

Minutes of COMMITTEE MEETING held at Munlochy on Thursday 14th Sept 2023 at 5pm

1. WELCOME to Meeting

Present :- Alec Mutch, Alan Smith, Geoff Potter, John Ruickbie, Susan Drew, Joe Webster , David Hobson, Nick Simpson, Errol Levings, Alan Geddes, David Line

APOLOGIES: - Peter Lawrence,

2. MATTERS ARISING

None

3. SECRETARY'S REPORT

GP reported that the current membership was listed as 49. He tabled a 'Short Guide to the HWC'. AM to review and it will then be used to circulate to new members.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

AG tabled a copy of the monthly analysis from beginning of year to date. It was previously circulated to the Committee. The report was accepted by all.

5. MAINTENANCE REPORT

JR presented his Maintenance, Safety and Hall report appended below which was accepted by all.

WORKSHOP TRAINING

The 3 members to be trained for bandsaw maintenance were proposed as DL, DH, JW. AG to attend training as an observer. JR remains maintenance leader and trainer.

USAGE OF CLUB EQUIPMENT

AG sought clarity about the usage of Club's equipment by members.

It was agreed thatfor a one off, small amount of work, of short duration (for eg cutting a small no of bowl blanks on the bandsaw - requested by a member) then for safety reasons at least two people would be present. One of them would need to have undergone training on the equipment (and it would also need a Committee Member as a key holder to be present). Local trained Committee members would be the obvious first choice for the second person.

Extended or prolonged use of equipment should be planned in advance and would require at least 3 people to be present for safety reasons.

Requests for the use of equipment should be directed towards any Committee member who would pass on the request - if that was needed.

Training of members for the safe use of the bandsaw would be spread to the rest of the membership when the whole Committee had completed their training.

Training for the use of the planer/ thicknesser would be in the following weeks.

6. SAFETY REPORT

JR reported that he has not been notified of any safety issues arising in the club. (See below for decisions about workshop first aid and provision of a defibrillator).

7. TRAINING REPORT

NS presented his training report (appended below) which was accepted by all.

8. COMPETITION REPORT

NS presented his report (appended below) which was accepted by all.

9. LIBRARY

SD reported that only one book was out on loan. New books were being purchased. A select set of relevant books would be displayed during club meetings and demonstrations.

10. FIRST AID

JW stated that there were no accidents to report.

Extensive discussion took place about the provision of a defibrillator. Main points to note were.....

The age profile of the general membership was an important factor and consequently the risks of cardiac problems for Club members was higher than that for the average general public.

The report of the Hall Committee meeting attended by JR was noted. It was speculated that the reported bad episode put forward at that Hall meeting involved an earlier less sophisticated defibrillator and a confined space or metal floor. Modern defibrillators could cope with unusual situations better and had numerous advantages over CPR alone with respect to cardiac arrest and cardiac monitoring.

There was general agreement that provision of a defibrillator could be a distinct advantage for the Club member's safety. JW to investigate costs. The equipment could be stored inside if for Club use only. (£1500 was mentioned and an ongoing cost of £200 every 4 years for batteries).

JR would raise the issue with the Hall Committee again to see if they have any interest.

A small set of first aid and eyewash equipment along with a CO2 fire extinguisher would be bought by JW for the small workshop.

11. DROPBOX

A Club Dropbox was now being used to store all the Secretary's files in the cloud. Access to the Dropbox was currently available to GP and AM. **Read only** access would be extended to all the Committee - to be arranged by AM.

12. NEW EQUIPMENT etc

Calipers, screwdrivers, hexagonal spanners, sealant and finishes were recently acquired. Safety specs and visors to be obtained.

13. 2024 PROGRAMME

More 'blanks' were filled into the programme, to be issued in due course by AM.

14. SHOWTIME

SHOWTIME/ SHOW AND TELL. The format by EL was circulated and accepted by all the Committee. (Copy appended below). The new format to be trialled at tonight's meeting.

15. XMAS RAFFLE

A start would be made now by PL and AG to obtain prizes for the raffle.

16. AOCB A small fire extinguisher was to be purchased for the Workroom.

NEXT MEETINGS

Start time 5.30pm 9th November 2023

APPENDICES

Safety, Maintenance and Hall Report - JR

SAFETY REPORT

No reports of accidents.

Bandsaw training is progressing well with ten members qualified. The training has raised interest in the use of push sticks and other holding devices which can be easily made and improve safety.

I have been steering the training away from cutting round blanks due to the safety issues and blade wear. It will be simpler to keep a broad general purpose blade on the saw.

