

# Minutes of SMOC AGM

On Sunday, July 17, 4pm at Woolstone Community Centre

Present: Freya Askham, Ros James, Dorien James, Ric Brackenbury, Helen Nisbet, Becky Nisbet, Edward Calderbank, Sarah Calderbank, Debbie Charlton, Martin Cook, Milly Askham, Rob Askham, Rosie Shaw, John Shaw, Todd C Rae, Sue Rae, Sandra Mather

Apologies: Ann Harris

## Review of the last AGM minutes

The minutes of the 2021 AGM were approved (proposed by Debbie, seconded by Todd).

Matters arising from last year's AGM: Keith Downing had mentioned that the information about our mapped areas on our website was quite out of date. This is currently being addressed as part of a wider review of our web communications.

## Accounts

Dorien James (Treasurer) presented the annual accounts for the past year.

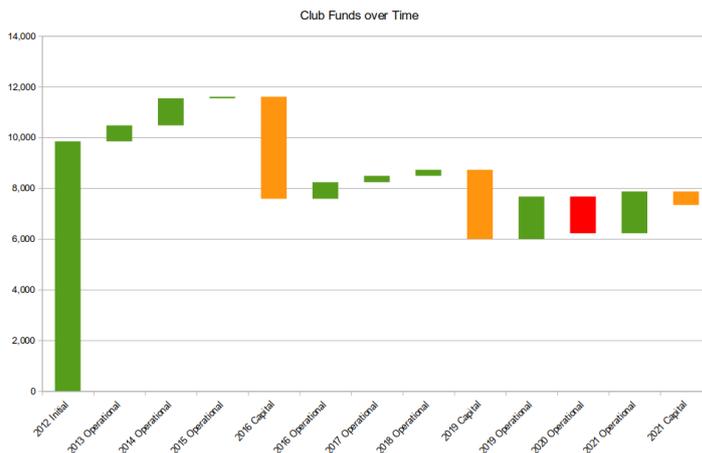
We made a surplus of slightly over £1,000, net of the capital investment to increase our stock of control boxes to 35:

<u>SMOC BALANCE SHEET</u>		2021	
As at 31-Dec-21			
	31-Dec-20	31-Dec-21	
<u>SMOC</u> Deposit	4,862.25	4,870.26	
<u>SMOC</u> Current	1,326.75	2,443.80	
Cash Float	50.00	50.00	
(Owed to) / due from Dorien and Ros	(43.55)	(29.16)	
(Owed to) / due from <u>SportIdent</u>	0.00	(63.60)	
(Costs from previous years owing) / future debts paid in advance	25.00	0.00	
<b>Total <u>SMOC</u> Funds</b>	<b>6,220.45</b>	<b>7,271.30</b>	
Movement on Club Funds for the Year		<b>1,050.85</b>	
Comprising:			
Operating surplus / (deficit)		1,583.05	
SI Kit One-off Investment		(532.20)	

The Greensand Ridge Relay was, as usual, our major source of income:

Category	Sum - Amount
01 MEMBERSHIP AND OVERHEAD	34.13
03.2 LOCAL EVENTS – LINFORD WOOD	(42.00)
03.3 LOCAL EVENTS – LOUGHTON VALLEY	95.16
04.1 REGIONAL EVENTS – GREAT LINFORD URBAN	446.71
04.2 REGIONAL EVENTS – PRIORY PARK	39.24
05 GREENSAND RIDGE RELAY	1,427.30
09 TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT	(307.50)
10 EQUIPMENT	(109.99)
13 SI KIT ONE-OFF EQUIPMENT	(532.20)
<b>Total Result</b>	<b>1,050.85</b>

This has restored the financial position following the losses in 2020:



### Chair's report – November 2021-July 2022

How fantastic that we can all be back together again in person for our Annual General Meeting for the first time in three years. Whilst Covid is still disrupting things we are certainly in a much better place than 24 months ago.

In the 9 months since our last AGM we've organised three local events and one regional event and welcomed two new planners to our ranks. In November I took on the challenge of getting some interesting and challenging courses out of Priory Park in Bedford. I decided to use the embankment part of the area, which had been mapped but not used for an event before, and I think this provided good route choice and even caught out a few experienced orienteers! Rob did a solid job of organising the event and I think we had plenty of happy customers.

Karen and Steve introduced us to Stanton Low, a new area of Milton Keynes, in April. Using the MapRun app for control punching, it was a low key and enjoyable event. Novice planners Rob and Milly made lots of mapping work for me in Buckingham as they also wanted to take courses into new territory. Their debut effort was well received with lots of route choice. Most recently Ros planned four excellent courses for a well-attended local event at Furzton. It makes such a difference now that we have sufficient SI kit of our own to use at our local events. It gives novice planners important experience to step up to planning regional events.

