

Collingham Angling Association.

Committee Meeting Minutes.

Held at Collingham F.C 30/6/26

1) Committee;

R.Jones, G. Turner, J.Jeal, W.Holland, J.Mante, W.Sweeney, I.Morton, T.Vernalls, R.Ferguson, P.Kitchen, T.Holland, D.Grice, B.Thurston, J.Robinson, J.Martin, J. Lamb.

2) Apologies;

W.Sweeney, J.Robinson,

3) Matters Arising;

All works done or ongoing/near completion (see work to be done below).

T.Holland + P.Kitchen to assist J.Mante in sourcing/acquiring a diesel powered utility vehicle.

The minutes and WhatsApp business were adopted.

4) Correspondence:

Letter received from Garry Hall highlighting issues with boat anglers fishing directly in the weir affecting his days fishing. It was confirmed that the E.A. and the Canal and Rivers Trust (CRT) had been contacted about this by both him and the club several times, unfortunately producing very little result. Being a tidal water (see WhatsApp business May-June 2026) this is owned by the Crown and thus fishing rights are free and open to all, the only control of fishing being governed by whomever controls the access, and thus the matter of boats fishing within the weir is in the main, out of the club's control. Furthermore, and regardless of the known dangers and signage, the E.A. pass the responsibility of restricting boats entering the weir to the CRT who in turn have no powers to implement their own advice.

Garry Hall to be contacted by the Chairman and to be offered a day's fishing on the weir FOC as a gesture of goodwill.

More correspondence has been received regarding the Carlton Ferry Lane saga with CAA determined to continue to resist its permanent closure.

Letter from long time member John Shucksmith received, praising the club on the Millenium complex, both in regard to its upkeep and the quality/access to the fishing. This was warmly received and the club thanked him for his compliments.

Offer of help has been received from the Mending Lines team, a local group who help with advice, safeguarding, instruction etc in regard to junior anglers. This was deemed to be potentially useful and T.Vernalls is to contact them to pursue the matter (see AOB below for a more detailed discussion regarding the clubs safeguarding position).

5) Treasurer's Report:

J.Jeal reported all was in order and as to be expected

It was noted that due to a hiccup with the clubs bank, it has been slow progress getting J.Jeal full access to the accounts, but hopefully this will move forward quickly.

6) Match Secretary's Report:

All match results available on the relevant WhatsApp and social media groups.

R.Ferguson (on W.Sweeney's behalf) informed all that since the last meeting we have had several trophy/points matches, with attendances similar to last year, including several new faces, with 30 members present on a recent Sunday fixture. Weights seem a little down, but bream have been showing nicely, and it appears that the new pegging system is working well.

It was noted that R.Ferguson has been continually testing O2 levels around the complex (and river) and that W.Sweeney had been implementing aerator usage as required - J.Mante thanked them for their help.

After having recently had the annual Committee Match confirmed as being booked on The Grange, Messingham, on Aug 27th, there followed a comprehensive discussion/debate on the appropriateness of this venue. The primary observation highlighted was the fact that the club position is that the Committee Match venues should be alternated between stillwater and river, and this year's match was due to be on a river.

It was accepted that a stillwater venue may perhaps generally be more suitable, but it was also acknowledged that this was not necessarily relevant as the current club stance was that venues shall be alternated and that proper procedural steps had not been taken.

As a compromise, it was agreed (prop. D.Grice, sec. W.Holland - carried) that a new trophy match would be incorporated into the fixture list, to be known as the Keith Archer Invitational, where club volunteers/helpers would be invited to join the committee, this year to be held on the date/venue listed above, and that this years 'traditional' Committee Match would be held at Holme Marsh, preferably on a Saturday, date to be confirmed.

7) Fisheries Officer's Report:

a) J.Mante reported all routine maintenance was up to date and that a couple of small, planned projects were being looked at for Sept/Oct.

300lb of replacement stock bream have been ordered from Fishers Pond for Autumn/Winter delivery.

A top-up load of fine, graded planings are required and J.Lamb is to organise as and when convenient.

b) G.Turner reported that all was in order with routine maintenance ongoing. P.Kitchen to cut the river stretch again before the Riverfest qualifier (July 15th). I.Morton informed all that temporary membership receipts were as to be expected, perhaps a little low due to the recent heatwaves.

8) Membership:

R.Jones confirmed that the current membership consisted of the following;

389 Adults,

146 Qualifying seniors,

136 Juniors,

13 Intermediates,

27 Lifetime/Committee.

It was agreed that the last small number of applicants still on the old waiting list would be invited to join and that the now empty waiting list shall remain closed.

9)AOB:

J.Mante informed all that Millenium neighbours Flying Hire were having both their annual party (Sat 8th Aug) and a large wedding event (Sept 12th) and some slight disruption may occur. They will be using their normal barrier fencing to maintain the club's security and they intend to have a full time security presence on the gate for the wedding weekend.

T.Vernalls presented the committee with a copy of the Angling Trust's safeguarding protocols together with a template club Welfare Statement. This led on to a more lengthy and detailed conversation about the club's safeguarding obligations for the protection of all its members, and it was apparent there was more needed to be done, especially regarding the junior membership, in particular in relation to the appropriateness of allowing unsupervised under 18's on site. T.Vernalls and R.Jones are to investigate the matter further and the rest of the Committee are to give the matter some serious thought prior to the next meeting. Meantime the club is not currently allowing new junior members to join.

Donation kindly received from T.Vernalls of an Angling Trusts Disability Teams kit shirt and hat in lieu of the club's sponsorship of the team.

Meeting closed at 22:20.

Next meeting scheduled for 21/7/26

Work To Be Done;

Mallard platforms to be completed hopefully before Poacher Scouts attend in August if possible (J.M./I.M.).

Purchase diesel powered utility vehicle (J.M., T.H., P.K.).

Load of graded planings required (J.L.).

Book Holme Marsh for Committee Match (R.J.).

Contact Mending Lines group for any relevant help and advice available (T.V.).

More information required concerning unsupervised junior members (T.V., R.J.) and all Committee members to give serious consideration to the safeguarding/junior supervision issues discussed prior to the next meeting.