

Cambridge University Bowmen Committee Meeting

Minutes taken by: Liam Pattinson

Wednesday 11th March, 2020

Attending

- Robert Spencer (Captain)
- Liam Pattinson (Secretary)
- Lukas Cincikas (Treasurer)
- Kimberley Callaghan (Development)
- Abigail Pearce (Women's Officer)
- Alexander Kent (Equipment Officer)
- Zhengao Di (Equipment Officer)
- Sam Kitson-Platt (Publicity)

Apologies

- Yuhang Xie (Social Secretary)
- Mohammed Daudali (Webmaster)
- Andrew Browne (Novice Officer)

Author's Note

This committee meeting was held before the enactment of widespread measures to curb the spread of Covid-19. These include the closure of the university, and strong recommendations from both the sports centre and AGB to curtail all sporting activities for the foreseeable future. At the time of this document's release, very few actionable items are relevant to the club, and they are included purely for the sake of good record keeping. If any actions are required of our committee members, you will be contacted directly by the Captain or Secretary.

Agenda

- Welcome and apologies.
- Novice arrows purchase.
 - Novice interest in equipment purchases.
- Moving outdoors.
 - Safety updates.
 - ARU.
 - Field markings.
 - Preparing equipment.
 - Social.
- Varsity.
- Sale-or-Return report.
- Field taster trip.
- Clickers trip 2: Revenge of the Novices.
- Novice equipment recall.
- Club registration.
 - Grant application.
 - Resource allocations.
 - Club registration.
- Captain's report.
 - Clickers trip
 - CADMuS
 - AGB
 - Lent Beginner's Course
 - Cambridge BUTTS
 - Grudge Match
 - Sports Awards
 - Stash
- Secretary's report.
 - Membership update.
- Treasurer's report.
- Equipment report.
 - Maintenance of novice/beginner bows.
 - Equipment spreadsheet.
- Social report.
- Women's report.
 - Upcoming WBC meeting.
- Novice report.
- Development report.
- Publicity report.
 - Sale-or-Return report.
- Web report.
- Tournaments report.
 - Cambridge BUTTS.
 - BUCS Indoor qualifiers.
 - BUTTS Champs.
 - Review of target days.
 - Postal league results.
 - St. George's Day shoot.
- Any remaining business.

Minutes

Welcome and apologies.

The committee meeting started at 19:00. The previous minutes were proposed by AK and seconded by KC.

Novice arrows purchase.

The club has purchased 8 sets of ACCs for our novices, and Clickers included some ACEs for free to complete a set we already had. No sponsorship offers have been received from our alumni.

Some novices have now become interested in buying their own equipment, so some will be able to buy their own arrows. This means it will not be necessary to equip all of them.

Moving outdoors.

We have arranged to move outdoors with the Churchill groundskeepers.

ACTION, LP: Forward email to committee.

Safety updates.

Last year, pegs and stakes were frequently left out. Everyone who shoots outdoors will have to be properly trained by a keyholder before they are allowed to shoot with us. There should be specific days aimed at introducing our members to outdoor archery.

ARU.

ARU would like to join us for the outdoor season, and they are expecting around 5 archers to be interested. RS has sent documentation for them, and will arrange a day to give them the safety brief.

Field markings.

RS would like to set up field markings so we don't have to use tape measures. As this is done regularly for other sports using the fields, it should be a reasonable request.

ACTION, RS: Request Churchill groundskeepers to put down field markings.

Preparing equipment.

We have to move most of our equipment to Churchill from the Sports Centre, though thankfully we will not need the bosses. ZD is hoping to move items over starting this coming weekend. RS will have access to a hire car on Sunday morning.

Social.

It was suggested that we should make an effort to make our outdoor sessions more of a social event. Some ideas mentioned included having pizza delivered to the field, and to run an archery pub quiz at the start of term. It may also be possible to have regular trips to Churchill bar after shooting, and on Friday it may be possible to have dinner there too.

ACTION, YX: Plan social activities for moving outdoors.

Varsity.

Varsity will be held on May 9th/10th on St. Johns Backs. Committee members will have to organise various aspects of this, such as moving equipment or arranging socials. Oxford were challenged during an interlude at BUTTS Champs, and they accepted.

Field taster trip.

Avalon have invited us to a taster session on April 25th. The cost will be £5 per person. We're expecting this to include a standard field round followed by 3D, with a lunch break in the middle. The club will have to work out transport, which may include car hire.

ACTION, RS: Advertise field taster in end-of-term email.

Clickers trip 2: Revenge of the Novices.

A number of novices have now asked if we're planning a second Clickers trip. We'll likely go in the first half of next term, though it may be difficult to find committee members willing to go on the trip with them.

Novice equipment recall.

It was suggested that we should recall novice bows and retune them, as some are no longer in an acceptable state. Nocking points should be reset, arrow rests replaced, and pressure buttons set.

ACTION, RS: Email novices to recall bows.

Club registration.

We haven't yet finished the last club registration as our senior treasurer hasn't ratified it, but the new registration period has opened and will close on April 30th.

