

THE CANOE ASSOCIATION of NORTHERN IRELAND

MINUTES of the Council meeting held on 21st June 2004 at Cooke Rugby Club, Belfast at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Mike Harron Mary Doyle Matt Peach
Stephen Craig Davy Boyle Mike McClure

APOLOGIES

Oisín Hallissey Rodger Hamilton Davy Maxwell

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT

Matt reported that the information guide and interpretive panels for the Lough Erne Trail would be ready in 16 weeks. The Lower Bann Trail is still under discussion. Mike H asked about the possibility of having a marked 1 km lane for marathon canoe races. Matt will make inquiries with the Lower Bann Advisory Committee. Sustrans are keen to have the Strangford Lough Canoe Trail as part of their Ards Peninsula Cycle trail. He will be meeting with the Foyle Advisory Committee with regard to a Foyle System Canoe Trail. No progress on the Blackwater or Upper Bann Canoe Trails yet.

Matt has also been contacted by Belfast Activity Centre who have requested CANI's support in their bid to build a purpose built canoe facility at Shaws Bridge. Secretary will send a letter of support.

MINUTES- matters arising

None.

CANI REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES

Mike H wanted to know who was representing CANI on what committees. The known ones are as follows:-

BCU BOARD

Ulster Sports Recreation Trust

NISF WATERSPORTS GROUP

NI Sports Forum

Countryside Access & Activities Network

Fisheries Conservancy Board

Sports Council NI TRUST FOR Tollymore

Lower Bann Advisory Committee

BCU Slalom Committee

Sports Council UK National Coaching Certificate

Mike Harron

Davy Maxwell

Mary Doyle

Stanley Littlewood

Mary Doyle

Mary Doyle

Mike McClure

Robin Ruddock

Peter Spence

Rodger Hamilton

SUMMER COURSES

Only 2 clients have applied for the summer courses at Shaws Bridge so they have had to be cancelled. It was felt that the private centres were more active and therefore running more courses. The pool courses are to continue while there is a demand.

STICKERS AND STATIONERY

It was decided to change the CANI official address to the River's Edge office. As new headed notepaper was needed it was felt that this should be recycled paper if possible. Car stickers are now out of date. The feeling was that these were not worth reprinting. It might be better to target certain groups e.g. district council recreation officers.

TRAINING FOR ADVANCE PADDLERS

There are many opportunities for whitewater paddlers to paddle rivers at grade 1 and 2 level in N.I. However there are club paddlers who would like to advance their paddling skills but their clubs do not have enough, if any, members who can paddle at their level. This means they have little opportunity to paddle or lead in advance conditions. Tollymore and CANI organise one trip per year but Mary felt that this was not sufficient. She proposed that CANI facilitate at least one other trip. It was agreed that Mary would ask the Coaching Panel for an aspirant Level 5 Coach who would be willing to lead such a trip and to see what the demand is among CANI members. This would probably be to Scotland in March/April.

Clubs are of course free to organise their own trips and to advertise in the CANI Newsletter if they are lacking numbers to make a trip viable.

ONE STOP PLANNING

Mike H and Stephen attended a meeting with Richard Lee from the BCU on 17th June. This was mainly a fact finding exercise for Richard. Mike distributed copies of his draft report and asked for comments to be sent to him.

CANI SURVEY REPORT

Mike H has this in hand and it will be completed before the Development Day in September.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Londonderry number will be diverted to the Belfast number.

A Regional Coaching Day (run by Coaching Panel) will take the form of a Come and Try It session for the general public on 1st August.

The new Surf Squad manager is Mike Barton.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next council meeting will be held on Monday 23rd August at 7.30pm in Belfast Activity Centre, The Stableyard, Barnett's Park, Shaws Bridge (venue to be confirmed)