



# Quantock Orienteers

## Minutes of the Quantock Orienteers Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 September 2011 at Roger Craddock's house

### Club officers

Bill Vigar (Acting chairman/ Mapping), Jeff Pakes (Secretary), Roger Craddock (Treasurer), Bob Lloyd (Permissions), Mark Maynard (Fixtures secretary), Adrian Edwards\* (QuOnicle editor), Judy Craddock\* (Membership secretary), Brian Fletcher\* (Schools) \* *non-committee members*

### 1. Attendees

Bill Vigar, Roger Craddock, Jeff Pakes, Richard Sansbury (until 21.30), Mark Maynard, Rosie Wych, Jim Mallinson, Robert Green. Apologies: Bob Lloyd.

Some items were dealt with out of their agenda order; where this could be material, it is noted.

#### 1.1 Appointment of an acting chair

Richard had agreed to be acting chairman up until this meeting. Bill agreed to act as chairman until the next meeting. It was decided that business would continue to be conducted by email votes.

### 2. Minutes

#### 2.1 Minutes of last meeting, 19 May

These were approved. The actions arising were dealt with as indicated in italics below.

#### 2.2 Actions arising:

From 10 March meeting:

2.2 Rejig QOFL teams *Complete*

Put a register and map of POCs in next QuOnicle. *Complete*

From 19 May meeting:

3.2 Respond to solicitors' enquiry *Complete*

4.2 JP to become an authorised cheque signatory. *Complete*

4.3 Fully utilise grants or repay them. *Complete*

6.3 Amend 'course closure' note on maps. *Complete*

6.4 Club champs: provide all controls map to Mendip group. *Complete*

Obtain trophies for AGM *Complete*

Confirm room available for AGM *Complete*

6.5 Ask Dave H about urban event *Complete*

6.6 Investigate lack of ad in CompassSport *Ongoing, RW*

6.8 Approach potential planners. *Action MM, ongoing*

6.10 Enquire about Croydon Hill for Galoppen on April 15. *Action BL, ongoing*

7.1 Ask Dave H for a list of maps. *Complete*

9.2 Introduce member profile feature in QuOnicle. *Action AE, complete*

11.1 Ask IT manager for solution on control security. *Action RW, complete*

11.3 Investigate a bag for controls. *Action JP, ongoing*

11.4 Assess and repair banners. *Action RW, ongoing*

12.2 Attend the next SWOA meeting. *Complete*

12.3 Investigate parking in Quantocks. *Complete*

13.1 Arrange next meeting. *Complete*

### 3. Correspondence

#### 3.1 To committee

The secretary had distributed a number of emails received from BOF, SWOA and other external parties since the last meeting and summarised these for the committee. None now require any immediate action.

### 4. Finance

Roger read his report and presented his statement ([Appendix 1](#))

#### 4.1 Entry fees for events

These were agreed as per the table, point 5 in Roger's report. Robert Green informed the committee of charges used by BOK. It was agreed that fee structures inevitably differed slightly between clubs. Fee-setting for the Galoppen was deferred to the next meeting.

#### 4.2 Budget

Roger said he was hoping for income from grants this year, though none had been applied for yet. He is to verify whether the event expenditure line also includes car parking costs. *Action RC*

#### 4.3 Forestry Commission (FC) charges

With events on FC land now attracting a £50 charge, ways in which this charge could be passed onto participants was discussed. It was proposed that QO charge £1 per car per event wherever possible, towards a general fund for landowners' charges. Jim Mallinson remarked that this would have the positive side-effect of promoting car-sharing. Bill's suggestion, that we could wait till the FC charges started to bite before deciding, was accepted.

It was queried whether the FC would charge QO £50 merely for using their land to park in with Bob to enquire. *Action BL*

#### **4.4 FC car parking charges**

Roger listed those FC areas which are open to the public and which now have parking meters. The logistical problems the meters could present for an event were discussed, particularly for Great Wood, Ramscombe. Such problems would need to be resolved by the organisers of the events affected.

### **5. Youth**

#### **5.1 Schools**

Brian Fletcher's report was circulated to the committee before the meeting ([Appendix 2](#)). Bill queried whether QO's linkups with schools were fading in importance. Richard said that Brian was continuing with these links.

