

**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD THURSDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2005**

**PRESENT:** Paul Nesbitt                      Don Foster                      Cynthia Church  
                  Mike Harrison                      Colin Crookston                      Tim Feldon  
                  Richard Waller                      Kevin Wilde

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| <p>1. <b>APOLOGIES</b><br/>Nigel Watson, Paul Handley, Heather McNeil, Bill Cass, Jeff Pape</p> <p>2. <b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b> – 25.11.2004 Passed as a true record<br/>Proposed: Richard Waller    Seconded: Tim Feldon</p> <p>3. <b>MATTERS ARISING</b><br/>None</p> <p>4. <b>CORRESPONDENCE</b><br/>Paul reported that he had received a cheque from Customs and Excise for £310.45</p> <p>5. <b>OFFICERS' REPORTS</b></p> <p>5a. <b><u>Treasurer – Paul Handley</u></b><br/><b>No report</b></p> <p>5b. <b><u>Training Officer Kevin Wilde</u></b><br/>Kevin reported that the Ocean Diver Lectures have now been completed and Exams would be taken in the next couple of weeks. The Sports Lectures will be starting within the next month and would be looking for Instructors to help with these.</p> <p>5c. <b>Training Officer</b><br/>As indicated at the AGM, I am formally seeking the Committee's ratification to my selection of Kevin Wilde as Training Officer.</p> | <b>ACTION</b> |
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**Instructor Development**

Kevin & I are keen to ensure that the Club's instructor resource is developed and, Richie Waller, Colin Crookston and Alex Robertson have shown interest in moving through the relevant training and exams. Paul Nesbitt has also indicated his interest in becoming an Instructor.

	Richie	Colin	Alex	Paul
Instructor Foundation Course (2 days) £75	✓	✓	✓	<b>Shifts</b>
Open Water Instructor Course (1 day) £40	✓	Ellerton 23 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	Ellerton 23 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	?
Practical Instructor Exam (1 day) £35	Yorkshire 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Yorkshire 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Yorkshire 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	?
Theory Instructor Exam (1 day) £25	Sept – date to suit	Sept – date to suit	Sept – date to suit	?

**I recommend that the Committee agree a discounted membership fee for the year following the achievement of the exams, to acknowledge the efforts of the individuals concerned. (see end of DO report for comments by the Committee)**

**Diving, instruction & boats**

- We have a large number of club members who will want to build their experience and do **training**, as well as a large number just wanting to dive. We need to ensure Instructors get to do their own diving!
- I suggest that as the weather starts to warm up, we get people into Ellerton (it's close and cheap!) and do shake-down dives and training/assessments in **readiness for the dive season**.
- Last year we set out to dive mostly on Sundays, Tuesdays & Thursdays. This year, we shall have to extend the **dive days** and make more use of other days,

especially for example Saturdays.

- If we get a problem with a shortage of **tow/launchers**, then we might need to think about launchers getting a free dive as recognition of their contribution. It's probably a good time to up the price of boat use. Perhaps add 50p to each of the current fees?
- **Twin sets & CCRs** are more prevalent now and I recommend that for the deeper dives, that we don't aim for 6 in a boat. I also suggest that we set a practice wherein people with heavier gear clip their gear to the boat when they're getting in after a dive and lift out their own kit once they're in the boat.
- **New dive sites** - Let's make 2005 the year to find 5 dive sites which have not been visited in recent years. This will require people to be prepared to spend time pinging wrecks

### **Skill Development Courses**

There is some interest in doing a **Compressor** SDC this year. It's a one day event and I can "boss" it and do the theory side of the instruction, but will need someone who knows the engine system etc to support the training. Basic entry level is Sports diver. Cost for the pack is £12 and we could round up the cost to £15 cost to cover our expenses.

### **Other things coming up:**

- Voyage Planning and Dive Marshal Refresher was scheduled for 3<sup>rd</sup> March, but this to be postponed
- Blending course (nitrox) one day on weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> March
- Expedition planning for Advanced Diver – March
- Oxy Admin, CPR practical – date to be arranged
- Revised - Proposed Dive Sheets and Voyage Planner

### **Nitrox Divers**

It's good to see an increase in the number of people diving with Nitrox now. We need to think about how we might arrange access to Nitrox fills. Technically, this would be feasible, though we'd need to build-in safety and security, backed up by training.

### **DIVEWISE 13<sup>th</sup> March, Durham**

This is a popular event. Tickets from Susan Taylor on 01207 237022.

### **Wastwater**

The photomontage has been produced by Hedley and is a great reflection of the 2004 weekend. The weekend of 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2005 is probably the best weekend to pencil in.

Paul (Chair) read out Heather's report and a discussion took place about the discounted membership the following year for new Instructors. It was decided by the Committee that it should be put to the next full Committee Meeting with all members present. (14.4.05)

### **Equipment Officer- Billy Cass / Colin Crookston**

Colin said he would still like to see that the book for signing out equipment being used. Colin reported that if the club got an O<sup>2</sup> adapter to fill the Marinox Oxygen Kit. This would be looked into.

### **Membership Secretary – Tim Feldon**

Tim reported that John Findlay had joined the club as a PADI diver and he has done a cross over to BSAC.

### **Bar Manager – Jeff Pape**

Cynthia reported the bar was running well.

### **Website**

No report

6. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

2 items

- (1) Colin and Richie proposed that the club buy its own Nitrox Kit and blend our own gas. This would be accessed only by those registered and by a key. They said they would come back to the next committee meeting after they had done more research and costings. Nigel would be asked if he had dates for the Gas Blending Course, which would be run by Neil Richmond.
- (2) Cynthia explained to the Committee about the new licensing for the Club. She explained about the Seminar she had been on and the forms that had to be completed. All forms had to be filled out by Aug 7<sup>th</sup> 2005 and a period of three months for the variation to be done. The new license would be in place by 7<sup>th</sup> November 2005. Cynthia asked if members from the Committee would read the policy and pick out anything that is relevant to the Club. Paul Nesbitt (Chair) said he would take one and Colin would also take one to read.

7. **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2005 at 8.00 pm