

Notes from the Committee – March 2017

The March committee was particularly lengthy with a considerable amount of debate about the way the Klub is organised. Currently we are putting on about 36 events a year and sometimes struggle to find organisers and planners for all of them. Hopefully the upcoming event planning and organizing courses, together with additional event safety workshops will bring in some new recruits, while we talked about establishing a more formal system to ensure that novice planners and organisers can be mentored.

Getting permissions to use land continues to give us problems. Our Saturday event at East Harptree had to be postponed because winter weather caused delays in tree-felling operations, while the Forestry Commission has imposed a wider ban on activities after dark in the Forest of Dean because of issues surrounding the management of the wild boar. This ban will affect future Western Night League series for at least the next two years.

We are looking at ways of expanding the appeal of orienteering. Following on from the Westonbirt event, the Forestry Commission is hoping to establish a “Gruffalo” course in the Old Arboretum using a specially designed and simplified type of O-map and featuring special permanent course features. For the City of Bristol races we also plan to produce a Photo-O map of the harbourside that will enable visitors to walk around the floating harbour, using an urban orienteering map to match photos to their location.

The Klub dinner will take place before our next Committee so we had the enjoyable task of selecting some of the winners for our annual awards – although allocations of the performance awards has to wait until after the JK.

Finally, returning to a recurrent theme, Committee agreed a further revision to the Klub’s photographic policy that reflects the changes in emphasis of the National policy that happened last summer. Please could organisers take a look at this policy and ensure that appropriate wording is included with their final details.

Chris Johnson
March 2017.