

**Wimborne Orienteers Committee Meeting
Online Meeting through Zoom
20:00 Tuesday 21 December 2021**

Minutes of Meeting

Distributed by email to:

Kevin Pickering, Andrew French, John Warren,
Chris Branford, Karen French, Dick Keighley,
Kath Pike, Rob Mills, Eamon Staunton, Mike Kite

Posted on Website:

<http://www.wimborne-orienteers.co.uk/d7/node/122>

| <u>Revision History</u> | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Revision | Date | Details |
| 0 | 28-Dec-21 | First Draft |
| | | |

Present:

Kevin Pickering (Chair) **(KeP)**
Philip Harvey (Secretary) **(PH)**
Chris Branford **(CB)**
Andrew French **(AF)**
Rob Mills **(RM)**
Kath Pike **(KaP)**
Dick Keighley **(RK)**
Eamon Staunton **(ES)**
Mike Kite **(MK)**

Apologies for Absence:

Karen French (Treasurer) **(KF)**
John Warren **(JW)**

The meeting was called to order by **KeP** at 20:00

1. Minutes of previous meeting on 17 November 2021

There were no comments regarding Revision 1 of the minutes.

Actions arising therefrom:

2.3: PH: Seek landowner's permission to use Gore Heath. Done. The landowner Veolia have agreed permission in principle and have invited us to submit a further request when we have a date for an event.

2.4: ES: Approach WSX to discuss use of Puddletown Forest. Done. The 3 previous WEYOR areas (Puddletown Forest, Affpuddle Woods, Bere Wood) were discussed at the recent WSX committee meeting. There were no objections to us re-mapping and approaching landowners. Puddletown Forest is the area that has the best potential to be used first; some parts are very suitable runnable woods while some parts are less runnable containing brushings. **ES** spoke to

the Ranger at Thorncombe Woods, who was very happy for us to proceed and has provided introduction to the Forestry England wildlife ranger for Dorset. The landowner is a private investor; FE have a lease for timber management / extraction. Moves are afoot to adjust the terms of the lease to include recreation. Through an underpass, Thorncombe Woods could be linked to Yellow Ham on the other side of the A35.

There are also potential areas owned by Dorset CC. E.g. around Hardy's Monument: feature-rich but there are concerns for ground-nesting birds. The car park is National Trust.

The next focus areas will be Affpuddle and Bere Woods

2.5: KeP: Approach SOC for areas in New Forest that we could use. Pending

3.1: KaP: Invite suggestions through MailChimp for Richard Brightman's legacy. There have been several responses, including:

- Support for a trophy or cash prize or equipment.
- Money spent recruiting new junior members, perhaps from scouts / guides.
- Could be in conjunction with the proposed monthly beginner events at Moors Valley.
- Could be jointly hosted between WIM and WSX

The invitation for suggestions can be allowed to remain open for a while longer. To be discussed again at next meeting.

RM: Maybe a Richard Brightman memorial event; perhaps rename the Boxing Day Canter

4.2: PH: Request from BOF for KaP to access Membership List. Done.

5.2: PH: Check with AF that maps in the library are in name format YYYYMMDD Name. The maps held by AF in the library are well organised. Planners must only use a map that has been provided by AF from the library. Any revisions must be sent back to AF. The format to use is OCAD 9. Some maps are missing from the library – AF will send out a list of those missing.

PH: Ask AF if the BOF-rules compliant laminated control numbers can be found. The laminated numbers are too small.

PH: Contact SN for details of the clip-on plates that they use at control sites. The SN plates are believed to be the same as those attached to the aluminium stakes in Andrew Howard's barn. The BOF guidelines are clear. Whenever we host a major event we should comply: consider either using these aluminium stakes or innovate a set of laminated numbers.

6.1: KeP: Visit Marc Thompson at Moors Valley to discuss an event every month. Marc is not available for the moment. Natalie is a more appropriate contact; there should be no problem hosting the British Night Champs at Moors Valley. This will mean an embargo for parts of Moors Valley.

ES: Put together a proposal framework suitable for beginners / improvers. Pending.

2. Treasurer's Report

Nothing to report. The invoice for the Caddihoe Maps is still outstanding.

3. Richard Brightman Legacy Donation £500

To be discussed further at the next meeting.

4. Website Review by 'Newcomer Retention Group' (NRG)

4.1. **RK:** There were some errors in the ratings given. **RK** and **MK** have made some changes to ensure that the beginners' area achieves immediate visual impact for any new visitor to the site. The website will be further reviewed after Christmas by **RK** and **MK** bearing in mind the findings of NRG.

To overhaul the website is not as straightforward as it may sound, due to the earlier decision to base the website on a more cost-effective database structure, rather than html. This means that we do not have a test site where ideas can be trialled before publishing. Instead, changes made to the database go live before the appearance and functionality can be scrutinised.

At this stage, it would not be easy to change to html. It can be done, but only if we commit to a complete re-design at an estimated cost of around £2000. What we have is very cost-effective and is tolerably aesthetically pleasing and suited to the purpose.

KeP: Before making a final decision, we should seek a quote and a time line.

ACTION: Approach Adam to provide a quote and an assessment of difficulty to overhaul the website: **RK**

4.2. **CB:** Can we remove the Twitter and the second Facebook page links from the website?

AF: Facebook is still used, although it has not been so busy during lockdown. **RK** will be granted permissions to edit and add material.

5. Recent Events & Meetings

5.1. None

6. Forthcoming Meetings and Events

See Fixture List distributed by **CB / RM**. Points to note:

6.1. Sun 26 Dec 2021, Boxing Day Canter, Moors Valley. All is in hand. The £2 car parking fee will be collected on arrival and ticked off on a list of car registration numbers. The car parking barrier system will have the registration numbers already entered.

6.2. Sun 23 Jan 2022, WIM SWOL, SCOA League, Regional Event, Ocknell, New Forest. We are still waiting for a licence. Any later than early January and this will be a problem.

6.3. Sun 13 Feb 2022, CSC/T Qualifying Round, QO Ranscombe. No details have been

received yet.

6.4. Sun 13 Nov 2022 WIM SWOL Provisional date booked with SWOA.

6.5. Sun 19 Feb 2023. Relinquish this date to WSX due to our hosting of the British Night Champs the night before.

6.6. 2022 MapRun Events. Let the WRNL run its course, then formulate a plan for spring / summer league from March / April 2022.

7. **AOB**

7.1. **ES:** £250 has been passed to charity for Breast Cancer. All donations from Caddihoe funds have now been made.

8. **Next Meeting**

Provisionally Tuesday 01 February at 20:00 through Zoom.