HIGHLAND WOODTURNERS CLUB, Club Premises, Munlochy Village Hall

I would suggest we have four members as maintenance people who can help with blade changing and general assistance with the machine. They would have more ability to fault find, change blades and work with the users.

MAINTENANCE

One faulty spot light has been replaced above the first lathe

The external lighting delay switch has been replaced due to it staying on permanently instead of switching off after five minutes.

The workshop dust extract system in the workshop is now installed with two outlets with a third to be fitted later. A door has still to be fitted to the dust extract enclosure.

The 300mm disc sander has been permanently installed and connected to the dust extract system.

A small square is required for checking the band saw table against the blade.

A new set of screwdrivers and Allan keys have been purchased which I feel should be kept in the workshop but will seek opinion on this. Possibly keeping two general use ones in the main area.

The workshop area has had a general tidy up but is at present in use as a training area.

HALL COMMITTEE REPORT

The president of the Knockbain community council does not think another defibrillator is required at the hall. We are now on our own if we wish to purchase and install one.

He is first aid trained and in a medical position (chiroprapist). He has had a bad experience with a defibrillator and thinks CPS is more use.

I raised the question of poor phone signal if we required assistance. I was told they were pursuing a land line but have not heard the outcome.

Munlochy primary asked if we could provide an item for the fundraising sale raffle. I have provided a bowl from a mahogany blank which was much appreciated.

No other matters concerned us.

HWC Training report 14/9/2023 - NS

No teaching/training sessions in the main club house since the last committee. Errol and I are holding a ½ day course on introduction to deep hollowing in my workshop 27th September for 2 members.

HWC Competitions report 14/9/2023 - NS

Since my last report there have been no further competitions. David Hobson and David Ross will judge the next competition on 19 November.

Subjects and dates for 2024 will be:

Date	Novice	Intermediate	Open
29 Feb	Honey pot dipper	Honey pot and dipper	Honeypot with lid and dipper
9 May	A Scoop	A matching pair ladle or spoon	Matching set of 4 ladle or spoon
18 July	A bud vase	A bud vase which holds water	A bud vase with 2 or more wooden flowers
3 Oct	A rocking bowl	A rocking bowl	A pair of matching rocking bowls

I will convene a group of at least 4 members from the teaching team after the Christmas competition to examine the members within each skill class to decide the appropriate levels for 2024.

Nick Simpson Training and Competitions leader. 14/9/2023

Highland Woodturners Club

Show & Tell Event

Principles:

1. The event is focused on members and their work. All members are invited to bring along a piece of their work for show and discussion at the event.
2. Members who show should indicate whether their work is being presented for critique.
3. All members of the audience should have the opportunity to examine the piece of work and discuss the piece with the entrant if they wish.
4. The organiser will facilitate discussion of the work between members.
5. The event is intended to be an enjoyable and constructive event for all, particularly for the entrants who can show off their item as they choose.
6. The event is not intended to be competitive and criticisms will not be tolerated. Constructive comment on how the item might be improved would only be given publicly if the entrant so agreed. All members and their entries will be treated with respect.

Priorities:

1. Every member is welcome to show and talk about their work and members present at the meeting will be able to examine and discuss the work. The role of the organiser is to facilitate this. The organiser should resist comment unless asked to do so and only critique when asked.
2. Members should be free to bring as many items as they want.

Issues:

1. Timing. It may be necessary to limit entries on the night as more focused discussions of each piece of work will take time. This will be done by a ballot system. On the day of the event, participants will need to register their entry/entries with the organiser and their name would be put into a ballot system. Names would be drawn one at a time and the number of entries discussed would depend simply on progress during the event until the end of the session.
2. End of session: This needs to be defined to allow time for the raffle and for all members to have a further chat with the participants.

General:

Ideally, the member should be prepared to talk about their entry, and some guidance on this would be:-

- Where their idea or inspiration for the piece came from
- Problems encountered in deciding how to make with the piece, how to start, what chucking to use, how to re-mount, how to finish and so on
- Choice of blank, type of wood, shape of blank whether natural or milled
- Problems encountered during the making and how they were resolved "turners don't make mistakes, they make changes?"
- How they chose to finish the piece from refining the shape, abrasives used, sealing and finish coating to suit the end purpose of the item
- What other issues?

The piece can be something the member particularly likes and is proud of, or even unfinished and want some advice on how to resolve the problem they are having with the piece.

If those members whose entries did not get to be discussed would like they could bring their item to the next meeting to discuss with one or more of the more experienced turners.

Errol Levings 15Aug23