

# BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2018

PRESENT: Andy Perkins – Chairman  
Nick Bowers  
Richard Brickwood  
Bill Brittain  
Dave Latimer  
George Metcalfe – Vice Chairman  
Tony Smith – Treasurer and Company Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE: Pete Bennett  
Pete Stratten - Chief Executive Officer

APOLOGIES:  
Bill Craig  
Lisa Humphries

### 41/18 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes from the September 2018 meeting were approved and will be signed by the chairman at the next opportunity.

**Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten, Andy Perkins**

### 42/18 BGA STRATEGY

George Metcalfe noted the importance of annual reviews of the BGA strategy that include seeking inputs from clubs. Noting that the strategy guides central BGA and sub-committee activity, he went on to describe recent further helpful inputs from sub-committees that indicate plans to address related BGA strategic priorities going forward.

**Status: Open Action: George Metcalfe**

### 43/18 SITE SECURITY

In the face of government priorities around housing development and airports and known issues at club sites, site security issues were discussed in detail including progress by a working group looking at airfields within the Thames Valley area that followed a regional meeting of club chairmen. It was agreed that ideally the working group should be expanded and connected to Louis Chicot via the Development Committee. Andy Perkins agreed to pass on the suggestion. The working group may present a model for other similar working groups that may become necessary in other regions.

**Status: Closed Action: Andy Perkins**

### 44/18 PARTICIPATION

Andy Perkins facilitated a wide-ranging discussion related to getting people into gliding and helping them stay within gliding. It was agreed that central support coupled with examples of best practice at clubs can be a very helpful catalyst for change at a local level where felt appropriate by clubs, including around marketing; adopting an ambassadorial approach to potential new members; meeting member's needs; the image, quality and approach to supplying club facilities including catering; flying operations efficiency; and use of non-gliding volunteers. Those present considered how BGA can develop existing support for some of those activities through ongoing response to club feedback, through sub-committee activities and through connecting with large organisations that can help to promote a gliding lifestyle to specific demographics.

**Status: Open Action: All**

45/18 SPONSORSHIP

Richard Brickwood reported that the recent sponsorship strategy meeting had resulted in a clear view that the BGA should work towards major sponsorship of British gliding. The sponsorship approach will be to develop a professional relationship with a sponsor whose needs would be met by the arrangement and the benefit that could additionally bring to the sport. Specifically, the approach will not be all about the money and how it could be spent. It was noted that it is likely to take 2-3 years to find a major sponsor, that professional support will be needed, that the approach should be for a renewable long-term arrangement, and that if successfully established all elements of the BGA would be involved. Richard Brickwood sought inputs from anyone with potentially helpful corporate connections.

**Status: Open Action: Richard Brickwood**

46/18 BGA ROLE AND FEEDBACK MECHANISMS

Bill Brittain noted that the BGA role isn't always clear to members of clubs, welcomed the recent article in S&G that described how the BGA Executive operates and the wider BGA structure, and noted how those messages will need to be maintained. Those present agreed.

It was also noted that the BGA's central role can sometimes be erroneously negatively perceived. This was highlighted at one club by their discomfort at the impending visit of a BGA accident investigator and their view of the approach he would take and the power he would wield.

A discussion took place around mechanisms for clubs to provide feedback. This included the club management conference where opportunities are planned for direct private contact with the BGA chairman and others.

**Status: Closed**

47/18 BUDGET AND ACCOUNTS

Referring to previously circulated documents, Tony Smith reported the outcome of a recent budget and accounts meeting that resulted in a draft proposed budget for 2019/2020 that the Executive Committee will need to comment on for final development by mid-December 2018. Pete Stratten described the timeline for accounts audit and circulation to clubs ahead of the 2019 AGM.

The YE 30th Sep 2018 management accounts were considered. A previously agreed in principal £7K transfer towards airspace support at LGS that potentially benefits all gliding clubs was discussed and approved. This will be paid shortly, but recognised in the statutory accounts to 30 September 2018. Some discussion took place around the competition reserve and recent helpful input from the Competitions Committee. Those present sought more information about Team objectives, classes entered, and potential achievements in the face of a reduced or increased budget. Andy Perkins agreed to discuss with the Competitions Committee chair.

