

# Cambridge University Bowmen Committee Meeting

Minutes taken by: Liam Pattinson

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2017

## **Attending**

- Jack Atkinson (Captain)
- Liam Pattinson (Secretary)
- Eleanor Burg (Equipment Officer)
- Andrew Browne (Novice Officer)
- Omar Sabbagh (Welfare & Publicity Officer)

## **Apologies**

- Ivana Yeow (Treasurer)
- Yangci Liu (Tournaments)
- Jeremiah Garsha (Novice Officer)
- Alex Guyon (Social Secretary)

## Agenda

- Welcome and Apologies
- Captain's Report
  - Term summary
  - Report on Clickers visit
  - S&C plans
- Secretary's Report
  - New members report
- Treasurer's Report
  - On accounts yet?
  - Budget review
- Novice Officer's Report
  - Report on Beginners course
  - Novices progress
- Equipment Officer's Report
  - Bowloan offer for beginner's course graduates
  - Clickers for novices?
  - Boss repair at Churchill
  - Arrangements for BUTTS leg
- Social Secretary's Report
  - Report on recent socials
  - Annual dinner plans
  - Other plans for next term
- Tournament Officer's Report
  - Report on Nottingham BUTTS
  - Cambridge BUTTS plans
  - E-league update
- Womens Officer Report
- Website and Publicity Officer's Report
- Other Business

## Minutes

### Welcome & Apologies

Meeting began at 12:14 at JA's house. As the last meeting of Michaelmas term, this meeting was planned to be more extensive than usual.

### Captain's Report

The Clickers trip generally went well, though was somewhat disorganised. This was the first time the club had organised an event of this nature, so it is hoped to be streamlined in future occurrences. Some of the equipment brought along was not appropriate for the audience. For example, no entry level Cartel sights were brought, though several expensive high-end sights were.

No orders were taken on the day, so a spreadsheet will be organised to collect orders. A similar event may be organised for next term.

*ACTION: JA, organise and distribute orders spreadsheet*

Strength and Conditioning training will continue next term, and coaches will start tailoring routines to individuals. Attendance has been disappointing, so we should reach out to beginners while continuing to encourage experienced and novice archers.

Registration forms have been received from the Sports Centre.

*ACTION: JA, sign and return registration forms*

### Secretary's Report

Members are being gradually affiliated with the club and Archery GB. There have been some issues with Archery GB concerning members previously affiliated to other clubs, which will require communication with technical staff.

*ACTION: LP, catch up on affiliations*

*ACTION: LP, ask Clifton for updated stash arrival date*

### Treasurer's Report

Report delivered by JA.

JA, LP, IY and EB are all now on the club accounts and chequebooks have been delivered.

A cheque has been written to pay the Sports Centre, though it appears we've been undercharged for our Friday sessions. It was agreed that we should let them know of this error.

*ACTION: Pay Sports Centre for hall use*

Our annual grant has come through, including £1000 regular grant, £1000 non-recurrent. This is around £1000 more than the club received in previous years, and has likely been agreed due to our decision to raise membership fees. JA will meet IY to discuss how this extra money should be spent.

*ACTION: JA, IY, meet up and discuss budgeting with grant money*

## **Equipment Report**

The club will soon need to buy new bosses, as the straw boss at the Sports Centre is at the end of its life. EB would prefer to replace this with Danage as it is longer-lasting and more versatile, though JA would prefer straw as it is far cheaper and the club already has more Danage than it can store at Churchill or the range. Approximate prices are £150 for straw, and £450 for Danage. If we do replace with straw, its use will have to be restricted to low-poundage bows indoors.

*ACTION: JA, EB, come to a decision regarding purchase of new bosses*

Our layered foam bosses are also approaching the end of their life, though it may be possible to repair these.

*ACTION: EB, look into repair of layered foam bosses*

About 10 bows should be available for the bow-loan scheme. An email will be sent advertising this to new graduates of the beginners course. Candidates will be selected based on whether the bows are suitable for their use (the loan bows are a higher poundage than most beginner bows). We will have a new experienced member joining soon, so a bow should be reserved for him. It was decided to keep the rental price at £20 per term.

*ACTION: EB, email new members bow-loan details*

EB asked if it was appropriate to start supplying clickers to novices. AB was skeptical, as arrow lengths are not well matched for the novices, and neither himself nor JG have experience using a clicker. EB says we could use specialised clickers to account for long arrows, and that other members can provide training in their use. It was suggested that this may be trialled with 2 or 3 novices before using them throughout the squad. EB offered to go to the first novice session next term to check arrow lengths and provide assistance.

*ACTION: AB, JG, EB, come to decision regarding clicker use*

There is a damaged boss in the sheds at Churchill College. EB has bought the materials to repair it.

*ACTION: EB, repair broken boss*

## Novice Officer's Report

The beginners course was generally run well, and we normally had enough coaches for each session. Most attendees wish to continue shooting with us, and we have received mostly good feedback.