In November, Milly had the fantastic opportunity to attend W/M16 national training

weekend at Hawkshead in the Lakes. The weekend consisted of an intensive day of detailed navigation practice, the legendary night sprint event around the youth hostel grounds and then the chance to put all the new skills into practice at an event.

We had to wait until December to hold our club championships last year. We all travelled to Shotover Park near Oxford. This was the first time we had split the field to enable younger competitors to run longer courses and the super-veterans to run Short Green. The results and trophies will follow!

In February, 23 SMOCies travelled to Mildenhall North for the CompassSport Trophy qualifier. All clubs in East Anglia are now small enough to be eligible for the Trophy rather than the Cup so we had some stiff competition from some larger clubs such as WAOC and NOR who both qualified for the Trophy final.

Our only winner in the East Anglian League in 2021 was Milly who won W16. Well done, Milly.

Although not SMOC events we have also contributed important officials to both the British Schools Orienteering Championships and the British Middle Distance Orienteering Championships since our last AGM. For the schools event Dorien took on the challenge of planning enormous numbers of junior courses at Stowe and despite a near disaster with a locked gate at the last minute, the event was a great success.

The British Middles at Rushmere was the culmination of over two-and-a-half year's work. Having been delayed by a year because of Covid, a change of staff at The Greensand Trust meant building a relationship from scratch in time for a major championship. Steve and I found huge areas of the map that needed updating and general improvement but the hard work paid off and the biggest compliment of all was the lack of comment about the map on the day! Orienteers tend not to hold back in that regard! I was excited and terrified in equal measure as event day of my first level A organiser role approached and the biggest headache, as is often the case, was the car parking. However, with fantastic support from within the club and around the region it turned out to be a successful event with a fantastic atmosphere as club tents reappeared and the sun even came out! A huge thank you to all those SMOCies who stepped up to take on big roles such as Mapper & Assistant Controller, Steve, Assistant Organiser, Debbie, Entries Secretary, Helen and everyone else who helped out on the day. Also, Todd who invested in PA equipment to help me out and managed to introduce me to the crowd under my maiden name!

The British Longs came hot on the heels of the British Middles. The courses were indeed long and also steep. Well done to Debbie who came in first on W60S. We entered three teams in the relays the next day and with tired legs Ian, Dorien and Mike competed in the M60 class, Freya, Helen and Debbie were in the Women's Short class and Todd, Rob and Milly took on the Mixed Ad Hoc.

The JK was held in South Wales with the sprint at Swansea University. The middle distance event at Clydach Terrance proved the best day for SMOC success with Karen finishing second in W50S and Debbie finishing fourth in W60S.

The British Sprint Relays are a relatively new introduction to the orienteering calendar and Ian, Martin and Sandra decided to try it out. I believe they'd recommend the experience and finished a creditable fifteenth out of 22 teams overall. The British Sprints were the following day at Leeds University with 6 SMOCies taking part. I was pleased to finish seventh in W45 A

final and Rosie did some great sprinting to finish first in the W70 B final.

Thank you to Helen for organising a First Aid qualifying day and we now boast 11 qualified first aiders. Club nights and MapRun have continued this year, with events in Leighton Buzzard, Shenley and Milton Keynes Village. We now have 27 MapRun courses available in our area (an increase from 12 last October). We have been working with the Parks Trust to promote two courses in Campbell Park in the near future. Planning MapRun courses is very easy and a great way to contribute to the club's MapRun library for everyone to enjoy.

The Greensand Ridge Relay returned to June this year and was, as usual, efficiently organised by Richard with excellent support from Dorien. We entered just one SMOC team but they represented those born in the decades 50s, 60s, 80s, 90s and 00s. Thank you to all those SMOCies who came forward to staff the changeovers.

This will be my final Chair's report. I took on the role of Chair four years ago so it is time to pass on the baton. Thank you to all the hard working members of the committee, especially to Ros for keeping me on track with reminders and emails. Good luck to everyone travelling for orienteering this summer.

*Freya Askham*

#### **Election of officers**

Freya steps down as Chair after four years in the post. She proposed Ros for the role – seconded by Sue, and Ros was duly elected.

Ros proposed Jaya Dalal to take over her role as secretary. Jaya could not be present at the meeting but had already indicated her willingness to stand. Helen seconded her appointment and Jaya was duly elected.

Dorien said he is willing to continue as Treasurer. Freya is to replace Ros as Fixtures Secretary. The rest of the committee stay in post.

A big thank you to Freya for her great work over the past four years!

**Any other business:** No further items of business were raised.

**Date of next meeting:** Our next committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 1 at 7.30pm, via Zoom.