

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 20th SEPTEMBER 2017

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

IN ATTENDANCE: John Williams – Airspace Committee Chairman
Pete Stratten - Chief Executive Officer

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

30/17 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes from the 27th June 2017 meeting were approved and will be signed by the chairman at the next opportunity.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten, Peter Harvey

31/17 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – DARLEY MOOR AIRSPORT CLUB

Pete Stratten spoke to a previously circulated briefing. Those present discussed the application and related issues including the sites potentially narrow operating strips. It was agreed that the application for Associate Membership would be accepted subject to the normal requirements and an operational review visit by the BGA within 12 months. Pete Stratten agreed to process the application.

Status: Closed Action: Pete Stratten

32/17 LETTER TO THE CAA RE AIRSPACE POLICY

Peter Harvey noted that a letter to the CAA expressing the BGA's specific concerns about CAA airspace policy had been approved by the Executive Committee and submitted to the CAA on the 19th September. A response is expected from the CAA.

Status: Closed Open: Pete Stratten Due: October 2017

33/17 AIRSPACE CONSULTANT - UPDATE

Pete Stratten spoke to a previously circulated briefing. It was noted that a number of credible applications had been received which were being assessed by a sub-group within the GA Alliance, with the aim of interviewing a shortlist of candidates and identifying the right person by end November 2017.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: November 2017

34/17 AIRSPACE - UPDATE

John Williams provided an update on three airspace change topics;

Leeds Bradford Airport (LBA). It was noted that individuals from Burn and Yorkshire gliding clubs are coordinating a common view among the large soaring community locally impacted by the LBA

proposals, which appear to be driven by unproven anticipated growth by LBA and by competition with another airport in the region. There are a number of problems with the proposal developed by airspace change consultant Osprey, including unnecessary areas of CAS impacting on local as well as cross country activity, narrowing of the Upton corridor thus impacting on north/south transit, and erroneous and misleading data. It was noted that those involved for BGA will produce a solid response which will be submitted by 6th October. However, it was noted that regardless of the quality of the ACP's and the responses made during consultation, the CAA routinely approve ACP's submitted by airports.

TAG/Farnborough. A CAA announcement about TAG/Farnborough's ACP is expected in September or October 2017.

Exeter. It was noted that Exeter's airspace change proposals discussed with GA stakeholders were confirmed by Exeter airport as 'a starter for ten', were open to discussion, and resulted in an alternative approach being proposed by the BGA including representatives of local clubs. However, the original proposals remain essentially unchanged within the formal consultation. Discussion with Exeter has continued and a 'Bath Gap' type arrangement has been offered by Exeter in respect of the proposed CAS to the north of Exeter. The ACP, produced by Osprey, includes flawed content. The large area of proposed class D simply blankets existing documented and undocumented procedures employed by all Exeter airport operators including GA. John Williams intends to attempt to engage further with Exeter ATC to expand earlier discussion around a significantly smaller area of airspace to protect CAT, and in doing so will clarify that the only acceptable alternative for BGA would be a full redesign.

Those present thanked John Williams and colleagues working on airspace issues for their considerable efforts on behalf of gliding.

35/17 GLIDE BRITAIN - UPDATE

Pete Stratten spoke to Dave Latimer's previously circulated briefing noting the achievements and related issues associated with the Glide Britain tour. Those present thanked those involved and considered that the headlines, any lessons learned, and next steps should be presented at the 2017 Club Management Conference. It was noted that there are a number of deliverables expected by donors.

Status: Open Action: Dave Latimer Due: November 2017

36/17 MARKETING OFFICER AND EXHIBITIONS - UPDATE

Pete Stratten spoke to a previously circulated briefing, noting that the BGA is advertising for a part-time marketing officer with the aim of supporting BGA club and wider marketing efforts. The closing date for application is 30th November 2017. Pete Stratten noted that he has arranged for a marketing 'health check' to be carried out during October by a professional marketing company that works with other air sports. Pete Stratten went on to note that the BGA will reduce the number of GA events it attends for PR purposes and instead will focus its volunteer PR resources on targeted events that have greater public footfall, eg The Science Show in October 2017.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten

37/17 EGC 2017 LASHAM - UPDATE

Peter Harvey noted how the EGC 2017 held at Lasham was a significant success with superb organization and a great buzz among club members and participants who all operated safely and effectively throughout the two week competition period. The British Gliding Team performed superbly resulting in a number of medals in all three classes. The budget outcome will be presented to the Executive Committee in due course.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: October 2017

38/17 WOMENS WORLD GLIDING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021 BID

Peter Harvey noted that Liz Sparrow has proposed that the UK hosts the 2021 WWGC and that he supports the idea of the bid being developed, subject to a suitable operational proposal and without financial risk to the BGA. Those present agreed that hosting the WWGC presents a great opportunity to promote women in gliding and agreed that if the proposal evolves, the Competition Committee should submit any draft bid to the Executive Committee ahead of formal submission to the IGC.

39/17 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WORKSHOP AND CLUB MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Peter Harvey noted the planned October workshop and requested that those present submit agenda topics in good time. He went on to note the importance of the Club Management Conference and sought assurance that the organization of the event was progressing. Pete Stratten noted that the Development Committee including Alison Randle were well advanced with planning the event with no known significant issues.

40/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is the Executive Committee workshop at the BGA office during Saturday 21st October 2017.