Minutes of Panda Bowmen committee meeting 24th July 2023, 8.00pm on Zoom

Present: Keith, Mandy, Mark, Paul, Anthony, Rosemary

Apologies for absence: Phil

Minutes of meeting 19th June 2023

These were proposed by Keith, seconded by Mark, and accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising

Keith asked if there was any update on the new archery shop. Mandy responded that in the latest Archery UK magazine, Quicks have a page saying that they will be soon be opening a shop in Sunny Bank Mills, Farsley. So it is definitely going ahead.

Club fees 2023-24

Rosemary had circulated a spreadsheet with suggested fees for 2023-24. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that we will pass on to members the increase in the AGB component of the club fees, but otherwise keep fees the same as for the current year.

Anthony said that Mark can use the spreadsheet for updating the website; if he needs a PDF for this, Anthony can supply it. Anthony will check the membership application form and revise that if necessary.

CMS registration

Mark had not yet attended or viewed a webinar about CMS. Anthony said that on the AGB YouTube channel there are some CMS webinars publicly available, Mark said he will look into that. (We will need to register any beginners' course on CMS, for insurance purposes. If we plan a course for this summer, then registration becomes urgent. Rosemary had wondered if it would be useful for her and Mark to get together to carry out the registration.)

Signage at the top of the field

Keith reminded us that when our field was assessed for safety, we were just told that we have to shut off access at the top of the field. He was wondering if we could manage with just 2 stakes and 1 sign, rather than 3 stakes and 2 signs. This would mean less weight to carry up and down the field.

Mark felt that, so long as the rope was full width, it doesn't really matter whether we use 1 sign or 2, as we would still be covered for insurance purposes. Rosemary wondered if a new rope, bright and easily visible, would help. Anthony said we have some new rope in a cupboard in the bunker. Keith felt that the present rope is fine.

Mandy said that they had tried using 2 stakes and 1 sign that morning. It had worked fine, but the weather had not been very windy; in windy weather it would possibly be better with more support for the sign(s).

Paul explained that the present system of stakes, rope and signs had been put together quickly from things that came easily to hand, it was made up ad hoc in order to fulfill requirements that were placed upon us.

Rosemary was happy with the present system, nobody had really strong feelings about it, so we will keep things as they are.

Future courses/events

Anthony reported that his qualification has come through and is valid for 3 years. If we want to run a beginners' course this summer we would need to use Saturday mornings, and the morning archers would have to shoot in the afternoons.

Mark queried if there would be time to register this on CMS. Time is tight.

Mandy suggested that it may be better to contact people who have enquired previously about events. For a course, not all club members would be available to help for several weekends. Also, archers finishing a course in September would have very little time to shoot before the winter season set in and many people don't want to shoot in the winter. So a course this summer may not be valuable. Anthony had the same reservation.

Keith favoured Have-a-go sessions rather than a course.

Mark queried whether there may be any indoor archery this time round. Paul thought that it was about this time of year when applications had to be submitted, so we have probably missed it again. Last time there wasn't a great deal of interest, so the club would have to subsidise it heavily. Keith thought it better to run a course in Spring 2024 to give the beginners time to get established over the summer, and then perhaps plan for indoor shooting for Winter 2024.

Anthony explained that his waiting list had 16 names on it, but it was unlikely that all 16 would want to come; he had pointed them to the YAA website where other clubs may have been advertising courses, so that these people would not be lost from archery altogether. He was happy that we contact people who have asked for a special event.

Mark asked if such events would need to be registered on CMS as well – Anthony and Rosemary were not sure, but thought that we probably should register them for insurance purposes. There is no charge for registering, and we can still deal with bookings in the same way that we do now. Anthony felt that if we can arrange a single event, we can go ahead with it. But a course does need to be properly registered.

Any Other Business

Mandy asked if Rosemary or Anthony had been contacted by a man who had been attending a corporate event at the rugby club; he had spoken to the Saturday archers about a month ago, to explain that he had previously shot in Lancashire and wondered if he could join our club. He was at a family event for a firm but Mandy could not remember the name of the firm. The family event takes place each year, so Mandy wondered if we could arrange a have-a-go sort of event for them next year.

Neither Rosemary nor Anthony had received any communication from this man. Mandy said that they can have a word with the barman to get details of the company, and then Panda can contact the company directly.

Mandy checked with Rosemary that she will be sending an email out about membership renewal and fees. Rosemary confirmed that she plans to send the email some time around 8th August, with a payment deadline of 23rd August, as agreed at our previous meeting.

Date of next meeting

This was agreed as Monday 4th September, 8.00pm on Zoom.