

LEICESTER ROWING CLUB AGM – THURSDAY 27th NOVEMBER 2025

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Basin

My latest information regarding the basin was that an estimate of costs had been received by DMU who were then going to discuss the share with Barratts and confirm the work to be done. It is hoped the work will be done prior to Christmas, but obviously depending on the agreement between DMU and Barratts and the weather.

Although many on the committee have reservations about the extent of the work, it will nevertheless be very welcome and should hopefully relieve the worst of the issues with excess silt/sand/debris in the basin. The club has contributed to the work by putting permanent plates over the drains to allow the heavy vehicles to take away and dispose of the silt and to allow access to the basin.

A very big thanks to Colleen Thorneycroft, Natalie Ames-Bonham and David de Berger from DMU who have been instrumental in making sure the work will take place, to Fiona Wingate for her support to get the work done, and to Brian Robbins for getting the plates down in time!

The work will not of course stop after the dredging has been done, and discussions will continue with all interested parties on how to make sure sufficient depth is maintained with proper water flow through the basin, and how to stop the debris piling up in every storm.

Council

The Council are supporting a riverside clean up on Sunday 30th November, so I would ask all members to come along to help. This has been a long time coming due to the poor weather at the beginning of the year, so it is important to make sure that they will be well supported this time.

C&RT

The C&RT continue to fight the battle of keeping the tow path in good order, but are entirely dependent on volunteers which clearly limits how much can be done. Sally has kept a vigilant eye on the poor souls taking shelter under the bridge and the consequent filth they cause, and we continue to look for a more permanent solution than simply clearing up after them.

Committee meetings

The Committee have continued to use zoom meetings throughout and will continue to do so.

Joe Humphries Memorial Trust – CPR and Defibrillator training

Steve Humphries and his team came in for their annual training session in October, during SADS week. They provide invaluable information on CPR and use of the defibrillator, and provided an excellent and informative session. The attendance this year was extremely disappointing from all squads. This was perhaps due to the change of date due to a football match, but nevertheless it is important to support these events which are designed to not just inform but to help save lives. Our thanks to Steve Humphries and his colleagues for the time they spend with us on these sessions – they too are all volunteers and their perseverance, despite the poor turnout, is to be commended.

Recreational Tours and Events

The Good Friday Row took place this year with 8 members of the recreational squad rowing the full length and enjoying both a lovely row and meeting old and new friends from other clubs. The BR National Tour took place on the Rivers Dee and Weaver, and was enjoyed by the 7 Leicester rowers who took part.

BUILDING, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Our thanks must go again to John Sephton who continues to make sure the building is kept in good order. His efforts have saved the club considerable amounts of expenditure, as well as looking after the building, but we should not have to rely on so few members to take on so much of the work.

We continue to look for more volunteers to help, whether with technical advice on environmental issues, clearing the roof, drains and gutters to the mundane tasks of regular meter readings. I repeat again that the mens changing room needs attention as does the womens, but nothing is going to happen unless members volunteer to support the committee to draw up the spec for what work is needed, to work out how much work can be done by members, and to organise competitive estimates for costs.

If any members, or junior parents have appropriate skills or are simply willing to help, please let me know as the sooner we can tackle building problems, the better.

FOOTBALL CAR PARKS

The Committee would like to thank all volunteers who have done sessions for the football parking. This raises valuable income for the club, all of which will be spent on equipment for all squads. However it should not require constant reminders for members to take their turn; everyone benefits from the income and so everyone should be volunteering to do a session. Our thanks to Brian Robbins who continues to volunteer for so many matches, and one can only hope that the football club will soon reflect the devotion of its fans with many more wins!

Anne Hock

Secretary

13th November 2025