

## **South Skye Kayak Club Meeting 12/1/11**

### **At Willowbank, Harrapool**

**Present:** Steve, Janice, Lara, Alex, Steve, Andy, Gordon, Willie, James, Lis, Jessie

**Apologies:** Clive, Rhiannon, Fionn, Jo, James, Lisa

**Minutes from last meeting:** proposed by Janice, seconded by Alex

1. Kayak club survey- 19 people responded. Lara summarised results;

Everyone is very happy with the club holiday. Training in specific skills- most popular ones are navigation and rescues. 90% of respondents are happy with pool sessions. Re club trips, most people were interested in calm weather/ camping/ family trips. Fewer people were interested in rough water/ surf/ river trips.

On question of what would encourage more attendance; many suggestions (such as moving nearer to Skye, allowing younger children to join, having pool sessions earlier) are not achievable due to constraints of pool availability, insurance etc.

There was very little enthusiasm for teaching through the medium of Gaelic (2 respondents).

3 people wanted to take new 2\* training, one for 3\*, one for 5\* surf

A couple of people wanted to become coaches.

Discussed implications of survey. Lara felt that it was encouraging that there were no specific complaints.

There is an encouraging number of people wishing navigation skills. Willie suggests starting this in March 2011. This might be a couple of evenings of chart work and then progressing to practical work and may lead to coastal navigation and tidal planning qualification. ACTION; Willie and Gordon

More family days would also be likely to be well attended.

ACTION- Coaches and all club members.

Coaching / personal awards needs. Lara to contact Dave Rossiter to see if he might come up to run a 2\* award (possibly jointly with North Skye club members). Lara will also send an email to all members offering to help navigate the SCA system. LARA

In general it was felt that the results were encouraging.

2. Pool sessions- Andy suggests that we get some photos of pool sessions for the website. Decided to keep pool sessions weekly. Agreed to return to system of

children paying by block for next autumn session -Alex , Also to put up poster in the pool -LIS . Behaviour- after discussion, decided that issues raised previously seem to be resolved. Alex is keeping an eye on changing room behaviour. Noted that new club pool boats have some sharp edges, to keep an eye on this.

- Club trips and events. List of trip leaders reviewed by Gordon:
    - Willie and Alex-able to lead a group to the level of the awards they hold.
    - Clive Poulter, Janice Seller, Lara Adams, Lis Phillips can lead a group up to force 4, 2 knots of tide and islands 3 miles off shore.
    - Chrissie Gillies, James Adams, Rosaidh Phillips, Steve Heap can lead groups up to force 4, tides 2 knots but NOT offshore islands (further than 2 miles).
  - Trip leaders to offer dates to Lara:
    - Andy will look at dates for booking the Old Inn again
    - Steve suggests weekend at Glenuig Inn in spring
    - Janice hoping to rearrange the joint weekend with Stornoway canoe club.
    - Clive's trip to Stomeferry was very popular with the level suiting the participants
    - Gordon to reschedule surf weekend
3. Training needs- Lara aware of 4-5 people wishing to attain 3\* awards. Lara suggests that we try to cover the elements of the course during the summer sessions. Gordon has been made aware that SCA club development fund has been reinstated for this year. Another rolling session has been requested for a weekend – Janice to organize in conjunction with N Skye Club? .
4. Website report: all going well, committee remain very happy with the site.
5. Treasurer's report- £1346-29 in bank. Pool sessions- cost £300, takings only £110 so far. Club fees are now being brought back to system of all reminders going out in April. Suggestion that coaches and helpers are asked for voluntary payment of £1-2 per session.
6. Safety and Child Protection – Lisa sends word that there are no Children and

Vulnerable Persons awareness courses available in our area at the time but she will keep us posted.

7. AOCB Coastguard – The committee are concerned about the implications of the proposals, especially that there may not be a 24 hour manned station on the West coast with knowledge of the predominantly recreational needs of this area.... and encourage club members to have a look at the consultation (url below) and consider adding their names to the petition.

[http://www.mcga.gov.uk/c4mca/mcga07-home/shipsandcargoes/consultations/mcga-currentconsultations/hm\\_coastguard\\_proposals\\_for\\_modernisation\\_consultation\\_2010.htm](http://www.mcga.gov.uk/c4mca/mcga07-home/shipsandcargoes/consultations/mcga-currentconsultations/hm_coastguard_proposals_for_modernisation_consultation_2010.htm)

8. Boat Repair Day – Alex to suggest a date in March/April.

Next Meeting: - 6<sup>th</sup> April, 7:30 here

Date for AGM: 27<sup>th</sup> April, tbc