

**Blackwater Valley Canoe Club
Extraordinary General Meeting Minutes – 30 March 2011**

1. Attendees

Ian Morris	Lindsay Heeley	Damian Edwards
Mike Hamilton	Richard Green	Jake Robertson
Tom Page	Jack Rowley	Cameron Townley-Taylor
Alan Mills	Tim Blyth	Tom Brindley
James Lawrence	Matt Williams	Alan Blyth
Paul Atkinson	Helen Tidy	Peter Ashby
Simon Edwards	David Cook	Graham Snook
Ann Taylor	Ian Pitchford	

2. Apologies

Paul Hammersley

Matters Arising

3. Fees

It was suggested by the committee that membership, paddling and hire fess should all remain unchanged for the membership year 2011-2012, which was met with no objections.

4. Trips

The current proposed trip calendar was discussed (see below), with requests for suggestions / modifications from the members.

Date	Location	Notes
9 Apr 2011	Thames?	Flat water day trip suitable for all
28-30 May 2011	North Wales?	Bank holiday weekend white water trip
4/5 Jun 2011	TBC	River Wye?
11 Jun 2011	Nene	Paddlepower Event
10 Jul 2011	Pangbourne Regatta	Fun event for all?
23/24 Jul 2011	TBC	River Wye?
27-29 Aug 2011	TBC	Possible surfing trip?
17/18 Sep 2011	Lee Valley	Visit to Olympic course (day trip – exact details depend on opening times etc.) Also requires ‘test paddle’ before club trip
29/30 Oct 2011	Barle	Depends on accommodation availability
19/20 Nov 2011	Dart	White water trip – Ability level depends on available coaches
?	Cardiff	Cardiff White water course
?	Mole	Dorking – Leatherhead
?	Lake District	
?	Upper Severn	

The possibility of a specific juniors trip was discussed, particularly since some are unable to make the Paddlepower Nene Event. A ‘low’ release at the Cardiff white water course was suggested.

It was suggested that the surfing trip be moved to hopefully get more reliable conditions.

Before organising a trip to the new Olympic course, it was noted that the terms and conditions should be checked, particularly with regard to required qualifications/coaching cover.

All dates should also be checked against polo tournament dates to avoid clashes where possible.

It was also suggested that we could try to align our trips with organised events / 'festivals', so that we can make use of other coaches and experience.

5. Lido

It was suggested that the Paddlepower courses should be run in much the same way, but with the inclusion of an additional group to try and cater for the older junior members – need separate discussion with them on what they want.

Some initial courses will be organised for the start of the Lido season, but will not be planned too far in advance – they will instead be run once there is sufficient demand. This should allow us to better cater for the needs of the members.

A “general coaching” session will also be introduced, whereby a coach is available for any general questions/coaching/assistance for those who want it, and are not currently on a course. It was suggested that there may need to be an extra charge for this, such that we are not “giving away” too much to those who would benefit from one of the courses. One possible solution to this would be a separate charge for the course assessments to account for the difference.

6. Polo

Polo training at Alton is due to stop for three months over the summer, with training sessions moving back to the Lido. These will be on a different evening to the usual club night, so some of the polo players should be able to help out on a Wednesday with both general and introductory polo sessions.

7. Kit

It was felt that there was no new kit particularly required at the moment, but it was noted that the number of spraydecks suitable for the large cockpit boats should be checked.

8. AOB

Volunteers are required to help out with Surrey Scout About (24th July) – ideally coaches.

The club is running the Paddlepower slalom event on 22nd May at Mytchett, again volunteers are required – ability to paddle is not required!

Since we will soon be back paddling on the canal, a reminder was given that BCU licences are required – those who have them should bring them along (the club has some to cover our boats), as they could be checked.

Finally, it was agreed that the club would make a £50 donation to the Community First Responders, as a thank you for running First Aid sessions during our winter meetings.