



## MOLE VALLEY ORIENTEERING CLUB

(affiliated to the British Orienteering Federation)

### Notes of Committee Meeting – Thursday, 23 November 2023

Tim opened the meeting by conveying the Committee's regards to Philip on the sad loss of his wife.

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

- Apologies – Jennifer Sibley, Ian Roberts
- Present: Keith Masson, Justin Farhall, Mike Elliot, Peter Martin, Tim Scarbrough, Leianne Upton, Dawn Clifford, Philip Gristwood, John Pickup, Mike Bolton, Tony Burton

#### 2. Matters Arising from Notes of meeting held 16 May:

- A configuration of light weight stakes and SI units has been tested and approved. Mike Elliot will now submit an order, hopefully in time for them to be used at the forthcoming Festive event. Total cost <£1,300.
- Tim Scarbrough yet to check neighbouring club websites are correctly listing our events.
- David Fisher and Tim working on thank you gift for Bill Alexander to be presented at the club dinner.

#### 3. Fixtures

- The Fixtures List was circulated. Volunteers have largely been found but an organiser for the August Urban in Dorking is needed, and both planner and organiser are needed for the 2024 Festive Event (an alternative venue may also be required depending on whether we get access to Netley and how the first event goes).
- Netley: Tim has obtained email address of landowner but so far not received any response to emails sent. Mike E will call at landowner's house in next 2 weeks, if no response will leave copy of Tim's email. A back up plan was discussed with South Ashdown being the most likely. Mike E offered to plan if this back up was needed.
- British Middles (Spring 2025) now proposed to be same weekend as British Relays. Possibility that SO will organise relays and the option of using St Leonards for one day and Buchan/Holmbush for the other with a common parking area was discussed. MV would retain ownership of both maps.
- Park Race 2025 will be at Morden Hall Park – possibly combined with (re)launch of POC.
- Festive Event 2023 – Request from organiser for a 2 ring camping hob to heat up the mulled wine. John has one he can lend.
- Venue for league event 2026 – Headley? Box Hill?
- The annual structure of our events was discussed in the light of us, ideally, wishing to move the Festive Event to earlier in December. However, this creates a clash with CHIG who traditionally use the earlier date. It was decided to continue largely with the existing structure.

#### 4. Trophies

- Congratulations were extended to Leianne and Justin on their wins in the club championships.
- The winners of the George Murray Trophy (presented to the Mole with most points in the SE League) and the Peter Burt Trophy (presented to the most improved orienteer in the SE League – not necessarily a Mole) are calculated by Philip. Who will action this shortly.
- The Junior Winner trophy at the club picnic is no longer presented but it could be resurrected should we have sufficient juniors in future.

#### 5. Bursar's Report

- Justin reported that he has transferred some funds into a savings account in order to earn some interest.

- We have only received 1p from Amazon from the click through available on the website. Justin will check whether it is working correctly on the website with Dan Sullivan. Following which, Mike B will promote this to the rest of the membership to boost use and therefore funds.

6. **Mapping**

- Ian has updated Norbury. Philip has updated Wheatsheaf Common. Mike E – nothing to report.

7. **POC**

- Jennifer's report was reviewed.
- It was suggested that a QR code be added to the POC maps to enable users to access MV website/membership information.
- Morden Hall Park refurbishment progressing. Tony is in contact with the Ranger.
- There could be an opportunity to replan Oaks Park in 2024. We have a good relationship with Sutton Council. Tony to contact Jennifer in this regard. Discussion as to whether this map should come offline in the meantime or whether those downloading the map should be warned of what is missing. No decision made.
- Keith will review Nork.
- Buchan needs some replanning due to changes in land management – 2025?
- A tree which has come down in Horton has completely obliterated one control.

8. **Membership**

- 3 new members have joined. All Street O runners but one who is interested in forest O.
- SEOA fees have not been collected by BOF. Justin will speak to BOF HO. If necessary, Mike E will speak with Peter Hart.

9. **SEOA/BO Updates**

- Nothing to report.

10. **Mole Development**

- New Website – Progress is being made. John will share the prototype site with committee members for design input. Following which, the sub-committee will meet to make decisions and set deadlines. The importance of ensuring Ian Ditchfield's calendar of events is accommodated was discussed and agreed.
- Publicity and Outreach Plan – Peter has reviewed the plan.
- Peter's videos were welcomed and the committee looks forward to more in the future. Shorter versions are needed for social media.
- Tim proposed having fliers for forest events available at registration for Street O events.

11. **AOB**

- 14 diners so far for the club dinner.
- Tim had received an email from BOF regarding discounted defibrillators (cost approx. £1000). Tim will circulate the email but general view at the meeting was not to purchase. However, it was decided that planners of Street O's should know where the nearest defibrillator is situated.
- The possibility of linking with professional companies who map schools was discussed. Tim will investigate further.
- Ashley Tilling is looking for more volunteers for the Festive Event.
- A co-ordinator is required for the summer series.

**Date of Next Meeting** - Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 (provisional). Venue – Justin's house tbc.