Roger remarked that any child who had experienced orienteering had probably done so through the annual school sports partnership (SSP) event at Norton Manor Camp. He added that Dave Bullock's idea of promoting an SSP hadn't worked and that some volunteers involved with schools activities, such as Ted Heath, had given up.

#### **5.2 BOF Community Orienteering scheme**

Roger expressed concern that BOF's vision for weekly training activities in the community, held at a fixed place, would not work for QO, with its disparate, rural membership. Richard explained that BOF's strategy now was to focus on large numbers in large urban areas, typically through community sports centres.

#### **5.3 JOG**

Roger praised Dave Holmes' work with JOG. Roger reported that Dave meets planners to help them develop their maps in one-to-one computer sessions. He now has a timetable for planners to follow.

#### **5.4 Adams Avery Relay, nr Bath**

The trip had been a success, per Roger and Robert. Five teams of three took part. Roger said it had given youngsters an insight into senior orienteering and teamwork and hoped a team could be entered for the Yvette Baker trophy, a national junior event.

#### **5.5 Vivary Park JOG**

Mark remarked that QO had missed an opportunity to combine this with the launch of the revamped permanent course (POC).

### **6. Fixtures**

Mark's report ([Appendix 4](#)) had been circulated prior to the meeting.

#### **Recent events**

##### **6.1 Club championships, Neroche**

The weighting of scores towards the juniors was praised as a good idea. However, it was suggested that Robert & Chris Green, the next planners, tweak the scoring to allow a senior to have a theoretical chance of winning.

#### **Future events**

##### **6.2 Volunteers**

Graham Hartley had asked whether those controlling and planning in the same season qualified for an incentive. It was agreed not as QO is specifically seeking to attract organisers, hence the incentives. All three event officials can of course claim travel and other expenses.

Roger reported that JOG had many capable volunteers who may in time step over to senior events.

Rosie queried whether first-time organisers from last season should be approached about organising again yet. Mark replied that he will now seek to fill the remaining gaps in the event planner generally through emails to members. *Action MM*

Mark thanked Richard for volunteering for so many roles in the programme.

##### **6.3 QOFL1, St Audries**

Mark suggested that first-time organiser Adrian be advised about the impact the Avon Schools League, to be held at the event, could have on the required manpower.

##### **6.4 QOAD3, Holway**

It was decided that using SI was too risky and to offer pin punches to the planner Will instead.

##### **6.5 Long-O**

Rosie expressed concern at the lack of entries so far. She proposed that if entries were below 30 on the closing date that the event be cancelled. The committee agreed it was Rosie's decision as organiser. It was decided that the website would be used to inform competitors and Fabian 4 used for any refunds. Rosie suggested trying to recover costs upon any cancellation.

Rosie will try to find out why QO's advert in CompassSport never materialised. *Action RW*

Richard suggested using "direct marketing". Previous years' competitors could be alerted using an email facility on the event's online entry system, Fabian 4. That site was seen to be the best form of advertising as it attracted thousands of viewings.

Jim felt that entry numbers would increase within a week, when the season started. Roger cited the example of the Caddihoe Chase, for which significant interest had only been registered with approximately 10 days to go.

## 7. Mapping

### 7.1 National Trust (NT) link

Jeff had heard nothing from Barrington Court, the club's suggestion to the NT, who had asked about a venue for a linkup. Roger thought the venue too far from Taunton to be of interest to JOG.

### 7.2 Other possible projects

Roger said negotiations with Hestercombe were floundering, the house being mainly geared up for commercial activity.

## 8. Permissions & Permanent Courses

Bob's report and notes ([Appendix 3](#)) had been circulated prior to the meeting.

### 8.1 Mountain Bike (MTB) Orienteering

Will Kromhaut, representing Somerset Mountain Bike Orienteering club (SMBO), had requested access to Bob's contacts list with a view to organising permissions for an event on the Quantocks.

A discussion took place with the conclusion drawn that MTB-O was essentially separate to foot-O, especially with regard to the sports' origins, land use permissions and insurance cover.

It was agreed to provide the contact details to Will, provided that certain sensitive areas were avoided. The club should be independent of QO, with this needing to be reflected in the design of the SMBO club badge, which features a stag's head. A link would be created on QO's website to SMBO's fixture list. Richard would advise Will of the decisions made. *Action RS*

## 9. Membership and club media

### 9.1 Membership

The number of individual members stands at 139.