ACTION, RS,LP,LC: Arrange meeting to fill in club registration.

Resource allocations.

Part of the registration will include resource allocation. We're planning to apply for our usual hall hire, including a day for our BUTTS leg, plus the team training room for S&C, the squash courts seminar room for our equipment seminars, and RS will look into a Tuesday morning hall hire.

Sale-or-Return report.

We sold around £150 worth of items in our sale-or-return scheme, which is not as much as we'd hoped. SK suggested that it may not be worth the effort next year. We were billed for an additional 3 or 4 quivers that we didn't sell, and will have to check if committee members sold them and took the money themselves.

Captain's report.

Clickers trip

We recently ran a successful Clickers trip. Though a small number of members attended to purchase equipment, we strengthened our ties with Clickers and were offered a discount on our novice arrows purchase.

CADMuS

The club hosted a taster session with CADMuS, in which 16 people were able to try archery over the course of an hour. The event was positively reviewed.

AGB

RS met with the chair of AGB, who has spoken to the Sports Centre and University. He was told that we were having trouble getting coaches trained, and that we often struggle to get enough hall hire for regular training or coaching.

Lent Beginner's Course

The Lent term beginners course was poorly attended, and only 4 finished. It will likely not be worthwhile to repeat this next year.

Grudge Match

The club lost the grudge match against Oxford, and was subsequently beaten at archery tag. Despite this, both events were enjoyable for those who attended.

Sports Awards

The Sports Centre has been pushing for us to submit an entry for the sports awards. RS has written an application for CUB to be sports club of the year, in which he described multiple ways in which the club is moving forwards and listed our notable achievements (the foremost amongst these being that we've brought back medals at every event we attended this year, including non-university events).

Stash

PlayerLayer have been slow to organise our stash order, and it has not yet been put into production. RS issued a complaint to them in person, and they indicated that they were aware of their mistakes and apologised. Unfortunately it looks like we won't be able to receive a specific ladies cut for our shirts, but this will be included as standard starting next year.

Secretary's report.

Membership update.

The club currently consists of 40 experienced archers, 12 novices, 31 beginners, and 84 members in total. By gender, we have 53 identifying as male and 29 as female, which is roughly in line with past gender ratios. Some members have not had their payments verified on the membership spreadsheet.

ACTION, LC: Update payment details on members spreadsheet.

Treasurer's report.

The club currently has £10360.94 in our accounts, plus £110 in cash. In most spending categories, we are on budget. We have spent £740 out of £1500 on travel, most of which is fees for Enterprise car hire. We have spent £200 out of £400 on coaching as several sessions were not filled, and this greatly increases the cost to the club. In response, RS has started cancelling coaching if we can't fill all 4 spaces. We are expecting some additional income from storage fees in the range.

ACTION, RS: forward contact details to LC for storage fees.

LC hasn't yet paid range fees to CSA, and would like to contact them to arrange this. Overall, it is expected that the club will have £6700 by the end of Easter term. This would be a few hundred pounds less than the balance at the end of last year.

ACTION, LC: write up remaining budget for committee.

Equipment report.

Equipment spreadsheet.

There have been issues tracking where some club equipment has ended up due to novices swapping parts and not informing the equipment officers. AK/ZD have asked novices to tell them what their current equipment is, and it seems some have even changed their risers without us noticing. In future, the novice officer should keep equipment officers up to date on such matters, and novices should be made aware that they aren't to swap equipment without permission.

Social report.

Annual dinner was held at Wolfson College on January 18th, and was attended by 35 people. Though the event was well received, it had poorly communicated extra costs, so it is not recommended for next year. It is recommended to use Sidney Sussex in future, as our senior treasurer may be able to get us a discount. It is advised to contact them well in advance to ensure we can get a booking that isn't so close to the start of term.

A 'return to term' social was run on January 21st, and this was well attended (around 15 people). The Cambridge Brew House was chosen as the venue, and is recommended for future events.

Cambridge BUTTS was followed by a social at Prezzo. Though poorly attended by those from other universities, it was a decent venue and plenty of CUB members showed up. YX recommends that details be sent out earlier in future, as this may improve attendance from other universities.

There were no attendees at a bouldering social on February 16th, though this may be because of its timing at the busiest time in term.

In a break from tradition, the CUB pancake day social was held as a brunch on a Sunday. This was attended by 7 members. Earlier notice may have improved attendance here.

A novice social on March 6th was attended by 6 novices. A paintballing social is planned for March 17th, and has 10 sign-ups.

For next term, there are plans to run an archery pub quiz, and to have a picnic during/after shooting. There will also be opportunities for BBQs, and some have requested a bowling trip. In addition, it may be possible to organise another paintballing trip or a trip for archery tag.

Women's report.

It was suggested that we may run a women's social next term.

Upcoming WBC meeting.

No committee members will be available for a Women's Blues Committee meeting on March 12th, so AP will send apologies.

Novice report.

Our novices came third in the BUTTs league overall, and they seem well motivated. All but one are attending sessions regularly. Unfortunately, one novice was removed from the squad due poor attendance, and their bow has since been recovered. We will have the capacity to take on new novices next term, and there are some promising beginners that may be chosen.

