

THE CANOE ASSOCIATION of NORTHERN IRELAND

MINUTES of the Council meeting held on 25th July 2005 at Cooke Rugby Club, Belfast at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Davy Maxwell Paul Harrington Stephen Craig Mary Doyle Mike McClure Oisín Hallissey Malcolm Kerry

APOLOGIES Davy Boyle

MINUTES - MATTERS ARISING

The date of the Development Day has not been finalised yet as it has not been possible to contact the guests. Amanda from BCU will contact David at the office if she has queries about coaching course paperwork. BCU aim to have paperwork processed within 4 weeks of submission. Lara Tipper intends to visit Northern Ireland to talk about Long Term Paddler Development. The Surf Squad has submitted a second application for funding.

BALLYBAY CANOEING CENTRE

Matt Peach has met with Eoin O'Mathina and Mick Scanlon (ICU). They have secured funding for a feasibility study for a whitewater centre based near the River Blackwater. The engineers reckon that the best way to build one would be to build a head tank of water to feed the course. Matt would like this centre to be added to the CANI Strategic Plan. The proposers are keen to promote cross border support for the Kayak Attack Project. Kayak Attack is an ICU project to encourage canoeing throughout Ireland. It was agreed that a meeting with ICU would be useful and Matt will speak to ICU about this. Secretary will send a letter to Ballybay saying that we support the scheme but would have to wait until the Development Day to see if it would be included in the CANI Strategic Plan.

GRANT/BUDGET

New terms and conditions apply to the grant from the Sports Council. These include keeping a note of talented individuals, coaching updates, having baseline figures for school participation and implementing the modernisation scheme. We are still waiting information from CAAN on the development officer's post. Stephen will do a cashflow for each meeting. Stephen will meet with John New of SCNI regarding problems with paying our grant which has already been allocated. We are still awaiting payment from March.

SPRINGBOARD DAY

This was held in the House of Sport on 26th June. Stephen, Paul, Oisín and Matt attended and they were very impressed by the consultants. Tim Pickles recommended that we try and make CANI Council less involved in paperwork and more concerned with overall strategy. There should be job descriptions for council members and they were in favour of making CANI a limited company. SCNI would probably fund the setting up costs of a new company. Council agreed to Tim's suggestions and will progress them as soon as possible. Stephen will send out a hard copy of the Action Plan to council members.

WEBSITE

The new CANI website is being tested at present but is ready to go. The okay was given to make it live. We are also ready for any comments. CAAN have also set up a NI Canoeing website which is generally for access and canoe trails. There was a query over the copyright to the information on the NI Canoeing website and the Canoe Trails map. Copyright arrangements should be formalised and Mike will bring this up at the next steering group meeting with CAAN.

OFFICE

Lagan Watersports may be offering CANI an upstairs office in their building. This would be preferable as it is bigger. Stephen has attended a course run by the Labour Relations Agency on Grievance Procedures for Employees.

COMMUNICATIONS

Davy Maxwell thought that Council does not communicate well with its members. The website should be a quicker way of informing members of events. The Surf Squad has a message board and this might be a useful tool that Council could take on.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Stephen felt that the 2012 Olympics would lead to funding for infra structure and volunteering. Sports UK have employed a group of consultants - VAGA - to look at Equity in Sport. They wish to meet with CANI re our Equity Policy. Mary and Oisín agreed to attend the meeting with Jeremy Harries. Matt inquired if CANI would form working parties to clear up canoe steps and slipways after floods. Canoe clubs might be interested in taking this on. Paul asked if there would be any money available to help with administering the Surf Squad's club events. CANI cannot fund the club activities but can help with the Surf website.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 5th September 2005 at 7.30pm in Cooke Rugby Club, Shaws Bridge, Belfast.