

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL HELD ON THE 2nd DECEMBER 2015

PRESENT: Peter Harvey - Chairman
Nick Bowers
Neil Goudie
Lisa Humphries
Dave Latimer
George Metcalfe
John Williams

IN ATTENDANCE: Les Kaye – Treasurer
Anthony Smith – Company Secretary
Pete Stratten – Chief Executive

APOLOGIES:
Ron Bridges
Bill Craig
Andy Perkins

47/15 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes from the 17th October 2015 meeting were approved and will be signed in due course by the chairman.

Status: Closed

48/15 COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Peter Harvey reported that Liz Sparrow has stepped forward as chairman of the Competitions and Awards committee. All those present approved the appointment with thanks.

Status: Closed

49/15 SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

The October Instructors Committee meeting notes and the October Competitions Committee meeting notes were considered and accepted with thanks.

Status: Closed

50/15 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Referring to the Articles of Association, Tony Smith described the Executive Committee membership status ahead of the 2016 AGM which results in a number of members needing to re-stand if they choose to do so, and two vacancies as ordinary members. Those present who could choose to re-stand noted their intention to do so. Andrew Perkins, who was unavoidably absent, would be approached separately. It was noted that the current situation could in the near future lead to a large proportion of the Executive Committee changing in a single year. Pete Stratten noted that the formal notification of the AGM to be sent to member club secretaries around the 18th December will, as normal, include a description of the Executive Committee membership situation including a request for nominations ahead of the AGM as required.

The significant benefits of regular direct engagement between sub-Committee Chairmen and the Executive Committee were noted by John Williams and agreed by those present. It was proposed and supported by those present that sub-Committee chairmen should be individually encouraged to periodically join Executive Committee meetings to further enhance communication between the Executive Committee and its sub-Committees.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: 18th December 2015

51/15 YEAR END MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS AND 16/17 DRAFT BUDGET

Les Kaye spoke to a previously circulated document describing the Oct 2014-to Sep 2015 management accounts out-turn and a proposed draft budget for Oct 2016-Sep 2017.

A number of factors were noted including club membership numbers, reduced expenditure by committees, website costs including irrecoverable VAT, marketing at events, promotion of introductory flying, funding for participation related projects, holding down instructor fees, and increased engineering costs due to increased support. The potential budgetary impact of future regulatory developments was noted and would be included in ongoing financial planning. It was noted that it may be appropriate to increase the S&G cover price and that would be considered within the wider S&G development work currently underway. It was agreed by those present that any significant costs associated with any legal action needed to be taken in support of clubs would need to be assessed and funded in discussion with the membership.

Those present supported the proposed budget that aims to approximately break-even. In addition, it was noted that there is a need to continue to develop resources in support of increasing airspace work and agreed that this should be addressed within the 2016/2017 budget. It was agreed that the draft budget should be re-presented to the Executive Committee with the associated change to expenditure and supporting income at the next meeting.

It was agreed that the audited accounts would be considered at either the next planned Executive Committee meeting conference call or a separate single-subject conference call during January.

Status: Open Action: Les Kaye, Pete Stratten, All Due: 14th January 2016

52/15 PROPOSED RECOMMENDED PRACTICE RE OPPOSING CIRCUITS

Pete Stratten spoke to a recommendation that following stated concerns by a number of member clubs, the RP that was proposed for publication in 2016 should not be published. All those present agreed. It was noted that the related issue remains and that the Safety Committee will endeavour to ensure the issue is appropriately highlighted through other means. Nick Bowers described his view that Recommended Practices and the associated governance should be reviewed. Pete Stratten referred to his recent paper produced in support of that which noted the recent completed review of Operational Regulations, the need to not lose the related good practice and policies within RP's, and proposed a review by a working group. Those present enthusiastically accepted Nick's offer to form a small working group to carry out a review and report back to the Executive Committee, with the aim of having an agreed way forward ahead of the 2016 club management conference.

Status: Open Action: Nick Bowers Due: November 2016

53/15 EGC 2017 UPDATE AND HEADS OF AGREEMENT

Peter Harvey spoke to a previously circulated document describing the agreement between the BGA and Lasham GS to deliver the 2017 European Gliding Championships. Those present broadly supported the approach described in the paper, including the aim to support Lasham and to generate British Team funds. It was noted that the risk and reward aspects should be linked, and agreed that those present need to be provided with and consider a cap on any financial liability before approving the arrangements on behalf of the BGA. Peter Harvey agreed to take the points raised by the Executive Committee to Lasham to develop a revised proposal.

Status: Open Action: Peter Harvey Due: 2016

54/15 CLUB MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Dave Latimer noted how the recent club management conference was, on balance, helpful. Among other points of detail, he went on to note how thinking had been stimulated about treating trial flights as potential members, and that the Development Committee is starting to better understand member conversion issues. It was noted that more than 50% of clubs were represented and in

most cases by more than one club officer. Dave Latimer noted that a new venue is being planned for 2016 and thanked those present who had attended and had been involved. The Executive thanked Dave and his team for their work and effectiveness in delivering another excellent event.

Status: Closed

55/15 AOB

- a) John Williams noted that he cannot currently forecast how the TAG/Farnborough ACP will evolve beyond the current pause instigated by the CAA.
- b) Dave Latimer noted that ongoing engagement with HMRC and others is providing better clarity on various points of detail including re capital gains tax.
- c) Pete Stratten noted that the BGA now has ATO approval for delivering instructor and examiner refresher seminars and that those are being managed by Don Irving (Head of Training) with Mike Fox (Training Standards Manager) and with office admin support. Compliance has to assured by the appointed compliance manager (Andy Miller) who reports to the Accountable Manager (BGA CEO).

The next Executive Committee conference call will be held on the 14th January 2016.