



Wymondham Archers Committee Meeting

23 June 2020 at 8pm

Minutes

1. Apologies

Sandra Edwards

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved as corrected.

3. Matters Arising/Action Points Update

All actions from the last meeting had been completed.

Pete confirmed that it was decided that we were going to charge Hingham a figure. Pete and Sarah discussed what this figure should be and it was felt that they would not accept half the costs of setting the range up, which worked out at around £200. They therefore decided on an arbitrary figure of £75 plus the shooting fee of £2.75 per archer. Pete wrote to Chris Moore at Hingham Bowmen with the offer and he came back that their committee felt they would lose their social dynamic, the risk was too great and the process was too complicated and therefore they did not wish to take us up on it. The offer was therefore opened up to other clubs in the county with a £3 shooting fee per archer.

Since opening up the range to others however, there have been 4 archers from 3 different clubs who have paid to shoot at the range, one from Peacocks, one from Botolphs and 2 from Hingham. One member from Hingham has decided to join us as a second club. All have provided excellent feedback about the range.

4. Accounts

Pete shared the spreadsheet with the committee and confirmed that there was no change since the last meeting as the next statement was not due to be issued until tomorrow or Thursday.

Our membership numbers had increased by 7, to 118. Pete had completed all inductions at the range. All new members were competent archers who had decided to take archery up again during lockdown. All assessments had been undertaken in accordance with AGB guidelines.

Pete also shared the demographic data and the income to date (spreadsheet is available on request). WRFC did not yet want their membership fees, and these will be paid to them in August/September.

5. Range Usage

Pete shared a spreadsheet compiled from the raw data from Try Booking. From this he had created a table in Excel which showed that the range usage had gone up 3% to 16% since May. The range had been open a total of 36 days. There were 196 bookings in May, up to 313 in June.

The data only showed the name of the person booking the lane, not the number of archers in each booking. The names however are important should test and trace become necessary, should an archer test positive for Covid-19.

It was agreed that Pete should add a reminder in the next blog of the importance of booking and attending at the correct time.

Dave noted that the fact that Tuesday evenings are so busy (a total of 118 spaces had been booked on Tuesday evenings), that maybe it is worth raising at the next AGM whether club sessions should be moved.

6. Beginners

Pete asked for the views of the Committee on starting beginners' courses again. He had had a number of people expressing an interest in undertaking a course.

Pete had started work with AGB with a view to becoming a test station for starting up beginners' courses again.

The Club needs to put systems in place to enable coaches to coach from 2m away before courses can begin again. The following was suggested:

- Cliniband with bow grip;
- Each beginner would be issued with a bow to use for the duration of their course;

- Each beginner to be issued with their own target face and pins;
- Coaches are to look after specific bows and would be responsible for one beginner/bow at a time. Coaches would also need their own beginner's bow.
- Arrows would always have to be too long. It was likely that the Club would need to buy more Neos arrows. Each beginner would also keep the arrows for the duration of their course.

There could only be one beginner per course. Pete stated he had been approached by a pair who had wanted to do the course together, but he had told them he could not guarantee that could happen at this time.

It was likely that two lanes would have to be used to allow the coaches to maintain social distance on the shooting line.

Concerns were raised about the risk of the beginner's equipment being left in the container. The possibility of beginners taking their equipment home and signing an indemnity to say they would not use the equipment whilst they were in possession of it at home was discussed. Dave suggested that the cases could be locked with something like a bicycle lock before they left the range. Sarah suggested that the equipment could be left with relatively low risk in the container as there is plenty of space in there. The coach could unlock the container and let the beginner go in to collect their bow. Each beginner would have to place their name on their bow to ensure they used the same one throughout. It was agreed that this was the safer course of action. At the end of the course each bow would have to be fully sanitised and left for 72 hours before being used again. All coaches would need to be given the code to the container.

Chris stated we was not sure whether he was happy to coach at this time, though he was happy to help develop the process. He would want to be happy that if he had to intervene there was a low risk.

Damien raised whether the space between the containers could be utilised for the beginners' courses as he was not sure he would want beginners shooting near him under the new conditions.

Pete would continue working with AGB and will get the coaches together in due course. He will continue to update the committee.

Daron suggested that the coaches should also be given PPE. He will speak with Sharon about whether she is able to make masks for the coaches to use. Gloves would be required at least.

Damien confirmed that a cliniband with a bow grip from Clickers is £29.70. It was felt 8 would be needed to begin with. Sarah stated that a roll of cliniband is far cheaper, and questioned the need for needing a bow grip with it. It was suggested that Pete could speak with Kevan Taylor about whether he would be willing to make something to be used as a bow grip.

