

LEICESTER ROWING CLUB AGM – THURSDAY 31st OCTOBER 2024

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Basin

Everyone will be well aware of the problems with silt in the basin. Discussions with DMU about removal of pennywort moved swiftly into removal of the monster after the storms left it there. The water rights in the basin belong to DMU (61%) and Barratts (39%), who own the rights to the wall as well. A site meeting was recently held between DMU and Barratts, attended by Liz and myself. The C&RT are scheduled to dredge at Lime Kiln Lock and at Freemans Lock, and Barratts contacted them to see if they could dredge the basin as well. Talks are currently continuing on that basin, and we are waiting to hear developments. LRC has offered access to the basin, and is looking at how to best plate up over the drains given the weight of silt to be removed. The cost of dredging will be met by Barratts and DMU and we are not involved in that discussion.

Council

I am waiting for the Council to suggest a date for clearing up the riverside but this will of course be weather dependent. Meantime they have had volunteers out working on the Straight, in particular down towards the start of the regatta course where they have been clearing and planting wild flowers which it is hoped will flower appropriately for the Regatta itself. The Club contributed towards the cost of the plugs, as did Barratts. Discussions are also due to be held with Barratts regarding their bit of land up towards the weir and cleaning that up for the Regatta.

C&RT

I still have paint for the railings which was donated by the C&RT, and am waiting for better weather to organise a session. I note I said this last year as well!

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. Our thanks to Isaac and Alison Gosling for hosting the event, and of course to Steve Humphries and his colleagues for the time they spend with us on these sessions – they too are all volunteers.

Recreational Tours and Events

Sadly the Good Friday Row had to be cancelled due to poor weather and water conditions. Our visits continue to be limited for the same reasons. The BR National Tour did take place on the Thames, and was enjoyed by all the Leicester rowers. Although bad weather was forecast for the last day, it did not materialise and the organisers were able to use their previous experience from last year to be ready with a Plan B so rowing took place on all 3 days.

BUILDING, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Our thanks must go again to John Sephton who has sorted out the lift, and cleared the gutters at the back of the building, together with Joe Holohan and Kim Clark. He is currently working out how to clear those at the front which need urgent attention. 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. 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.

Anne Hock
Secretary
24th October 2024