Development report.

The club has continued with mentoring on Friday evenings, and we are still seeing success. This may have also translated into more frequent training interactions between members in experienced sessions. KC has continued with the development scheme, which included a coaching session midway through term, although this was poorly attended. Those on the scheme have been shooting somewhat regularly, and some are regular attendees at S&C.

A seminar on sports physio specifically for archery will be coming up this Friday. KC is hoping to organise a yoga seminar next term.

ACTION, AP: Email novices for physio seminar.

While there was a good reception for arrow awards last term, interest dropped quickly in Lent, possibly as experienced archers were not taking part and there was little visibility of the scheme. KC plans to organise 'badge days' next term alongside the 252 scheme.

Publicity report.

SK is planning to run a 'Women in Archery' series on Facebook next term.

Percent have solved an issue where payments weren't being tracked. However, they still haven't paid into the club's account.

There was a good set of news reports this term, with photos included for each. The Sports Centre have been reposting for us, and our social media usage appears to have significantly raised our profile with them.

SK has prepared a sponsorship letter for have-a-go sessions for corporate sponsors. He sent our alumni a request for funding for our novice arrows, but so far has seen no response.

Some Netherhall archers have asked to spectate our Varsity match. We will have to check with St Johns to see if this is acceptable..

ACTION, RS: Ask St Johns if spectators are allowed

Web report.

MD has been maintaining the email lists throughout term, and has also been keeping the club website up to date. He made a large contribution to the team during Cambridge BUTTS, and has made some progress in automating website administration.

ACTION, RS: Tidy up end of ladder

Tournaments report.

Cambridge BUTTS.

Cambridge BUTTS was well organised on the day, and the event finished on time despite a strict time limit imposed by other clubs using the range. It was disappointing that the club was unable to access a better venue, so it is recommended for future committees to book a day at the Sports Centre. CUB won all three medals in experienced barebow, the novice team gold, the gold and silver in novice gents recurve, and the silver in ladies recurve.

BUCS Indoor qualifiers.

The club had a limited turnout for BUCS Indoors. Our novice team came 7th, which is significantly lower than in previous years. Kimberley Callaghan came first in ladies barebow in the Southern Qualifier, while Eleanor Brug placed 4th in ladies recurve. Five archers progressed to the finals, which is an improvement on last year.

BUTTS Champs.

CUB fielded 15 archers for BUTTS Champs, and performed well overall. Andy Cai took home the silver in novice gents recurve, while Kimberley Callaghan won silver in ladies barebow. Unfortunately no club members were able to host the ball, as no drivers were willing to attend.

Review of target days.

Targets days at the range were poorly attended, with typically just 4 or 5 archers taking part. Uptake was much better at the Sports Centre, but due to the typically slower speed of shooting we were only able to run Bray I rounds. It was also difficult to help the large number of beginners taking part, as few knew how to fill in scoresheets or understood how competitions worked. In hindsight, it would have been preferable to run more target days at the Sports Centre.

Next term, LP is planning to run target days at least weekly. This will include a long round most weekends (York/Hereford/WA1440), and the occasional shorter round on weekday evenings.

Postal league results.

The club took part in several postal leagues this term. Our submissions for BUTTS Ultimate Archer were unsuccessful, and the team took no medals. We were able to submit some decent scores for the AGB January Challenge, though this month saw lower performance than expected.

The team is underperforming in the e-league, primarily as the first entry deadline was missed. Despite this, some archers are placed high in the individual rankings. Our novices have fared poorly in the e-league, as they haven't been scoring Portsmouth rounds frequently enough and all have missed at least 2 months.

In the SCAS postal league, Kimberley Callaghan and Liam Pattinson placed 9th and 10th respectively, which placed them top in Cambridgeshire. Not all results submitted made it through due to an opaque selection criteria. This is disappointing, as some of our archers have been submitting good scores regularly, but they seem to be excluded to make room for other Cambridgeshire archers who set higher scores but frequently miss submission deadlines.

ACTION, LP: Write up postal leagues

St. George's Day shoot.

The club is planning to run the annual St. George's Day shoot, and will invite archers from local clubs, Oxford, Imperial College, some from the BUTTS league, and CUB alumni. The event will likely be held on April 26th.

Any remaining business.

BUTC appears to be cancelled for the year, though Oxford have offered to run a similar event. This will take place on March 22nd, and will consist of a WA18 ranking round followed by a team hit-or-miss tournament. At £30 entry, it was decided that CUB would not send a team.

LP suggested that we should meet before external competitions at the Sports Centre rather than the usual spot at the Sidgwick Site. This can be easier for the drivers to access, and is easier to find for students. In addition, it is safer to store bikes at the Sports Centre, and it makes our competitions more visible to Sports Centre staff. The main downside is that the Sports Centre is on average more distant for Cambridge students. The committee generally agreed with the proposal.

The Jolly Archers Open Western has been announced, and this competition has been well attended in the past. Our members should apply soon if they wish to take part.

The meeting finished at 21:00.