

Minutes of the Local Trustees of Bluefriars Wednesday 15th January 2020

1. Present were Alex, Julian, Julius, Toby, Simon and Peter.
2. The main discussion was about the Head.

Topics such as Should we hold the head? Is it useful? Does it help the charity?

The problem is that the charity cannot do it on its own the school benefits and if it is prepared to support the activity then perhaps it could continue, but this is not really possible for the school to help in the Michaelmas term.

We own it and it is a goodtime of the year.

If in the summer what does it gain?

The head races are they going to happen.

Schools want cheap events. Perhaps we could hand the date to Avon and run a charity invitation regatta. These unofficial events happen all the time and the timetable in the summer is packed.

Canford Bryanston Monmouth and us. Could have their own meeting. Julius suggested a below National Schools regatta from crews this side of Oxford. We could produce tea and buns etc.

We appear to have decided that we are dropping the head. Perhaps we could keep the head race reduce the fees but crews must produce helpers. Perhaps reduce the number of senior boats.

Perhaps we could use it as an enfranchisement for the pupils, but there is little chance that the school will agree.

We have to decide this with the school. Will they allow out the pupils to help? It is their decision. The river seems to be getting worse and the school is not producing helpers.

Action does the school want something in the Michaelmas term, or should it be in the other two terms and is there a gap that the school could use. There seems to be merit in doing something as regattas are too expensive for most schools. So there is a need.

In the summer we could help/use the parents.

A head race needs a lot of monitoring. The idea is should we use Nat Schools weekend?

We need to talk to other clubs.

The local committee's recommendation is that we drop the Bluefriars head and possibly move to a summer event whose format, probably a sprint regatta is to be decided.

Toby will if all the trustees agree, consult with Avon. Who will probably consult with British Rowing

3. Next we discussed possible grants

Nick Pritchard who is possibly going to get an American scholarship will need help with his training expenses with London Rowing and we agreed to looking at his application favourably.

George had a period of disappointment with glandular fever but is on the way back.

4. Wimbleball is on this coming weekend and the captains are going along to create a supported group. Julius wanted to check that there was enough support and Simon confirmed that everything is on course and it looks good. Toby confirmed that the monies from us are already in the account for Simon to apportion as he wishes, but he feels that Wimbleball does not need help.
5. Simon then reported that this year 35 year 9s opted for rowing in December, but the other sports objected so the compromise is that they will start rowing in the summer term and this is the current plan. A least a step back to what we had in the past.
6. Next meeting in April where we will decide on a meal at school and the summer event. Simon will, liasing with Toby find out from the school a potential date.