



# Quantock Orienteers

## Minutes for QO Committee Meeting

19.15 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October at Staplegrove Village Hall, Taunton

<b>1</b>	<b>Start (1915)</b> In attendance: Richard Sansbury, Karen Lewis, Steve Robertson, Andrew Hopkins, Ollie Rant, Ray Toomer and Sheila Braine  Apologies from: Miffy  Minutes from previous meeting were approved	
<b>2</b>	<b>Matters Arising –</b>  Process of obtaining maps – Steve will make the inventory public.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Events and Activities</b> <b>Past events:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Spunch events – Ollie reported that the Spunch events were successful and we had new orienteers as a result. Andy Thornton has brand control and would like remuneration – an amount per entrant perhaps paid at the end of the season – we will look at this in the finance section and make a decision. Ollie happy to continue as organiser for next summer.</li><li>- QO participation in Croeso – great event. It is a real shame that we did not, as a club, put something on our website about how many of us took part, how much it was enjoyed, the social element and how successful QO members were. We have agreed that in future we will try to get a person to write up something for each of the days and submit, hopefully with photos, to Phil for adding to website.</li><li>- JOG – Ray reported that JOG is continuing well with the first two events having had 60 competitors (32 at the first and 28 at the second). Biggest course take up being the fox. Devon families have been coming along. Also, holding informal get togethers.</li></ul> <b>Plans for future events:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- JOG series – Aiming to hold 10 JOGs over 2 terms. Have the volunteers in place for first time, need volunteers for the second. Informal events for family get togethers in between to keep momentum. Set up a WhatsApp group for these informal events. The informal events are registered as an activity with BOF to ensure insurance cover.</li><li>- SW League &amp; QOFLs. The programme has been set and we have organisers and planners for all events. However, we are in need of controllers. Steve and Richard will work through the list to hopefully get this sorted. Sheila and Ray have requested that, where possible, our QOFLs have a white (hare) course to help with JOG continuity.</li><li>- Street series Autumn / Winter 24/25 – Alasdair has emailed Richard – Alasdair is happy to continue with the street series and has drawn up a list of events. Alasdair has maprun administration rights. The committee has agreed to make Ray an administrator to assist with his JOG co-ordinator/organiser status. Is QO paying the levy to maprun – maprun have asked the question? The committee has agreed to pay retrospectively for the last 2 years at £0.50 per competitor and would contribute the same for future events using MapRun.</li></ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dartmoor Challenge – in progress.</li> <li>- Club Champs – Sheila planning, Pete controlling, Andy has done what he can and is handing over to Stodge to do SI for the event. All in hand with permissions. Have we got the events room for this event?</li> <li>- Compass Sport Cup - Regional Round – Permissions, Officials, etc – need permission for the deer park to the north to ensure that we have the quality area required for CSC.</li> <li>- Urban - Bridgwater SEOUL - Event status, Permissions, Officials, Car Parking, etc. The issue with permissions at the school has not been resolved as yet. The school has deferred to the sports centre and we are still waiting on decision.</li> <li>- Ramscombe/Great Wood CATI – Timing, Officials – It was agreed to hold the event in late summer 2025 just before term time. Needs a lot of advertising, encourage families (QO has had a large drop off in family membership).</li> </ul> <p>Email received from Rosie - there is no requirement to impose the 2/3 events and you are out rule as there is a levy to cover insurance.  <i>There is a levy paid for non-members, but all are insured. It appears there is no longer a need to keep a count of how many times non-members attend. Richard has asked Miffy to confirm.</i></p>	
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p>Places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mapping – next meeting October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Brian Pearson and Chris Phillips now have A4 printers and Andy has A3 printer for the printing of maps. Jim will retain map masters.</li> <li>- Permissions</li> </ul> <p>All sorted up to Club Champs. CSC ongoing. FE process at present to pay a fixed fee up front (no long-term agreement as yet). National Landscapes causing permissions issues – Rosie chasing them. National Trust have been really helpful</p>	<p><i>Andrew</i></p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p>Marketing and Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Find a person to advertise events. Present resources include – BOF, our website, chatsite, Facebook page (Alasdair is admin), there is a Strava group and various WhatsApp groups.  We need to look at setting up a newsletter.  Can we look at having an accessible table showing our event entry fees on the website. At present, we have to search.  Can we also ensure that detailed information about our events is got to Phil earlier.  It was agreed that we need someone to actively push Facebook, we need to reach out to bring in new members. We would need to ensure that we give clear guidance as to what our focus is. Ray and Sheila will ask around.  Perhaps offer an incentive.</li> <li>- Email lists – club policy (we will leave this until next meeting).</li> </ul>	
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p>People</p> <p>Membership – as per the AGM, membership is down by 10%</p> <p>Printing – we have already covered this – see above.</p> <p>Volunteers &amp; Helpers – we have agreed to scrap the QO teams. The organisers will contact the whole membership when seeking helpers. It was also agreed by the committee that organisers will be given free entry at their next event.</p> <p>Club Captain  Training for planners / organisers / controllers – Steve has agreed to hold training events on Wednesday evenings between mid-November and early December.</p> <p>Welfare Officer – we are still looking for an appropriate candidate.</p>	<p><i>Richard</i></p>

7	<p>Equipment</p> <p>Equipment – the equipment has been relocated, thinned out and Ray has done an inventory. We do need to somebody to check the equipment, audit and renew as necessary. The first aid kit also needs looking at, as some items appear to be out of date. Perhaps David Harrison would consider being equipment master? Printers and map printing – already covered.</p>	
	<p>Money</p> <p>a. Financial status thru end September – see attached report. b. Ramscombe POC &amp; HPC Grant status Back in 2019, Steve applied for a grant from Hinkley Point to cover the following – re-map of Great Wood, re-map of the Bridgwater Urban area, the creation of the Ramscombe POC and the holding of CATI event. Initial bid request rejected. Re-submitted to show a benefit to the surrounding community and we were awarded a grant of £3600. Covid then happened. The Great Wood mapping was done by Dave Peel. Bridgwater urban map purchased from Gavin Clegg and updated and extended by Jim Mallinson. Steve had to obtain quotes and invoices from preferred suppliers with regards the POC. Materials to be used for posts as per FE constraints. No response received, despite chase ups. However, Steve finally received prices and a response from the FE design team. But no further forward. Steve then booked a video call with the Hinkley grant administrator and the money was received in the QO bank last Thursday. Big thanks to Steve for persevering.</p>	Steve
	<p>Any other business</p> <p>SWOA – see below. There is a candidate for the position of regional fixtures secretary. As a club we will offer our assistance at this British Sprint Champs / Relay Champs and cover a specific role. Karen to write to BOK chair with the offer.</p> <p>Next meetings – it was agreed to fix the meeting dates – 11 December, 12 February, 9 April and 11 June. Karen to book Staplegrove Hall committee room accordingly.</p>	

**Meeting close at 22:00 hrs.**

Email received from SWOA –

The **SWOA AGM will be held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 8pm using zoom**, please encourage members of your club to attend.

SWOA appeal for a fixtures secretary.

SWOA appeal for officials for the British Sprint and Relay Championships 2026 – 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June. If interested, get in touch with David Faulkner BOK Chairman on: [bokchairman@gmail.com](mailto:bokchairman@gmail.com)