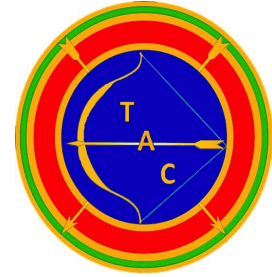


Thanet Archery Club
Committee Meeting minutes.



August 12th 2021 7:30pm at the Bell, St. Nicholas at Wade

1/ Apologies – Brian Horne, Ryan Holden, Frank Pullen

2/ Present – Dick Bailey, Lee Burns, Mike Davis, Anne Fretwell, Bob Gawler, Fred Hammond, Roy Holden, James Plummer, Pete Verrall

3/ Acceptance of minutes of previous meeting – N/A

4/ Officers Reports - None

5/ Matters Arising

a/ Plans for Have-a-Go on Sunday 29th August

Mike D explained the arrangements for the Have-a-Go, with reference to the layout provided.

Helpers required:-

- 2 - car parking
- 1 - Money collection/ticketing
- 6 - archery guides on shooting line
- 1 - guide at end of safety line

Process:-

- people to queue at ticket table (£2/6 arrows)
- people to proceed along outside of safety line to entrance
- ticket passed to safety line guide
- people proceed along safety line to a vacant shooting point when archery guide indicates they are free
- Having shot all 6 arrows they leave along the inside of the safety line returning to the ticket table
- also at ticket table, have beginners forms available, etc

b/ Archery GB & independence proposal

- 2 documents provided (draft constitution & rule book) with all the notes in so the changes can be seen

Main changes to constitution

- to end affiliation to AGB but to endeavour to comply with best practice of not just AGB, but also NFAS & BLBS.
- Archery GB have now said NFAS & BLBS archers will be covered by AGB insurance at AGB ranges, therefore we will invest in our own insurance which will cover not just

public liability but also club property, and that members can choose whether to insure themselves with Direct membership of AGB, NFAS, BLBS or through the club's own insurance.

- TAC archers who wish to enter Archery GB, NFAS or BLBS (including record-status) shoots will need to retain direct membership of the relevant organisation.
- All archery classifications remain open to TAC members except Master Bowman & Grand Master Bowman, which must be attained at record-status shoots.
- TAC can still run inter-club friendlies, and can now include non-AGB clubs and archers.
- TAC would no longer be able to run record-status shoots.
- because AGB membership renewal process begins in September, we will need to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting early in September to put this proposal to the vote.

Pete V queried how much notice we need to give for an EGM, and Bob G said there is no minimum notice period. We have over 2 weeks to go before September – do we hold it at the field? At lunchtime or before we start shooting? At the start would be best so we catch any that might leave early. First Sat in September is the 4th.

Main changes to club booklet

- fee details with added TAC insurance details
- junior membership age
- dress code amended (no jeans at away shoots)
- applications for beginners courses - added option of applications received by email

Pete V said that given that we only voted on independence 2 years, ago it didn't seem appropriate to be repeating the same vote just because it didn't go the way we wanted. Bob said that the previous vote was 50-50 [*Actual result 20 FOR & 23 AGAINST*] and that after that vote a lot of people who hadn't bothered to vote then complained about why we weren't going independent. PV said that those who don't vote can't complain against the result, but given the short period since the last vote, the committee had to make clear in its proposal why a second vote was necessary so soon after the first one.

c/ Committee membership/named roles

Bob has declared his intention to step down as Club Captain from November. Frank Pullen has also emailed his decision to stand down as Club President with immediate effect due to worsening health. Both Bob and Mike have tried to persuade a number of individuals (Adam Hinton, Jim Whiddett, Graeme Andrews, John Ritchie) in the club to take these roles on, but none are ready to do so. PV suggested that no-one wants to try and fill Bob's shoes, and what we need are clearly defined descriptions for each role, so that people know what they are taking on. Bob said that we did that with John Marshall, trimmed the Club captain role down, and then JM complained that Bob wouldn't let him do anything.

Mike pointed out that the club constitution says we must have certain named officers on the committee, President, Chairperson, Captain, Secretary, Treasurer, Records officer, Equipment officer and Child Protection (Safeguarding) officer. PV said that we may have clearly defined these roles among the committee, but perhaps we haven't done so for the wider membership, and when we're asking members to take on committee roles, they do need to know what they entail **before** they agree to do them. General view of several committee members was that it won't work because "most members don't want to help and just want to turn up and shoot". PV

also said that we do have a lot of members who will muck in and do things, compared to Guildford who have 250 members but only a few of those want to help with the practicalities. Several thoughts on this – paying a working party to do all the donkey work, fines for those who didn't put equipment out, total club fee holiday for committee members, etc. PV ask if such people, once on the committee, would then do any more work than before if that's what it took to get them to join the committee. Is bribery really a wise course of action? PV also asked Fred H if he would be happy to take on the Club President role, and FH said he “didn't have a clue what it entails”. *[Club Secretary note:- Mike explained the role to him, but it did illustrate perfectly the point that if the committee members aren't even aware of what these roles mean, how can we expect the wider membership to know and to volunteer for them?]*

Mike suggested we either cut down on the number of roles or merge them. PV said that however you we tweak the number of roles or descriptions, the reality is that there are certain things in an archery club that have to be done by somebody, and if you want to reduce the workload, you have to either streamline the way you do things, or get more people doing them.

In the event that no-one comes forward to take on the role Mike will combine Chair & Club Captain **for a year only**. PV said that it wasn't reasonable for Mike to have to do both and Graeme was amenable to being Chair because he will insist on delegating. Mike said that all these jobs aren't meant to be done just by committee members, but their responsibility is to **make sure that the jobs get done**.

Mike said that coaching was not part of the Captains role, and that it's simply that Bob is the only certified coach in the club. World Archery coaching certificates were suggested as a way of broadening the coaching base – Mike has already begun the process of doing that for himself.

d/ Update on marking of the field and long-term lease agreement with St. Lawrence college. Bob has emailed Hannah Heath-Hall about both of these issues, and her reply was that she has chased the grounds crew on the field marking, and also asked how long an agreement are we looking for? Bob then replied that we're looking for a 10-15yr lease agreement, to allow us to apply for grants, etc and grow the club. The ground crew have told Bob separately that the school gets an outside contractor to mark their own field every 4 weeks. PV asked if they get have an outside contractor to mark their fields, could we (a) ask their contractor to mark our line at the same time, or (b) buy their redundant line marker off them and do it ourselves.

Bob said if the worst comes to the worst we may have to contact all the local farms and enquire about the use of one of their fields. PV asked about revisiting Betteshanger, but Bob said they don't actually have a field as such so they only do short distances. Mike said the problem with these field is the lack of facilities (toilets, etc). Bob said that if you can get a long-term lease on a field, we can get grants to put in toilets.

On the relocation, the top field won't ready before next summer, but the buildings around the field are already evacuated – we are the only people still on the site, and Bob is concerned that they will be wanting us to move before the top field is ready - we will end up having to move twice.

Meeting ended at 8:45pm.