### 9.2 QuOnicle

Whether the acting chair should need to produce a Chairman's Chat piece was discussed. Bill agreed to write a piece if required to do so. Postscript: No action for Bill because club president Mike Crockett has kindly volunteered to make From the President a regular piece.

## 10. Club Development

Richard expressed that he would like to continue with the club development programme he initiated while chairman. In the absence of any other nominations, the committee agreed to Richard continuing in the role.

## 11. Club Equipment

### 11.1 Request from SMBO

Will Kromhaut had asked whether the club had spare pin punches and kites for SMBO's use. It was agreed to sell surplus kites to the club for a nominal sum. *Action RC*

### 11.2 Insurance for club equipment

Rosie reported that Andy Rimes had asked around about whether the electronic equipment was insurable in various places. Rosie would make further enquiries. *Action RW*

### 11.3 GPS unit for planners and controllers

Bill suggested that a handheld GPS unit be purchased. It would allow planner and controllers to check control sites and provide accurate locations when relaying map amendments to the mapper, saving time "in the field". The committee agreed. *Action Andy Rimes*

### 11.4 Club shed

Rosie reported that the club shed had now been creosoted.

## 12. Any other business

### 12.1 SWOA Ctte meeting report

Richard had circulated a report prior to the meeting ([Appendix 5](#)).

### 12.2 News of personnel changes at SWOA

Richard announced that he was intending to stand as Fixtures Secretary, succeeding John Shucksmith, who had held the post for 15 years. John Dyson, chairman of Devon OC, was also standing for chairman of SWOA.

### 12.3 Rep for next SWOA meeting

It was agreed that it was not essential to have a club rep at these meetings, the next of which is at Ilchester Town Hall on 6 October.

There were no candidates to attend the SWOA AGM at Dorchester on 2 October.

### 13. Date and place of next meeting

#### 13.1 Next meeting

Monday was agreed to be a mutually convenient day. 28 November and 5 December were suggested as potential dates. The venue is to be agreed at a later date.

#### 13.2 Meeting close

The meeting closed at 22.30.

### Actions arising

Previous meeting

6.10 Enquire about Croydon Hill for Galoppen on April 15. *Action BL, ongoing*

11.3 Investigate a bag for controls. *Action JP, ongoing*

11.4 Assess and repair banners. *Action RW, ongoing*

Current meeting

4.2 Verify whether budgeted event expenditure includes car parking costs. *Action RC*

4.3 Establish whether FC will charge £50 levy solely for car parking. *Action BL*

6.2 Seek volunteers via emails to members. *Action MM*

6.5 Establish why QO's advert in CompassSport never materialised. *Action RW*

8.1 Advise SMBO about permissions and independence issue. *Action RS*

11.1 Respond to SMBO with offer of kites. *Action RC*

11.2 Investigate equipment insurance options. *Action RW*

11.3 Purchase GPS unit. *Action Andy Rimes*

12.3 Attend future SWOA meeting. *Action RS*

Approved .....

Bill Vigar, acting Chairman

### Appendices: Index of club officers' report

[Appendix 1](#): Treasurer

[Appendix 2](#): Schools

[Appendix 3](#): Permissions

[Appendix 4](#): Fixtures

### [Appendix 5](#): SWOA meeting

Note: All appendices are reproduced as received i.e. not edited, except for presentation, headings, house style and where indicated.

## Appendix 1.1

### Treasurer's report

#### Accounts notes for Committee Meeting on 12 September 2011

1. The accounts presented show the current situation after 25% of Financial Year 2011/12.
2. Funds available are £7,983.25.
3. Signatories on QO account are now any two from Roger Craddock, Dave Holmes, and Jeff Pakes.
4. As passed at the AGM, membership fees remain unchanged from 2012.
5. Agreement is needed for charges for events for 2011/12.

	QOFL	Galoppen	QOAD
	£	£	£
Senior (non-BOF)	7 (5)	TBA	5 (5)
Junior /student	2 (2)	TBA	1 (1)
Family(non-BOF) runners.	12 (10)	TBA	n/a
Family group (1/2 maps)	6 (5)	TBA	n/a
Shadowed junior (2 maps)	3 (3)	TBA	2 (2)
Dibber hire	1	1	1
Second run (extra map)	1	1	1

£2 concession for BOF members. 50% discount for helpers.

