

Dolphin Rowing Club – 4th AGM 2020

Venue: Due to Covid 2020 Online AGM- Zoom 40 minute maximum.

Constitutional Committee 2019-2020: Jesse, Anya, Alison

Supporting Committee 2019-2020: Chris; Julia; Sandy; Steve; Jenny; Eros; Dee (resigned in year).

Chair welcomed members and set Zoom meeting protocols and abridged time limited agenda:

1. Attendance/apologies
2. Reports
3. Elections of officers 2020-2021
No policies to ratify this year
No Any Other Business Items pre-communicated

Minutes of last meeting. 3rd AGM signed as a fair representation and on the website.

Quorate = 12; Zoom attendees starting the meeting 17: Ian, Anya, Jesse, Andy, Sandy, Rachel, Shanaz, Bekki, Bianca, Chris, Alison, Julia, Steve, Eros, Aileen + 2 other members

Apologies: Annika, Jenny, Andrew, Eros (attended and thanked), Lou.

1. Chair's and Captains Report: Jesse Loynes

The chair reported three main themes since November 2019 which was the last meeting.

- 1) A big change for the club was the formal move to Northney that has been supported with a lot of help and time from people about the site such as Andrew. There have been a lot of hands in that work especially negotiating favourable rents with Releasing Potential so thanks to all who were part of that. It is improved access to water and has been a great place to be. It is a nice security for the club and the chair is glad to see that the club has a home for now.
- 2) The chair said that obviously Covid held up the club. This was a difficult time and there was communication and rumour that caused some deep upset. The club had two months off the water and then got straight back in with sculling. Dolphin has been one of few clubs where the majority members have been actively on the water. The chair thanked everyone who acted responsibly and did the right thing around kit, following club guidance, cleaning kit, capsize and recovery training and especially Elaine (H&S officer 2019-2020) who was constantly updating when she got new information from British Rowing and the government.
- 3) The chair thanked all those who have been on the journey with him of starting and chairing Dolphin Rowing Club for four and a half years. From the first meeting in a pub with Chris, Rachel and our sadly departed Steve. Finding our first boats, negotiating decreased harbour dues and rents, gaining grants from ERA, the races we went to in our second year, for the sunsets, seals and everyone who has taken on roles and have efforts to do the right thing. For most of those years it has been an easy role. He is looking forward to seeing the club grow and hopes it becomes a stronger and positive place.

2. Secretary's Report and Business – Anya Loynes

The secretary summarised the ambitions of the club for the year 2019-20 and stated that she would report up to current day as, like the chair, she had not put herself forward for candidacy for secretary 2020-21. The ambitions of the club were:

- To build the club from 35-50 members
- To buy two small boats
- To Race in singles, doubles and quads and sweep sliding seat races
- To substantially improve the access to the water (Achieved)

The secretary thanked all who had supported the role including membership secretary, health and safety officer and welfare officer. Members were reminded that our original Secretary and founding member Steve Woods whose sudden loss in early 2020 hit many of our community had managed most of the roles including membership, health and safety, correspondence without such support.

Heartfelt thanks were extended to Elaine and Sandy especially with Covid their volunteering had been brilliant and vital. Particular praise was extended to Sandy who was described as “a rock and such a fabulous welfare officer who has dealt issues for the club admirably with such conscientiousness, diligence and wise words and thoughts. In this particular year these roles have not been easy.

The secretary reported that once Covid struck correspondence “went ballistic”. Others doing supporting roles meant that the Secretary was able to formulate financial recovery plans and apply for grants that would give the club financial security. Thanks were extended to Jenny for casting her eye over the final draft before submission and Alison (Treasurer 2018-2020) for getting the necessary figures to the secretary. The secretary was pleased to report that British Rowing had confirmed that a grant would be awarded to Dolphin and that they had not charged for affiliation this year. There was gratitude and praise for British Rowing’s support.

The secretary thanked all those who had positively progressed the club and remembered the carpark conversation when Steve Woods had asked, “is this going to be a group of friends rowing or a proper affiliated British Rowing Club?” without him the club would not have got started and we thank him.

As in previous years it is the secretary’s responsibility to report on welfare concerns. It can be reported that the welfare concern raised during the year was closed. The welfare officers report sent to British Rowing and lodged with the current and incoming constitutional committee was offered to be read by the secretary or chair. The welfare officer delivered her report.

A summary welfare officer report was read to the meeting. It stated that the welfare officer was resigning from the role and the club. At the previous committee meeting the Welfare officer had reported that during the year there had been an unresolved but closed welfare issue and expressed the hope that it would be an end to the matter. She had encouraged members to be kind to each other particularly under the challenging circumstances of Covid. In trying to mediate and resolve the dispute the Welfare officer found herself becoming a victim of this same behaviour including malicious spread of misinformation she received an accusing of things that were untrue, she was excluded from communication, several attempts were made to contact the member who failed to respond or give clarity as the reasons for these actions, she was made to feel unwelcome at social events by all the DRC attendees. The welfare officer wanted the AGM meeting to understand that is undoubtedly bullying and her report on the initial complaint and her subsequent experience would be available to the incoming welfare officer and committee and she and the current Chair had lodged reports with British Rowing.

The chair thanked the welfare officer.

The secretary thanked the welfare officer for her kindness, professionalism and dedication and said how sorry she was to learn, through this report, that the behaviour had been repeated. It was sad that the initial complaint had been closed but not resolved. The secretary explained to the meeting that as previous welfare officer she had a similar experience hence the chair and secretary’s decision to step away from duties within the club. They too had distanced themselves from club rowing to avoid further confrontation and upset with this member and they would continue to do so for some time.

3. Treasurer's Report – Alison

The treasurer was able to confirm April 2019 to March 2020 accounts had been completed and were yet to be independently reviewed. They were distributed by email to all members and were commended to the meeting as complete. There was a surplus of £604.90 which is an increase on the previous year. Income for the year £4145.45 this is mainly through subscriptions but about £300 from Learn to Row and a some through introductory days.

With the move from EYH to MDL we were able to save on a few months rental for boat storage we are currently paying £60 per month but this is very much a start up rent.

There was a pause in the treasurer's report. The chair moved to election of officers.

Election of officers

There was a request that all cameras were turned on at this point for voting to take place by show of hands. One camera remained off and this was interpreted as abstention. Treasurer returned to meeting during voting.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>	<u>In favour</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Chairperson	Chris Partridge	Rachel Norris	Jesse Loynes	14	0	3
Secretary	Ian Maclennan	Aileen Campion	Anne Effenberg	13	0	4
Treasurer	Julia Rooke	Ian Maclennan	Shanaz Schaeper	15	0	3

The Chair thanked Ian for spreadsheet for boat booking for Covid and Julia for all her work thus far. He then handed over the role of closing the meeting to the new Chair Chris Partridge.

No policies

No other business

The new chair requested the new committee to meet to decide any supporting roles and decide the way forward for the club and as it is not controversial requested Steve takes the role of Bosun to bring the committee to 4.

Bosun	Steve Rooke	Proposed by Chris
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There is a new quad coming on loan and we want to get on the water.

All organisation needs to be done on the forum everything must be visible to all members it is not acceptable that anyone organises in groups on WhatsApp.

The meeting closed at 29 minutes