It was agreed that none of the equipment would be purchased until a firm plan for the courses was in place.

Chris suggested that new draw length measurers should be purchased before new arrows. There should be one for each coach.

7. AGB Update

Pete has spoken to AGB today and they have confirmed that all competitions for the outdoor season are now cancelled, including qualifying competitions. Only 37% of clubs are able to operate. Minor changes to social distancing were discussed to allow double details, though Pete stated that all clubs involved in the meeting with AGB today were not in favour of this.

AGB are encouraging clubs to restart beginners' courses if it is possible. There are also grants available, that any club can apply for, though those clubs who have already had other grants may not be successful. Pete's view was that all of the clubs at the meeting were likely to be those who would apply for grants.

It was also discussed that clubs that are open should be encouraged to invite members of other clubs that could not open to shoot.

8. Boss Repairs

A number of the outdoor bosses were getting damaged, particularly in the middle. Pete proposed buying sufficient layered cassettes to repair the bosses. 10 cassettes cost £195. This was agreed by the committee.

Dan asked whether members could be asked not to put their target faces in the middle of the bosses, though it was felt that it was difficult to encourage them not to do this. A suggestion would be added to the next blog.

9. New Outdoor Targets

Daron proposed that new outdoor targets should be purchased to replace the indoor ones that are currently being used outside as they are not really for outdoor use. Sarah proposed that alternatively the Club should buy 3 new indoor bosses, ready for when/if we go inside. There is a lot of damage bosses at the container at Easton College which could be used outdoors. The 3 new indoor bosses from the outdoor range could then be moved back up to Easton. Delivery lead times are currently the 1st week in August and so any new outdoor bosses would not get much use before winter in any event. The damage bosses could be fixed at 20yds as that is where they are likely to sustain the most damage.

The cost for 3 new indoor bosses is £1115.15 excluding delivery.

It was agreed that the Club should wait and see what happens with the indoor season before any new bosses are purchased. Pete advised that Easton College are not considering re-opening until 1 September 2020. It is unlikely that they will be ready for us to use their hall again until October at the earliest. They were understandably very concerned about protecting their people and the site. Pete even had to sign in to just access the container recently.

It was agreed that the Committee would review the purchase of the new bosses in 4 weeks. Sarah would order the cassettes as soon as possible.

10.A.O.B

Pete advised that an archer had complained about the ruts on the field on lane 5 recently after he had twisted his ankle. Pete proposed that these ruts are filled with a bulk load of soil, which was agreed, Pete stated that at risk of further complaint, the soil was already at the range. It had not cost anything. He and Sarah are to fill in these ruts on Thursday morning. Jo also volunteered to assist and would hope to bring Alexander to help as well.

Damien stated again that his complaint earlier was that Pete had done something that was against what the committee had agreed, and that Pete had then made a joke of it. Pete accepted what Damien had said and his concerns had been heard.

Pete had been working on re-drafting the “join us” page on the website. He had drafted 4 links with different criteria, all of which took you to the same form to complete. It was agreed that there should just be one link for someone to click, provided that they met one 1 of the 4 criteria. The fees table needs to be reformatted to match the rest of the website. The beginners course costs are to be added. Pete and Dan were to continue working on it.

Dan was to look at whether the sign up form link could be moved to under the paragraph about beginners’ courses.

The club sessions were to be removed from the calendar.

Jo thanked everyone for their work on the website.

Pete raised whether the Club needed to begin looking for an alternative venue to Easton College. Dave stated that at this stage it would be too much to do, and that in the time we had left before the indoor season should start it would be unlikely we would find anywhere near suitable. Even if we did there would be the same worries and risks that Easton currently have. We should wait to see if Easton can host us, and if not then so be it.

Daron stated that if anyone heard of anything then we could look into it. Mark had been looking into availability at industrial units that may be available. The initial outlay would be expensive but something like that could give us access to an indoor range all year.

Sarah stated that we have a good relationship with Easton College and we don’t want to lose that just because we may lose a couple of months shooting indoors. Moving at the moment is not the right option and we are still lucky enough to have our outdoor range. Jo also added that loyalty can go a long way in the longer term.

It was agreed for now that Pete would continue to negotiate with Easton College.

The methodology for shooting indoors will need to be finalised. The bosses are likely to have to be further apart. It may be possible for us to negotiate longer sessions for the same price.

Mark and Pete advised that the VAT rules on Try Booking are changing and that the Club may become liable for 20% VAT on any tickets

purchased from September. Mark was continuing to look into whether we may be exempt for fees for competitions. He would update the committee once he finds out.

The next meeting was arranged for 5 August 2020 at 8pm, via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. [unclear]', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.