There was a small shortfall of circa £3k between the funds received by Go Gliding Community Interest Company and the amount of expenditure incurred. It was agreed that this balance should be treated as an additional donation by the BGA to Go Gliding Community Interest Company on the basis of the valuable work completed, including the high-profile media exposure. It was also agreed that in the event of the CIC no longer being required, it would be closed.

**Status: Open Action: Tony Smith, Pete Stratten Due: December 2018**

48/18 AIRSPACE UPDATE

Neil Goudie, chair of the BGA Airspace Committee spoke to a circulated paper describing the challenges, opportunities, past achievements and the current and planned approach to airspace

strategy, the airspace committee, club airspace officers, CAP1616, partnerships including the GA Alliance and Airspace4All, issues with CAA AAA, engagement with the membership, and current hot topics that in addition to receiving direct push back to CAA and DfT are gaining political interest. Those present thanked Neil Goudie for a very insightful briefing, noted their full support of the airspace committee, and again noted the vital importance of local and national work on airspace matters.

**Status: Open**

49/18 FARNBOROUGH ACP CAA DECISION

George Metcalfe described in general terms the judicial review process and noted that the LGS team had done a herculean job in getting the required information prepared and submitted by the deadline to initiate a Judicial Review of the CAA decision. There should not be any BGA contact on this subject while the legal challenge is running its course, and contingency actions previously under consideration will not proceed. He went on to comment briefly on some generic thinking which is continuing within the core group he leads for the Executive Committee towards improving understanding of mid-air conflict probabilities and Post implementation Reviews. It was noted that the BGA is currently promoting LGS fundraising efforts and will continue to do so in contact with LGS.

**Status: Open**

50/18 EU EXIT, EASA DEVELOPMENTS

Pete Stratten spoke to previously circulated documents describing potential issues related to EU Exit without agreement, related discussion so far with DfT and CAA, BGA contingency discussion relating to airworthiness and pilot licensing, and an intention to propose solutions to DfT and CAA that minimize impacts on clubs, owners and pilots. He went on to describe helpful developments under EASA's GA strategy of 'lighter simpler regulation' including the Declared Training Organisation rules now in place after significant efforts, and the draft sailplane operations rules and draft sailplane pilot licensing rules that have been developed with a significant input from the EGU including BGA under EASA's 'sailplane rulebook' approach. It was noted that EASA will be publishing a cover regulation extending the opt out from FCL for balloon and sailplane pilots until April 2021. It was noted that considerable ongoing effort by the BGA, its volunteers and the EGU has resulted in a welcome prevention of change to draconian rules in 2012, later in 2015, and is facilitating the development of a proportionate approach ahead of change in 2021. It was agreed that the BGA should continue to lobby via CAA and DfT to press EASA to again seek to allow the adoption of national medical requirements in individual countries.

**Status: Closed**

51/18 MARKETING MEETING NOTES

Those present considered and accepted with thanks the previously circulated October 2018 BGA Marketing Meeting notes. Pete Stratten agreed to ask the volunteer PR team for a one-page description their objectives and what outputs they anticipate from attending public shows.

**Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: December 2018**

52/18 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Those present considered and accepted with thanks the previously circulated September 2018 Technical Committee meeting notes.

**Status: Closed**

53/18 SAFETY COMMITTEE PRIORITIES

Pete Stratten spoke to previously circulated note describing how the Safety Committee considers that its existing priorities of protecting third parties and reducing fatal accidents along with associated enabling work should continue. It was noted that some known areas of risk are not responding to associated education and encouragement to adopt best practice and that if clubs

agreed it was the correct approach to take, during 2019 work would be developed to support a greater awareness of 'soft' issues, ie around human factor awareness and culture including supervision. Those present agreed with the approach. Pete Stratten noted that the club management conference would be a good barometer of club management willingness to develop the proposed approach.

**Status: Closed**

54/18 AOB

- a. Executive Meeting Documents. Andy Perkins proposed and all agreed that Executive Committee meeting documents are made available in an online folder as well as circulated by email.

**Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: December 2018**

- b. BGA Patron. Andy Perkins reported on communication with the Palace that he will be following up. He noted that he will prepare a short note for the next meeting with reference to the Patron and Life President support.

**Status: Open Action: Andy Perkins Due: December 2018**

- c. SASP Status. Dave Latimer reported that SASP qualifying requirements are being reviewed and it may be possible to increase the number of clubs with this potentially helpful status.

The next meeting will be during November 2018. Dates will be polled.