



**Cymdeithas Rhwyfo Môr Cymru
Welsh Sea Rowing Association
Executive meeting Agenda
Saturday 12th July 2014**

Members present –

Sarah Reynolds, Dave Reynolds, Helen Ovens **Borth**, John Eddington, Dylan Evans **Aberdyfi**, Sarah Roberts, Brian Roberts **Caernarfon**, Andrew Cotterill, Adrian Marfleet **Aberaeron**, Peter Reed, Roy English **Beumaris**, Tina Gorringer **Neyland/Llangwm**, Ian Kavenagh, Chris Haynes **Aberystwyth**, Nigel Bowen, Chrissy Canning **New Quay**, Mike Miles **Solva**, Vicki Sutton **Welsh Rowing**

Apologies –

Carol Davies, Mandi Chesterman, Pete Fletcher, David Thompson, Fishguard, Porthmadog, Towy, St Dogmaels, Conwy, Llangwm, Aberporth, Ynys Mon

Agenda –

- **Minutes of the previous meeting**

BR asked for clarification about the last minutes regards Caernarfon's race day. He stated that they had not been getting any trophies returned so were unable to give some out at their events. MM suggested in order to overcome this issue, to obtain signatures on awarding. BR stated they had taken names from this year's events. Also suggested was to name the previous years' winners on race notices. CC suggested that all trophies are returned at the AGM so clubs can have them back ready for the season. DE stated this used to happen. Proposed by CC, 2nded DE – All in agreement.

- **Dale sailing & Future production of longboats**

BR suggested having 2 manufacturers. PR then explained the problems they've had with Dale regarding their new boat. RE explained how long the issue with Dale has been going on, stating it could be dangerous having just one boat builder. He feels we are being ripped off by them. Beumaris have paid a £2000 deposit on a boat which they were told they would receive at the end of July; it has now been put back to September due to health issues with the gent who's building the boat. The new mould has also been delayed due to this issue. MM stated a proper contract needs to be in place then all issues will stop. The current contract expired many years ago, Dale have continued to build boats out of this contract. Stated that he feels Dales aren't being dishonest. RE wanted to know who designed the longboat. MM explained it was Dale who designed it for free as the Welsh longboat league had commissioned it. They kept patent/copyright on certain aspects. DR stated it's not

particularly difficult to modify bits. VS suggested that we speak to Dale to sort out issue in the short term and sort out a tendering process. WR can help with this. MM stated to get the spec drawn up for the boats. Dale helped in the beginning and have recouped their costs over the years. RE asked that due to their situation, they should have the WSRA boat for free for the next 6 months. JE suggested that Beumaris get recompensed due to the situation with Dale. BR proposed the tendering process in the next 4 weeks – all in agreement. PR wanted to know what NB would say regarding the situation with Dale. NB explained that he had no more right or power to deal with Dale as it is the executive committee that makes the decisions at meetings. He had no idea that this was happening until he'd received an email from Beumaris explaining the situation. CH stated there were two elements – completion of the mould and future production of boats, which need to be addressed as separate items. It was suggested that a marine architect should be involved in the tender process. BR proposed to cut ties with Dale, have the money for the mould and Beumaris deposit returned. CC stated that to cut all ties with Dale could be very detrimental as we could end up not having any boats built by anyone, it could take many months to sort out a new boat builder. While there are issues with Dale currently, it may be an idea to speak to Dale in the first instance before making any decisions. MM proposed that if Beumaris want to continue with Dale as they have paid their deposit, we should not put any obstacles to their new boat being built from the new mould. DR stated we need to get the mould finished then work on the boat productions. BR withdrew his proposal stating he will propose it again unless it is sorted out by the next meeting. Following on from this lengthy discussion, action plan as follows, all points will run within the same time line –

- 1 – Tender specifications, MM will liaise with VS
- 2 – Time frame of mould being built should be within an acceptable time frame, get naval architect involved
- 3 – Not standing in the way of Beumaris having a new boat from the new mould
- 4 – As a gesture of goodwill Beumaris will have hire payment holiday until they have their new boat, as from the next hire period.

- **Insurance**

JE stated that the insurance expires on the 14th and so far only a few clubs had paid. 9 clubs were insuring independently, out of those 9 only 2 had shown proof. CC to send reminder regarding cut off point. 17 clubs insure via WSRA, 9 insure independently. As part of the equipment insurance, the mould is insured. As only 17 clubs insure via the wsra it is only them that pay towards this cost. PR suggested to take the cost of the mould insurance and add it to the affiliation fee so all clubs will pay their share.

TG enquired was towing covered – in short no. Queried about entering races if the equipment was not insured – clubs are not permitted to enter races if their equipment is not insured.

- **Savona visitors**

The visitors were coming on Thursday, originally 15 juniors, it had now changed. The hostel was costing £720, £390 for travelling, plus a hostel meal at £12.50 a head on the Friday. Total costs were £1360. The WSRA had covered £1000, Aberdyfi and Solva had donated £75 each towards costs. Costs outstanding of £300-400. WR will contribute £200 as a gesture of goodwill – it is a one off. WSRA to take the £200 out of the affiliation fee. WSRA will pick up the difference of £100-200.

English is not good with the visitors, communications have been a bit difficult but visitors will get train back to the airport with John accompanying them to ensure safe return. He stated that Aberswyth RC have been supportive in organising the visit.

- **Welsh Rowing update**

Vicki explained the positive meeting she had had with Nigel, Chrissy and David the previous week. Both parties are hoping for clear and positive communications. She also explained the benefits of being affiliated to WR. She explained the set up within WR. Kate Ynell has left WR but she will be replaced. Vicki is in charge temporarily. WR are developing ELearning, WSRA and WR will work together to develop ELearning programmes online.

Coaching is a priority for both WSRA and WR. NB stated we are devising one suitable for sea rowing. 2 WSRA members have started their tutoring/assessor courses – both hope to be completed in September. VS stated that we could do a British Rowing coastal course but it is not recognised nationally or we could devise our own which would only be recognised with Wales. It was suggested that coaches meet up throughout the year, David may be able to help co-ordinate this. It was stressed that there is a lot of paperwork involved – tutoring/assessing was not easy.

- **AOB**

- Beumaris – Puffin island race, they were concerned that only 2 boats had registered by the Wednesday although throughout the Thursday clubs did register. DR suggested discussing option of extra race entry fee after cut off point at the AGM.
- Caernarfon submitted a date of 2nd May 2015 for their annual Castle to Castle event
- Beumaris asked clarity on requirements about them having a league race next year. It was explained that it is a minimum attendance of 5 league races to host own race the following year.
- Publicity – Carol has asked for clubs to contact her with details of their local papers

- October for the WSRA end of season presentation dinner. Date to be confirmed. Carol will book the band Smoking Guns.
- IK suggesting organising activity day for sliding seat rowers to try out coastal rowing
- **Date of next meeting**

October 2014 – date to be confirmed.