

Agenda for Hemel Hempstead Canoe Club AGM 2023

7.30pm, Tuesday 7th March

Nash Mills Recreation Centre, Hemel Hempstead HP3 9TE



Attending: Anna Hobbs, Nick Godfrey, Chris Sword, Graham Taylor, Elle Alderman, Isla Alderman, John Bennet, Giuseppe Vitellino, Jeremy Webb, Gavin Lee, Leigh van der Byl, Ross Pearton, Harriet Matthews, Rosemary, Peter? Adam Flowerdew, Andy Bell

Agenda

1) Minutes of previous AGM Chris approved the minutes from previous AGM and Nick seconded

2) Club report – Chris presented the club report for the year

Greetings fellow paddlers!

We've had another smashing year!

The courses and try-out sessions were again extremely popular, and the group of people who help lead and instruct such courses – so a big thank you to those people!

Through the courses we have also expanded our membership and also gained some new blood from elsewhere – it's great to see a growing pool of active friendly members.

In addition to the courses for the general public we have also input into the community through sessions ran for Scouts, Waterways Experiences and Waterway Recovery Group amongst others. Members have enjoyed trips to the Lake District, Wales and Dartmoor – and personally I continued to get better by getting wetter!

This coming year will be more of the same with members nights, Tuesday training, Thursday open paddles, pub crawls and continued Pennywort removal. We are looking to restructure our Scouts offering this year to reduce the load on the members who get involved by providing a full weekend of sessions.

After a few devastating accidents on the water around the country we are investing in new helmets and quick release leashes for SUP users. The canal is pretty safe, however demonstrating and encouraging good behaviour on the canal leads to safety considerations on more challenging paddles.

Away from paddling, you are probably all aware that the club house has a leak, we are looking to get that fixed in the next month or so. We also have intentions to redesign the webpage so watch this space.

As always anyone able to assist with activities please do get in touch with the committee

I look forward to continuing to serve you next year as chair and chief awesomeness encourager.

3) Financial report Graham reported on the Financial status of the club

The club has again had a very healthy year financially, and the balance sheet is solid. This is in a big part to all the hard work relevant members have put in with courses, try its and scout sessions – so thank you!

Membership fees have also increased on prior year, mostly due to reversing the discount offered during the covid lockdown years. This on it's own though does not cover our overheads so the additional income is a great help. Regarding membership fees, I understand the committee are due to propose a slight increase, which seeks to balance the acknowledgement of inflation and increased costs (particularly noting the increased energy costs which is a big part of our expenses) whilst being mindful of affordability.

Whilst the cash position is solid, I'm also aware that the building is in need of some relatively significant spending in order to bring it to a good state of repair regarding leaks etc. Also, having

invested in new equipment the longevity is unknown and it will at some point need replacing. The surplus in 2022 is partly attributable to little being spent on the building or equipment. In summary, the club has a healthy amount of funds, and it's great that it has in order to satisfy expected forthcoming expenditure.

I look forward to another successful year!

	Year to December 2022	
Starting balance (Current account)	£33,682.53	
Savings accounts	£3,211.81	
Cash	£2,601.05	
Creditors	-£760.61	
		£38,734.78
In		
Course fees	£6,539.00	
membership & boat store	£4,316.00	
		£11,210.89
Out		
Building and maintenance	£117.21	
Courses	£2,200.00	
Internet	£87.94	
Eon	£1,218.67	
Cleaning	£898.77	
Other	£31.00	
Rent	£250.00	
Decorum - business rates	£343.04	
British Canoeing	£383.60	
Credit card	£323.73	
Other admin	£224.00	
		-£6,077.96
Operating surplus / (deficit)		£5,132.93
Equipment and repairs		-£1,283.67
Interest receipt		£0.32
Balance		£42,584.36
Being		
Current account		£39,289.76
Savings		£3,212.13
Paypal		£504.09
Cash		£11.05
Creditors		-£432.67
		£42,584.36

Ross approved the finances and John seconded

4) **Election of committee members**

Position	Nominated	Nominated by	Seconded by	Roles and Responsibilities
Chair	Chris Sword	Graham	Jeremy	Leadership & co-ordination. Provide visibility of Committee. Determine strategic direction and focus of Club.
Secretary	Anna Hobbs	Harriet	Chris	General administration of Club. Administrative point of contact with BCU
Treasurer	Graham Taylor	Anna	Rosemary	Financial administration of Club. Preparation of club accounts.
Coach Co-ordinator	Sean Butler	Elle	Nick	Development / training of Club coaches through Paddlesport courses. Fulfilment of coaches for Club courses.
Safeguarding & Welfare Officer	Harriet Matthews	Jeremy	John	Responsibility for welfare and safeguarding issues within Club. Promotion of appropriate welfare issues to Club coaches.
Equipment and Building Officer	Nick Godfrey	Graham	Adam	Responsibility for general maintenance of club equipment and building

5) **Membership and costs –**

Club charges have remained constant for the past 4 years bar a 50% discount during covid years to reflect limited club activities due to lock down.

The committee recommended a 5% to charges for 2023, however John proposed rounding this to the nearest 50p. This was voted on and the rounding was approved by 9 votes to 4

Category	Current	Proposed	Agreed
Adult	£54.00	£56.70	£56.50
Junior	£27.00	£28.35	£28.50
Family	£72.00	£75.60	£75.50
Over 60	£29.00	£30.45	£30.50
taster	£10.00	£10.50	£10.50
scouts	£5.00	£5.25	£5.50
Boat storage	£26.00	£27.30	£27.50

6) **AOB**

Rosemary raised the need to charge scouts for expected numbers and not numbers that showed. This was agreed

John asked if there would still be opportunities to support ad hoc groups with taster sessions. This was agreed

Leigh asked about PSI training being arranged and was reminded that any members wishing to carry out training should ask the committee

Harriet reminded everyone that the first Members paddle of the year was 30/03 to check equipment

7) **Next AGM meeting date** Tuesday 5th March 2024 7.30pm