

Minutes of CANI Council Meeting 28 November 2006  
Meeting held at Lagan Watersports

**Attendance:** Stephen Craig, Jim Seymour, Malcolm Kerry, Oisin Hallissey, Matt Peach

**Apologies:** Rodger Hamilton, Mike McClure, David Boyle

**Minutes of last meeting:** List of people attending added to Minutes

**Development Officer:** We submitted details of job description, terms and conditions and advert to SCNI for approval. These have been returned but need quite a lot of modification.

**Report from Matt:**

Strangford – design team being appointed. NT to write a lease. Possible bothy up and running by July 07. Matt has contacted yacht clubs round the Lough. He has had a response from Killyleagh YC asking for more details of the proposed use of their facilities. Their location is close to the bothy and would make a good launch point. Matt will follow this up.

Lough Erne trail, this has been operational for 18 months. Difficult to get user numbers, Matt has sent out 300 surveys, none have been returned. The Canoe Centre has asked could a symposium be run in the area to promote the trail. An Open Canoe symposium is held annually round England, Wales and Scotland – Matt to see if this could be brought to The Erne.

Upper Bann – Tullylish development. A new egress site had been selected and money secured to develop it. Unfortunately it has been blocked for the moment by Objections at the planning stage.

Reports have been passed to Matt about fishermen at Shaw's Bridge objecting to paddlers using the Canoe Steps. DCAL have been informed and have suggested that they will put up signs showing the reason for the Canoe Steps and slalom course.

The UAF have a new development officer, Robbie Marshal.

6 mile water – Matt has had a meeting with the bailiff, Alan Kirkpatrick. Alan has asked Matt to circulate some info on the river in the Newsletter. There are 2 new access points planned for the river.

**Correspondence:**

A letter has been received from Ulster Polo Canoe Club, they are asking for free membership as they ran a competition last year. This was agreed.

Matt Peach has received request for assistance from two groups looking to set up new clubs. One club is aimed at special needs paddlers. They asked if competitions could be arranged for their paddlers. It was stated that most clubs that run competitions would be happy to offer classes or courses to meet their needs. Advice and sources of information were given to Matt to pass on.

SCNI has asked us to nominate a person to Performance Lifestyle Group, Nigel Graham has expressed interest – he will be nominated.

A letter has been received from a member asking about CANI joining or affiliating to ICU as well as or instead of BCU. After discussion it was agreed that this could have advantages but would require investigation. This will be passed back to the member.

A request for Paddlefest details has been received by the office. The dates are 16-18 February 2007 based at Lough Melvin Centre. Coaching Panel will be asked to circulate these details as well as cost and program.

BCU have requested an article for the BCU directory (yearbook). Stephen will circulate the current article for comment / update.

Two bursary requests were received from members. These were on application forms and signed by their club chairman. It was decided to offer each person £50 towards their course.

SCNI are running workshops on staff appraisals, both staff and line managers have to attend. Davy Boyle has attended and David Bell will attend on 5 December.

**Health & Safety:** No items

**Equity:** In answer to the new club correspondence, Oisín stated that Tollymore would look into running a Special Needs Coaching Endorsement Course early next year. Stephen stated that CANI could probably help with the funding for this by offering support to Club coaches attending.

**Office:**

The window hinge in the office has broken, the window will not now open. Lagan Watersports are planning to replace the windows early in the new year so are not planning to fix it now. This was considered ok in the short term but in the spring the window will need to be able to be opened.

The office needs a new chair. Lagan Watersports has a chair for sale its purchase was agreed.

The office needs a new cupboard for storage. Stephen will investigate suppliers.

Stephen is currently preparing health & safety policy for the office.

A new 'reply response plus' service has been bought from Royal Mail. This gives us cheaper reply paid envelopes for use by the office. The address has been changed to River's Edge.

It has been pointed out, by email, that there is no link to ICU on the website. There were links to ICU and ICF but these have disappeared during one of the updates. These will be reinstated and a link to the Liffey descent site will be added.

**Finance:** Sports Council have now paid the claim for the period Jan – Mar 2006. This is the last of last years grant claim. We are now awaiting payment for the Apr – Jun claim. The claim for Jul – sept has also been prepared and was signed at the meeting.