

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 24th APRIL 2017

PRESENT: Peter Harvey - Chairman
Nick Bowers
Bill Craig
Neil Goudie
Lisa Humphries
George Metcalfe

IN ATTENDANCE: Pete Stratten - Chief Executive Officer

APOLOGIES: Charlie Jordan
Dave Latimer
Andy Perkins – Vice Chairman
Tony Smith – Treasurer and Company Secretary

12/17 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes from the 24th February 2017 meeting were approved and will be signed by the chairman at the next opportunity.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten, Peter Harvey

13/17 INSTRUCTOR SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES MARCH 2017

The instructor sub-committee meeting notes of March 2017 were reviewed and accepted with thanks. The instructor committee recommendation to remove the Silver Badge from the other otherwise unchanged minimum requirements to qualify as a BI was discussed and accepted. Pete Stratten agreed to make the necessary revision to BGA requirements under Laws and Rules and to inform clubs.

Status: Closed Action: Pete Stratten

14/17 AIRSPACE SUPPORT

Following a decision during the February 2017 Executive Committee meeting, Pete Stratten reported on the progress to date on the subject of a professional airspace officer to support BGA volunteers working on this vitally important subject which included engagement with the GAA member organisations through the GAA facilitator, development of a draft job description; and development of working principles. Pete Stratten noted a recent request from the Lasham chairman passed on to Executive Committee members recommending that the BGA employ the services of a professional airspace officer. The recommendation was accepted in principal.

It was noted that there is an imperative to establish the post and that the challenge of finding and engaging the calibre of person needed should not be underestimated. It was agreed that BGA will engage directly with other air sport chairmen including through the GA Alliance to agree principles and encourage joint funding, identify a suitable governance model, finalise the role description, and advertise including within the aviation press.

Status: Open Action: Peter Harvey, Pete Stratten Due: June 2017

15/17 STRATEGY

George Metcalfe spoke to previously circulated documents describing the process of development and consultation around the clubs future vision of gliding. This has been considered within direct email contact, surveys, and discussion with club and other BGA volunteers including during the

November 2016 club management conference. A number of common strategic themes and potential priorities for BGA have emerged. Those present thanked George Metcalfe for the work to date and agreed with the proposed priority themes. It was agreed that there is a need for continued engagement with clubs as the strategy develops and that club input needs to be actively encouraged. A further iteration of the strategy table will be developed, after comment from other Exec members and from Sub Committee chairs, ahead of the 2017 club management conference. It was agreed that meanwhile the existing strategy themes and detail provides helpful strategic background and direction to the significant amount of work that BGA is currently engaged in.

Status: Open Action: George Metcalfe

16/17 NEEDWOOD FOREST GC

Pete Stratten spoke to previously circulated detail noting that on closure and relocation from their previous site to operate the two remaining club aircraft under the Stratford on Avon GC, Needwood Forest GC had ended their full membership of the BGA and have subsequently requested associated membership of the BGA. Those present considered the request and subject to discussion with Stratford on Avon GC and BGA Articles of Association requirements, approved the request.

Status: Closed Action: Pete Stratten, Tony Smith

17/17 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT FUND

Pete Stratten spoke to Dave Latimer's previously circulated detail noting that an urgent request to approve the PEF trustee's engagement of a replacement trustee. Those present approved the request. Discussion took place around the excellent work of the PEF, anticipated future budgetary needs, governance of BGA funds and the process through which the PEF work is funded, including some concern and challenge by Executive Committee members regarding the historic model where significant BGA funds were allocated to the PEF to be disbursed by the appointed PEF trustees. Those present agreed that the subject should be further considered with Diana King and guidance sought on the way forward via Dave Latimer.

Status: Closed Action: Dave Latimer

18/17 CLUB ANNUAL RETURNS

Pete Stratten reminded those present how club returns including the related statistics are a vital element of BGA support to clubs, support BGA governance, and are an important part of the BGA's funding model. He went on to note that in recent years, while care has been taken to minimize the required data and make supply of the information relatively simple and many clubs do meet their obligations by supplying the detail in good time, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain accurate details from a number of clubs, and that a smaller number of clubs do not provide any returns resulting in invoicing based on historic data and statistics. Those present agreed that it is extremely important that member clubs do supply accurate data, including full and temporary membership data, and where that does not occur it is unfair to those clubs that do supply timely and accurate information. It was agreed that the situation would be explained to clubs and in doing so support will be offered to clubs that struggle to collate the data. In addition a fixed date for submission of annual returns will be clarified and clearly promulgated. It was agreed that the situation will be discussed with club chairmen at the 2017 club management conference seeking their views on resolving the issue.

Status: Open Due: November 2017 Action: Pete Stratten, Dave Latimer

19/17 AoB

- a) Temporary members. Following contact on the topic by two clubs that are promoting flying among young people including Air Cadets, those present agreed to apply a BGA £0 charge

for temporary members aged under 21 for a trial period that will be reviewed at the end of 2017.

Status: Open Due: April 2017 Action: Pete Stratten

- b) Airspace work funding. Pete Stratten described email exchanges with Lasham GS discussing proposals around BGA assistance to Lasham's potential funding efforts relating to their airspace work including engagement with other GA organisations and assistance in promoting GA-wide interest. Those present noted and agreed that the offer of support is appropriate.
- c) Meeting dates. Those present agreed to review the recently circulated annual programme of calls and meetings. Pete Stratten agreed to poll for the next meeting date.

Status: Open Due: June 2017 Action: All