, SP offered to provide a record of which bow type members use according to majority.</p> |
| <p>Records Officer's Report– Svet Panov</p> | <p>See report for full details, key points are as follows: Comments relating to this report are just for the indoor season only. 130 scores submitted for indoor session with 21 active archers and 25 standing club records achieved, of which 5 were open records. Throughout the season, 14 archers have updated their classification and 34 PB's were achieved with 17 archers now having an updated handicap.</p> <p>.</p> <p>TF proposed putting a sheet in club house to who has current records to give members something to aim for.</p> |

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| | <p>New handicaps for outdoor session and significant changes in gaining handicap/classification are being introduced by AGB, links to the new rules will be put on the website.</p> <p>Special mention to Alex Hollingshead for sportsmanship and most improvement in his handicap.</p> <p>SP notes restrictions on putting scores officially on the AGB website as the scoring and events generally would require regulation, so records are primarily for in club use.</p> <p>A few members have asked if we can have more metric competitions.</p> <p>SP does reiterate that to obtain a classification & handicap, archers need an average of 3 scoresheets of recognised competition rounds. Subsequently, competing archers having scored what is required (based on their current classification/handicap) will determine any future improvement in these 2 aspects</p> |
| <p>Webmaster's Report – Julien Beauquel</p> | <p>See report for full details, key points are as follows:</p> <p>Unfortunately, report was not able to be presented at the meeting. JB's report however indicated that website modifications are done manually at the behest of committee/club members such as tournament dates, results etc.</p> <p>The forum maintenance is noted to be time consuming; JB has endeavoured to create a script to automate the process, but more work is required to fully automate the process.</p> |
| <p>Equipment Officer's Report – Colin Chapman</p> | <p>The club's range of equipment continues to grow with increased range of bows for beginners, such as draw weight, length etc.</p> <p>The club has recently purchased ambidextrous (snake) bows, with the aim of using them with the school children in the 'have-a go' sessions.</p> <p>The bows themselves have all been renumbered and the racks have been extended to accommodate the extra kit.</p> <p>CC comments that the more repetitive repairs are fixing fletchings and nocks. There is an ongoing need to repair bosses, however Tony and Alan have assisted with this. With this continued maintenance, the range and equipment are in much better condition than previous years.</p> <p>New sights are also required as older sights need replacement or some have been broken due to continued use.</p> <p>CC has found that ground quivers have worked very on the beginner's courses and the ease of labelling the pots has assisted in organising equipment for beginners.</p> <p>There is potential to turn extra boss stands to mobile stands in addition to the 2 we have which will allow archers to shoot any distance with more convenience.</p> <p>The club has also installed permanent shooting lines.</p> <p>CC would like to thank to Daniel, Steve, Kathryn, Bob and Alan for their assistance.</p> |

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| | <p>ST comments that many of the indoor stands are rickety and need some maintenance before shoot in Winter so time may need to be allocated for this, CI also suggests these could potentially be replaced.</p> <p>There are currently no plans to move away from straw bosses for the indoor season.</p> |
| Junior Representative | <p>BB has asked Alex Hollingshead to become the new junior representative, of which he agreed. Congratulations are offered by all those present.</p> |
| Social Secretary's Report – Kathryn Tatham | <p>The aim of the club is to build more of a social calendar and create an inclusive fun environment for all members with the hope of retaining members.</p> <p>So far, the club has hosted one 1 social evening and 2 fun shoots, of which all had good attendance and appeared to be well received.</p> <p>Will be planning more events, working in adjacent to the monthly shoot outs.</p> <p>KT comments that if members do have ideas for social gatherings or fun events, please feel free to contact her at any time.</p> |
| Re-election of Members | <p>BB does put it to the members that it would be wise for the committee to train younger members or have them shadow those in position to establish continuity of roles.</p> <p>Next year most committee positions will come up for renewal.</p> <p>Open Roles</p> <p>Vice chair – Open</p> <p>Treasurer's role (currently held by Alan doing double position)</p> <p>Tournament secretary – This role is essential to organising events – SP does mention he has taken on recording of events/scores so will keep doing this for external tournaments.</p> <p>Current Positions are as follows:</p> <p>Chairman - Alan</p> <p>Secretary – Bob</p> <p>Equipment Officer - Colin</p> <p>Treasurer - Alan</p> <p>Welfare Officer – Jill</p> <p>Safety – Tony</p> <p>Maintenance – Tony</p> <p>Records – Svet</p> <p>Webmaster – Julien</p> <p>Junior – Alex</p> <p>Social - Kathryn</p> |
| Other | <p>The group present recognises that have-a-goes have most potential for membership and could attract people from the Ironworks. For advertising this, the club would need a billboard with specific dates for sessions. TF notes most likely dates are for Saturday's given the park is closed on Sunday. The key points to determine would be agreement on when the events would take</p> |

place, the task requirements and who will need to organise. BB can ask Clive's team to get billboard set up once dates are organised.

PG suggests more advertising could be used for beginner's courses generally rather than being limited to the website as this requires people to actively search for courses, rather than the club reaching out to the wider public.

SP suggested the club could gather information of those who enquire about taster sessions (if advertised) then set up sessions from there according to demand.

Could host have-a-goes behind the beginner's course (clout range) and after beginner's course. It is decided that these sessions could be hosted on the second Saturday after the current beginner's course. Clive to provide billboard but must be advertised as cash only.

AJ/BB to organise a message to all members requesting assistance to establish a list/rota of volunteers and set up a booking system.

CC also would like to raise that it is the responsibility of whoever runs a beginner's course to clean up after the session as often left to others to put away arrows etc.

SE wanted to let the members know that the bench is finished and can be dropped off at field. CC has also moved some benches out of the container for use of members to sit on rather than being used as a bench for the ground quivers.

BB is hoping to plant flowers in front of the clubhouse container, Joan has kindly volunteered and will be planting pots/containers soon.