

BRIDPORT GIG ROWING CLUB

Minutes of the first AGM held at the Bull Hotel, Bridport on Thursday 12th November 2009.

Apologies: - Jill Bailey, Ellie Madden-Crosby and John Ward.

The formal AGM was preceded by a brief introduction from Robin Carter and presentations from guest speakers, Gary Fooks, Team Dorset 2012 legacy Manager and Heddon Johnson, Chairman of Weymouth Gig Rowing Club.

Robin thanked Bridport Town Council and the District Council for supporting the club and confirmed that much had been achieved since the club's inception, including the accumulation of funds which should allow the club to launch a new training gig in spring 2010 for which initial storage has been secured in West Bay's municipal boat park.

Gary Fooks made an inspired presentation of his row across the Atlantic in 2001.

Gary rowed across the Atlantic with a colleague, starting in Tenerife and across to Barbados, travelling approx 3,000 miles in just under 64 days. It cost £2,000 to build the boat in Portland. They took turns to row 2 hours then rest for 2 hours, 24 hours a day. Each had a maximum of 4 hours sleep in 24 hours. Gary read an extract from the log he had written during the journey, showed some pictures and played a video of the trip. They ate freeze dried food and high energy drinks, which amounted to approx 12,000 calories a day and drank 10 litres of water daily. Enough food was packed for 65 days.

Gary pointed out that there were 988 days until the 2012 Olympics. £40 million is being spent in Dorset for regeneration of the area; the money will come from the public and private sectors. 5.2 billion People are expected to watch the Olympics and some will see Dorset for the first time. Gary jokingly said that we should aim to have a plastic and wooden gig in the water by 2012 ready to beat the Weymouth Club.

Heddon Johnson, sporting Weymouth's club colours, prefaced his Community Benefit talk with a brief profile of Ralph Bird who died recently at the age of 67. Ralf was a boat builder in Devon and had built some 29 gigs. He revived gig racing in Cornwall.

Speaking about Community Benefits, Heddon explained that Weymouth club have a good team spirit and that rowing is good exercise. Children, who take part, get into competitive sport which helps prepare them for adult life.

The regattas held promote friendships with other clubs, and fund raising involves the local community. The club is run by volunteers; fund raising events have included a Ball and also, wine tasting. Gig rowing is photogenic, promotes the area, and most importantly gig rowing should be fun, a way to meet new people, enjoying the water and weather.

On conclusion of presentations from guest speakers, a short film was shown of the world pilot gig championships event held in the Scilly Isles in May this year. Teams from England, America, France, Ireland, Wales and Scotland competed.

Before breaking for a short recess, Robin reminded the meeting that Founder membership remained open at £15.00 per member and that any new members' subscription would be acknowledged and discounted when new full membership subscriptions are called for in December. He also reiterated the need for the club to continue to raise funds and volunteers willing to help organise fund raising events would be welcome.

The next fund raising event for the Club will be on Saturday 14th November called Gig for Gig and will be held at the George Hotel, West Bay, starting at 8pm. Raffle tickets are on sale for 50 pence each. The band playing is Trouble in Mind.

Finally, Robin thanked the guest speakers and also Richard and Nikki for allowing the Club, the use of the Ballroom and Venner bar at The Bull Hotel as a venue for the AGM.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

After the break, Robin Carter opened the AGM with a brief Chairman's report, outlining the activity, sponsorship and funding activities undertaken by the club. He also confirmed the Club's decision to buy a GRP training Gig in the first instance, being a more affordable option to get the Club on the water in 2010 and also for practical reasons; short lead in time for procurement and resilience to open storage in the short term.

TREASURERS REPORT

In John Ward's absence, Mike Carter was invited to present the Treasurer's report to 1st November 2009.

Income from membership subscriptions and sponsorship	£2,600
Outgoings to support events, advertising and AGM arrangements	£ 440
Balance at Bank	£2,160

FUNDRAISING

Mike Carter outlined the Club's present funding position;

The Club is targeting a fund of £50,000 to purchase both a GRP training gig and CPGA registered racing gig for £17,000 and £33,000 respectively including oars, trailers, covers and accessories. To date, the Club has been awarded £16,500 through sponsorship, pledges and grants which represents approximately 65% of a targeted sum of £25,200. Additionally, a further £18,000 has been applied for through Section 106 monies and a Sport England Small Grant application. These funds will be determined and if successful, awarded in December 2009.

Upon receipt of written confirmation of Corporate sponsorship and personal pledges which amount currently to £10,000, it is proposed to make a further application to Sport England for Match Funding which will match private money pound for pound.

In addition to raising funds to purchase gig boats, Mike Carter also reported that discussions were in hand with West Dorset District Council to agree Heads of Terms for a site in West Bay for a boat house which would require further funding initiatives of circa £10,000. With the help and support of

Aurthur Watson of The Riverside restaurant, it is proposed to hold a charity dinner in the new year which will target specifically, funding for the boat house.

CLUB CONSTITUTION

There were no objections received by Elizabeth Day. Robin Carter proposed the Club Constitution which was seconded by Jeff Hill. This was unanimously accepted by a show of hands.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman – Mike Carter. Proposed Jeff Hill. 2nd Elizabeth Day All Agree
Secretary – Elizabeth Day. Proposed Sue Carter. 2nd Jim Binning All Agree
Treasurer – John Ward. Proposed Robin Carter 2nd Sally Vaughan All Agree
Rowing Captain – Daniel Rowe. Proposed Lawrence Shillingford 2nd Anthony Dommett All Agree
Fundraising Lead – Mike Carter. Proposed Philip Colfox 2nd Lawrence Shillingford All Agree
Information Lead – Sally Vaughan. Proposed Ellie Madden-Crosby 2nd Philip Colfox All Agree
Membership Secretary – Jim Binning. Proposed Sally Newman 2nd David Bullock All Agree
Social/Events Secretary – Post empty at the moment.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The cost of membership from January 2010 will be:-

£100 Family Membership

£50 Single Adult Membership

£30 Students and Over 60's

£15 Junior Membership

£10 Social Membership

£500 one off payment for lifetime membership

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Carter expressed thanks to Robin Carter as outgoing Chairman and existing team.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed