

Minutes for Border Liners Committee Meeting

Tuesday 13th July 2021 - 7pm via Zoom

1. Present

Richard Evans (RE), Carol Edwards (CE), Christine Goulding (CG), Christine Kiddier (CK), Stella Lewsley (SL), Dan Parker (DP), Karen Parker (KP), Keith Tonkin (KT), Dick Whitworth (DW), Jane Yates (JY)

2. Apologies

David Rawle

3. Minutes of the meeting on 4th May (circulated)

These were agreed.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

BL currently has 58 fibreglass control stakes plus one with a broken mounting. The committee agreed that an additional 20 short length ones with narrow plastic mountings should be purchased immediately. This should allow delivery in time for the British Sprint Champs on 22nd August (being planned by KT and CE). An extra mounting will also be bought to replace the broken one. The total cost is about £335. SL will place the order with SportIdent.

5. Treasurer's Report

DW provided the following summary in advance of the meeting:

Since the last meeting, we have had a surplus of £172.96 at Gowbarrow, and a surplus of £155.46 at Alston. We received £140 for loaning out our SI equipment to the British Middle Champs. The main item of expenditure has been the annual insurance bill of £244.09.

6. Membership Report

Richard Moss provided a brief report in advance of the meeting stating that there are currently 75 senior members, 22 junior members and 6 "friend" members.

7. Event Feedback

7.1 Gowbarrow 15th May (Local) – A good event with very well-planned courses. RE (planner and organiser) commented that the competitor to helper ratio was very high (10:1) but the remote start and finish made that hard to avoid. If it was possible to find a closer parking area it would be an excellent area for a Cumbrian Galoppen event in the future.

7.2 Alston 12th June (Local) – Another much-enjoyed event which ran smoothly despite pre-event concerns about town centre roadworks. A new parking venue allowed for very different courses from the previous event there.

7.3 Angle Tarn Pikes 11th July (Regional – Cumbrian Galoppen) – A successful event with around 220 competitors. Parking at Side Farm worked well and the car parking fees (£2 per car, £240 in total) went directly to the farmer. The proportion of "no-shows" was high at 18%, similar to the Gowbarrow event. This is something to be aware of when deciding how many maps to print. The only reported problem was long loo queues, possibly a result of the long walk to the start.

8. Coaching and Junior News

CK provided the following summary in advance of the meeting:

Coaching the older juniors has continued although affected by exams and self-isolation. Ruben wanted forest training, so Penrith Beacon used before it got too overgrown, and I borrowed a couple of areas from WCOC (Lynne Thomas). This was training for the British Middles and Northern Championships. Whilst Ruben was disappointed with his results, the run of great results from various other races meant that he has been selected for the Baggaduish training camp in a couple of weeks' time. Aughtertree event is looming, so the juniors will be busy tagging control sites later this week. I still feel there is a need for adult beginners and younger junior coaching, but this will probably need to start in September due to holidays"

There was a discussion about how coaching for adult beginners and younger juniors might be organised. One idea is to put on sessions after Saturday morning events using the same controls. Personal invitations to suitable new members might encourage them to come.

JY said that restarting the Schools League in the autumn might keep younger juniors interested.

JY is putting on a training course for teachers in November. It was requested and is being paid for by the Eden Sports Partnership.

9. Mapping Report

DP provided the following summary in advance of the meeting:

Work is in progress redrawing High Pike map based on LIDAR data, recent aerial photos and the old map

10. Permanent Orienteering Courses

KT reported that nothing has changed since the previous meeting; Rickerby Park, Watchtree and Chances Park are all still in development. Talkin Tarn is in use but awaiting updates

British Orienteering have recently announced a new portal for POCs and VOCs (virtual orienteering courses).

KT/RE will check that Talkin Tarn is included on it.

A Saturday morning event at Talkin Tarn to coincide with the relaunch of the POC there was suggested.

11. Team Captain Report

CK/KT reported that the only team event this year is the British Sprint Relay Champs on August 21st. 12 members have expressed an interest and CK will enter appropriate teams.

12. Fixtures (The 2021 fixtures list was circulated for information but is not re-printed here)

12.1 Events

12.1.1 Aughtertree 14th August - The licence from LDNPA is currently for 80 competitors, with roadside parking. However, there is a good chance that a field at Baggra Yeat is available for parking, in which case KT/CK (organisers) will ask whether the licence can be changed to allow more people (possibly at a higher cost per head). If the field is used some minor course planning may be required. The juniors involved in planning will be taping the sites in the next few weeks.

12.1.2 Swindale North 4th September – Permission has been granted and course planning is in hand.

12.1.3 Bampton and Askham Long-O – 26th September - Still awaiting permission from United Utilities but Dalemain estate have given permission for the part of the area they own.

12.1.4 Carlisle Urban 16th October - No organiser or controller has yet been appointed. CG (planner) has outline courses but needs to sort out some details with Sheepmount.

(Note: following the meeting, Lindsay Knox (RR) was contacted by SL and agreed to control the event)

12.1.5 High Stand 11th December - There was some discussion about whether the area is suitable for a Saturday morning event. The southern section has had recent forestry work and courses would be mainly on paths. The northern section is better but needs map updates. The possibility of parking at a caravan site at the north was mentioned. It was also noted that although most of the area is owned by Forestry England, a central section around some ponds is not.

12.2 MapRuns

The MapRun at Eycott Hill, set up by KT is available until the end of July (as is the one at Watermillock common though this was not mentioned at the meeting).

12.3 Club Nights

The club nights at Outward Bound Trust, Ullswater on 10th May (organised by Isabel Berry) and Carleton on 21st June (organised by KT) were each attended by about 12 people and proved very enjoyable. It was noted that although the sessions would have been ideal for newcomers to the club, the participants were all regular orienteers.

The next club night is on 19th July at Faulds Brow organised by KT.

SL will start looking at possibilities for a September club night.

13. British Sprint Championships 22nd August

13.1 Use of BL equipment

(See also item 4.1)

KT and CE (planners) confirmed that BL fibreglass stakes and SI boxes will be used (as agreed at a previous committee meeting). Any losses will be paid for by the event. KT is attaching pin-punches to the stakes.

13.2 Helpers from BL

The organiser, Norman Hall, has asked for help, particularly patrolling controls and at the start. This request has not yet been circulated to BL members. KT/CE will create a "job descriptions" for what is required and ask Karen Blackburn to include it in the next BL news email.

14. Lakes 5 Day 2022

Dave McCann, NWOA chairman, is trying to finalise a list of areas for the 5 days. BL have already proposed High Pike for one of the days and it is now necessary to get permission and think about car parking. There might be a problem with permission because LDNPA/Caldbeck Commoners only meet once a year, in January, to consider events for the forthcoming year, and L5D probably need a decision earlier than Jan 2022. KP will ask Robin Thomas (who handles permission from LDNPA) to enquire about whether there is any possibility of an early decision. There are fields at Fellside that might be suitable for car parking; once more is known about permission, the farmer can be approached.

There was also some more general discussion about the fact that the suggested areas for the 5 days are so widely scattered and the environmental impact of this. This is something to consider for future L5D events, but not this time.

15. AOB

15.1 With all Covid-related restrictions to be removed from 19th July, British Orienteering are going to update their guidelines for event organisation. The committee agreed until it becomes clearer that restrictions will not be re-imposed, we should make no significant changes to our event procedures. Looking further ahead, it was felt that pre-entry for all events, with limit EOD, would be a good idea.

15.2 Angela Whitworth would like to put on a course for Lowry Hill Business Centre. The committee agreed to this. Insurance will be provided by the business centre so it does not need to be registered as a BO activity

15.3 Club Kit: CG has investigated the additional costs, following Brexit, of ordering club O-tops. It is approximately 30 Euros per order. The committee agreed that the club should probably subsidise the cost so that the price paid by individuals is that same as last time an order was placed. A final decision will be made once the details are known. CK will ask for orders in the next BL news email

16. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 7th September 2021. If Covid regulations permit it will be a "real" meeting (venue as yet undecided) but if not then via Zoom

The meeting closed at 8:20pm