*(NB- the above table was left blank by Roger and the figures were decided during the meeting; fees less the membership levy are shown in brackets. Galoppen charges contingent on 'market' rate at the time)*

6. Debits shown:
  - S.O. for £10 pm has been set up in favour of VEU Design (Nathan Fernandes/QO website)
  - Club Champs food was subsidized for those who attended the AGM
  - Two SI boxes have been replaced costing approx £200. Insurance?
7. A proposed (revised) budget for 2011/12 is presented overleaf *(for committee usage only)*

Roger Craddock, 12 September 2011

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## Appendix 2

### Schools (edited)

In SE Somerset the partnership has gone and there will be no events during school time, as the schools can't afford any supply teachers because of the budget cuts, a pattern that will probably be similar across a lot of the UK.

However, I am working with the Yeovil School Games Association and a few survivors of the cull that have managed to get a job somewhere to have a few after schools events from 15.30. This may be better for us, as there has to be more parental input and a lot of other sports will decline as the money isn't there, so we may go up the queue.

For Taunton, I understand that Dave Bullock is patching together a partnership to keep things going in a scratch form.

Interesting that one of the schools people admitted that the links weren't working; football dominates, there are so many clubs and a lot of parents and children are basically lazy.

Brian Fletcher, 25 August 2011

## Appendix 3

### Permissions

Firm permission has been obtained for all events (including JOGs) up to and including 20 November 2011.

Beyond that negotiations and sorting out of details are continuing but with no reason to expect any major problems.

Things have become a bit messy in the North Quantocks (with Phytophthora, pheasants and night running huskies involved) but can probably be sorted out.

I phoned Burnham Motor Club again at the end of July, as suggested, about the date of their event on Croydon Hill but (although they are adamant that they want to hold their event during the weekend of the 21 April) they still haven't got 100% permission to do so. Apparently the ultimate high-level meeting will take place at the beginning of October, so I propose checking again then.

Andy Player of Crown Estate has pencilled us in already for the 15 April. Andy Harris of the Forestry Commission (FC) is being more cagey but it may just be because it's so far ahead. Maybe we don't need the FC area anyway.

#### Notes for the committee meeting

##### 1. Increased Forestry Commission charges

Because we booked and have paid for most of the FC areas that we will be using up to the end of the 2011/2012 season before 31/12/11, the effect on our finances may not be too bad.

We will not now be using any FC land for the Long O Score event on 1/10 and I put all the JOGs and QOADs down as less than 25 comp's, so they don't pay.

However, if we use part of Great Wood near Crowcombe Park Gate for QOFL3 on 29/1/12, that would be £50 and if we use the FC part of Croydon Hill for the Galoppen on 15/4/12 that would be £150 for level C or £50 for level D. It seems difficult to classify a galoppen as a "local event" but I can't find any full definitions of the types of event that fall into the level C or D categories on either the BOF or FC web sites. Maybe someone else has some info'. Anyway, depending upon what planners want to do, we may not be involved with FC for either of these events.

So, I think there may not be any point in making special arrangements for extra charges this year although it will be different next year (2012/13).

##### 2. Information for mountain bikers

If (as seems possible) it is decided that I should send details of the authorities and owners on the Quantocks to Will Kromhout and there are some conditions and/or caveats that the committee decides to apply, I think it would be best if these were sent by someone who was at the meeting (the Secretary or acting Chairman?).

Bob Lloyd, 9 September 2011

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## Appendix 4

### Fixtures Report

#### Review of recent events

Since the AGM the following events have taken place:

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2011	Club Champs	Neroche	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout	

9 <sup>th</sup> July 2011	JOG	Lydead Hill	Judy Craddock	Jim Nicholls	
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The club champs had approximately 40 competitors with a large proportion of junior competitors. The event was a lot of fun especially with the meal afterwards. The overall winner was Chris Green so congratulations to him and commiserations that he will have to plan it next year!

