

Collingham Angling Association.

Committee Meeting Minutes.

Held at Collingham F.C on 18/6/24

1) Committee;

R.Jones, K.Archer, P.Thomas, W.Holland, W.Sweeney, J.Mante, G.Turner, K.Morton, R.Ferguson, I.Sparrow, N.Rogers, D.Coupland, P.Kitchen, T.Holland, D.Grice, B.Thurston, J.Jeal.

2) Apologies;

K Morton, R Jones, P.Kitchen, K.Archer, T.Holland.

3) Matters Arising;

Minutes from 21/5/24 and WhatsApp summary May/June 2024 were adopted.

After further consideration the decision was taken that the area where the fence has washed away between pegs 23+24 on the river would be unsafe to use as 'better car access'.

A meeting has been confirmed in the coming days, between Tarmac and K.Archer + P.Thomas to discuss removal of the conveyor structure.

P.Thomas has confirmed that R.Jones has been in further communication with land agents (Savills) regarding vehicular access on to the Weir Field and that a new, more formal agreement will be drafted giving the club full access with the proviso that the club has responsibility for the general upkeep of the field.

J.Mante asked if there was any way to strengthen the colour/graphics of the club logo in readiness to use on the new signage and lake name-plate being designed by himself and T.Holland..... Seems unclear if that is possible, W.Holland to ask T.Holland to have a look at it.

4) Correspondence;

None

5) Treasurer's Report:

P.Thomas presented the report in the absence of K.Archer and noted that K.A. has researched 'Club Mate', a 3rd party company that undertakes all aspects of membership renewals on behalf of clubs such as ours to ease the workload of club Secretaries/Treasurers and that the cost would be in the region of £1800/year. Similarly, T.Holland has had a look at a system where the club could print its own membership cards in house. All agreed some form of modernisation would be a good idea. cont.....

G.Turner noted that he has used Club Mate successfully with other clubs, W.Sweeney pointed out that having a 3rd party collecting membership renewal funds on our behalf would be beneficial and J.Mante suggested that any costs incurred could be covered by raising the annual subscription by £5. To be given further consideration.

30 membership books have been paid for but remain as yet uncollected and that the membership are to be reminded that fishing club waters without being in possession of a current club book is not allowed. With this in mind, and with the occasional barbed hook still being found at Millenium, it was decided that random book and rig checks should be carried out going forward. J.M. mentioned that he would be more comfortable if this was carried out in pairs.

As the renewal date has now passed the club has 375 full paying adults, 71 juniors, 9 intermediates, 108 oaps and 23 non paying members = 586 book holders. The decision was taken to wait for both K.A. to update the committee on the nature of the current waiting list and to let the influx of 42 new members settle, before we offer any places to those on the 'new' waiting list, as per AGM remit, although it was decided to let the 3 'local' applicants join immediately, taking the total to 378 full paying members (total 589).

K.A. has received a quote to re-point problem areas of the fishing lodge and repaint the entire building. It was suggested that it would be prudent to source at least one alternative quote.

6) Match Secretary's Report:

All match results available on the relevant WhatsApp groups.

a) W.Sweeney reported that the lakes were fishing well, with good participation, and many anglers were happy with his introduction of smaller sections.

The first Sunday trial received reasonable attendance with many anglers preferring this to the traditional Saturday knock-ups, to be reviewed going forward.

Due to a clash of fixtures W.S. has rearranged his charity match for the 7th Sept.

b) I.Sparrow reported that the first 2 river matches have had good turn outs, although the river has fished fairly poorly.

A letter of complaint has been received from P.Holland relating to an issue on the Monday night match (17/6/24) and I.S. apologised for a genuine mistake, however all agreed that these things can, and do, occasionally happen and that the Match Secretary on the day does have the final decision on all matters arising.

7) Fisheries Officer's Report:

J.Mante noted that all was in order with routine maintenance on going, with various work parties planned.

J.M. reminded all that the Swan 'harvest' has now started and that it is based on last year's info that stock fish were not thriving and were being out-competed by their own progeny, hence the feeding last year and the attempted netting this year. It seems there is a massive excess of problematic nuisance fish, which the other lakes both want and need.

J.M.confirmed that the stock feeding program was up and running, with Centenary + Willow getting 1 x 25kg bag between them, once a week, as per advice from AJS and Swan receives 5kg / twice a week, similar to last year.

Having done thorough research on the stock levels of Kestrel it seems that (due to the on going natural loss of the oldest carp) there are around 45 specimen fish remaining, 26 of which are new, replacement stock purchased since 2018, and industry wide advice suggests that appropriate feeding should be aimed at 0.7% of body weight per day. So, with this in mind, in order to get the new 'stockies' growing to encourage more anglers to fish the lake (thus more bait going in), Kestrel is being fed 10kg / twice a week.

D.Coupland expressed concern about the low stocking density of Kestrel pointing out that the lake has always run with a minimum of 60 fish, suggested that a longer term ideal should be around 70-75 fish, and highlighted this may be another reason angler numbers on the lake is declining. J.M. agreed, noting that there was still a couple of 20lb+ carp to migrate from Kingfisher and that a small number of new stock are planned to be grown on in Mallard from the excess of fish in Swan.

All agreed this is a mid-longer term plan and the committee agreed to purchase 10 new c6 stock (20-24lb range) from AJS as a stop gap measure. J.M.to speak to AJS to confirm asap before the pre order deadline, to be delivered November this year.

8)River:

G.Turner reported that maintenance work on the river was up to date for the season opening and thanked K.Morton, P.Kitchen and A. Coulson for all the stone, bank and roadway work carried out.

G.T. stated that a couple more loads of stone were required, and that some tree clearing work was needed but continued high water levels were hindering progress.

G.T. also thanked all concerned for the help with strimming and grass cutting, both on the Trent and the Fleet.

8) AOB:

A group of committee members recently took advantage of an invitation for a tour of the EAs Calverton fish Farm and all found it fascinating and informative. R.Jones to send a thank you letter to express our appreciation.

R.Ferguson suggested highlighting the relevant H+S spots on the new site map being developed by T.Holland.

Meeting closed at 21:37.

Next meeting scheduled for 16/07/24.

Work To Be Done;

T.Holland to have a look at the graphics on the club logo.

More stone required.

J.M.to order stock carp from AJS.

R.J.to thank the EA.

P.T. and K.A. to meet Tarmac.

R.J. to continue access discussions with Savills.

Carried fwd..R.J. to investigate insurance details re trophy cabinet.

Club Whats App business June/July '24

1)Swan harvest in progress, total this year to date as follows;

50 commons at 90lb in Willow.

57 commons at 110lb in Centenary.

10 commons (26lb), 1 mirror at 14lb + 1 mirror at 4,08lb + 4 small mirrors into Mallard.

Retention net purchased to simplify the program.

2)Letter of appreciation received from club member Jamie Kyme on behalf of Saxilby Scouts, thanking the club for both allowing the scouts access to use Millennium and for the

kind donations of spare tackle from our membership.

3)Few dead fish noted on C+W, oxygen levels checked and are ok, most likely down to natural post spawning losses. Roger F to monitor levels thro Summer.