The distribution of bows could have been organised better, and on some weeks there weren't enough coaches to supervise everybody. Next year, we must be sure that those who sign up to coach actually follow through.

The 9:30 session was poorly attended throughout the term, with problems starting in week 2 and continuing until the end of term. However, most of those who left the course did pay the full fee.

Having the beginners shoot a semi-regular session at the end of the course rather than a mock competition seemed to be a good decision. We will likely do the same in the catch-up session next term.

Many have already handed in forms and fees to join the club, though some have only presented one or the other, and some have only expressed interest in joining. A reminder should be sent out to encourage more to sign up.

*ACTION: AB, send forms/fees reminder*

*ACTION: LP, compile list of beginners joining the club for AB and EB*

The novice team at Nottingham BUTTS didn't do as well as expected, and have now been overtaken by competing clubs. We didn't field our best team, but it would be preferable if the club didn't depend on only one or two novices to carry the team. Nationally, the squad is doing fairly well, though it currently ranks 5th out of 8 in the BUTTS league.

A lot of novices are keen to shoot over the holidays, and have been encouraged to shoot at other clubs and competitions. However, all must be affiliated with Archery GB beforehand.

*ACTION: LP, URGENT, affiliate novices*

Novices have been set homework over the break, for which they must write down the techniques they would recommend to other archers. Next term, they will be paired off and encouraged to coach each other. Most are making significant progress with their technique, and now need only fine adjustments. Coaching next term will focus on other aspects of shooting, such as strength and endurance. However, a comprehensive timetable has not yet been compiled.

*ACTION: AB, create novice training timetable for next term*

Very few novices signed up for coaching as all slots were taken by experienced members. None signed up for reserve spots despite encouragement to do so. They will need to be reminded to do this next term. JA hopes to organise an open coaching session for novices with Philip and Mary to boost interest.

*ACTION: JA, organise novice coaching session*

Novices are currently shooting with bows at the same poundage as when they started. It was recommended by EB that they should start winding in their limbs, and that they could switch them out for more powerful limbs later.

*ACTION: AB, increase novice bow poundage*

Some did not shoot at Friday sessions last term, so next term they will be encouraged to attend at least one of the Sunday and Friday sessions.

Almost all have obtained the qualifying scores needed for BUCS. We should potentially run a target day at the range to get everybody else qualified.

## **Website & Publicity Officer's Report**

JA has been working on website, and now has integrated the club's Google calendar.

Some club records have not yet been included on the website.

*ACTION: OS, add new records*

OS recently attended a welfare meeting with the Sports Centre. The nature of this role was clarified: the intention is not to provide personal welfare, but to deal with complaints by directing club members to the appropriate staff. The role should not be held by somebody who is also in an essential committee position. The club's welfare policy will be created after the Sports Centre send a template.

*ACTION: OS, create welfare policy*

The club's Facebook group is going well. Membership is gradually increasing, and is currently at around 120. Club events are being attended well, likely because of exposure on this group.

Participation for the Photo of the Week competition was lower than expected; on many weeks, only JA made a submission. The competition will be put on hiatus over the break, and will resume next term. It was suggested that this should perhaps be moved from the Facebook group to the Facebook page, as photo tagging doesn't work within the group.

OS wishes to start featuring committee member profiles in the near future, and will send out questionnaires to gather information.

*ACTION: OS, feature committee profiles over next term*

Twitter is playing a much more limited role in our social media presence, with very few following. However, it is useful for communicating with other clubs.

The club does not yet have any sponsorship deals. Some companies we approached offered discounts to their products, but no direct investments. The Hot Numbers coffee shop seemed keen, but they claimed they had already allocated all of their marketing budget for the year.

*ACTION: Write up Nottingham BUTTS for website*

## **Social Secretary's Report**

Report delivered by JA:

AG needs to organise the annual dinner, with February 3rd as a preliminary date. It was suggested that it should be held at Sidney Sussex College, as the Senior Treasurer has offered to assist in obtaining lower prices. This should be advertised in the near future.

*ACTION: AG, organise annual dinner*

The bowling trip was very successful, with attendance from across the experience spectrum. The beginner's formal also went well, with 25 attending. The club held a social even almost every week for the last term, and all were well attended. Committee members were impressed with quality of socials this term.

## **Tournament Officer's Report**

Report delivered by JA:

The club didn't do well at Nottingham, as there were too few high-scoring experienced recurve archers representing the club. It was suggested that the club should encourage experienced archers to shoot more regularly.

The club still has very few drivers, and some don't want to drive any more. This may be problematic next term.

BUCS fees have increased to £50 per person, so we won't be able to enter all novices. The club may also need to ask members to make a contribution towards the cost.

BUTC is outside of term this year, so some members may not be able to attend.

*ACTION: OS, restart club ladder next term*

## **Wrap-up**

Meeting concluded 14:05. The next is expected to occur just before the start of Lent term.