## Future Events

The diary (not including all future JOGs and 'Living Well' events) looks like this:

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2011	Long-O	Doone Valley (St audries for Saturday Score?)	Andy Rimes (day 1); Rose Wych (day 2)	Ted Heath (day 1) Martin Longhurst (day 2)	Bill Vigar
20 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	QOFL1	St Audries	Adrian Edwards	Graham Hartley	
26 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	QOAD1	Dead Women's Ditch, Quontocks	Brian Pearson	Brian Pearson	Richard Sansbury
10 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	QOAD2	St Audries	Graham Hartley	Graham Hartley	Richard Sansbury
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	QOFL2	Lydeard Hill, Middle Hill, Aisholt Common and Muchcare Wood, etc		Jim Mallinson	
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2012	Xmas Novelty	Sheldon			
14 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	QOAD3	Holway (Taunton Streets) Note: venue may change for security reasons)	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout	Richard Sansbury
29 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	QOFL3	Crowcombe Park gate/Dead Woman's Ditch		Rose Wych	Andy Rimes
12 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	QOFL4	Cothelstone Hill and Twenty Acre Plantation		Andy Rimes	Rose Wych
18 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	QOAD4	Triscombe Stone	Jim Mallinson	Jim Mallinson	Richard Sansbury
3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2012	QOAD5	Castle Neroche	Chris Philip	Chris Philip	Richard Sansbury
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2012	QOFL5	Priors Park Wood			
15 <sup>th</sup> April 2012	Galoppen	Croydon Hill			
13 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	QOFL6	Staple Hill			
July 2012	Club Champs				
30 September 2011	Long -O				
28 <sup>th</sup> October 2012	QOFL1				
18 <sup>th</sup> November 2012	QOFL2				
16 <sup>th</sup> December 2012	QOFL3				

## DISCUSSION

Actions to be undertaken before next season:

- Note change of location for QOFL3, change of date for QOFL5 and confirmation of Galoppen venue. 2012 Long Date fixed in calander
- QOAD 3 location still to be confirmed with Will.
- QOFL series: **Will need to continue with process of finding volunteers.** A new team list will be issued in the next Quonicle.
- Dates for 2013 not yet agreed with SWOA as level B only just finalised. Suggested dates John Shucksmith as follows: (do not clash with Level B events).

QOFL 4: 20 January 2013  
 QOFL 5: 24 February 2013  
 QOFL 6 24 March 2013

Mark Maynard, 2 September 2011

## Appendix 5

### **Notes about SWOA committee meeting 29 June 2011, Ilchester**

Here is a summary of things that might be of most interest to QO.

1. Introducing Henry Morgan - British Orienteering Director. Although based in Stoke, Henry has the job of official liaison between SWOA and British Orienteering and will be a regular visitor to SWOA meetings.
2. Guest appearance by Caroline Gay - British Orienteering Participation Manager: Caroline is a full time employee of British Orienteering based in Cardiff. She explained her role is to promote Community Orienteering projects, i.e. to form sustainable weekly training "club nights". In the South West a number of locations have been identified as targets. There are mainly major cities and universities, but surprisingly the list includes Minehead, starting in Autumn 2012.
3. A while ago John Burrows fell out with his local club NGOC, and announced he was setting up his own club, NAC. He is chairman, secretary and treasurer - it is not known if there are any other members! John has no email or answerphone, but seems to enjoy writing lengthy argumentative letters. NAC has no funds and will not organise any events. There is speculation that NAC stands for "not a club", but no-one in SWOA knows for sure. British Orienteering have accepted NAC's application to be an affiliated club. At the meeting, everyone thought this was an odd decision and it was agreed not to accept NAC as a member of SWOA. All agreed this nonsense is a complete waste of everyone's time!
4. SWOA finances are healthier than forecast, particularly since lots of members have opted not to get a printed copy of SINS, which was previously SWOA's biggest expenditure.
5. The fixtures online registration system is being reviewed. The intention is to make it more user friendly.
6. Personnel. No candidate for SWOA chairman has been identified. As announced some time ago, after 14 years Trevor Bridle is giving up being SWOA treasurer in September, but no new candidate has been identified. John Shucksmith said that after 16 years he is considering giving up as SWOA fixtures secretary. Arthur Vince shows no signs of quitting.
7. Galoppen scoring. Dave Holmes proposal was agreed, hence those competing in fewer than 3 galoppens will be excluded from the scoring in order to eliminate inconsistencies. Separate suggestion to reintroduce age handicaps was discussed but rejected in favour of current system of the fastest person wins.

Richard Sansbury, 6 July 2011