

# BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019

PRESENT: Andy Perkins – Chairman  
Pete Bennett  
Nick Bowers  
Richard Brickwood  
Bill Brittain  
Rebecca Bryan  
George Metcalfe – Vice Chairman  
Tony Smith – Treasurer and Company Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE: Peter Hibbard – Co-opted Member  
Pete Stratten - Chief Executive Officer

APOLOGIES:  
Bill Craig  
Lisa Humphries

56/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes from the 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019 meeting were approved and will be signed by the chairman at the next opportunity.

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

57/19 COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Pete Stratten spoke to a previously circulated report that described several amendments to the BGA committee terms of reference which followed consultation with and feedback from BGA committee chairmen. The revised terms of reference were discussed in detail and, subject to a line change regarding alignment with the BGA strategy, were approved for publication. Pete Stratten agreed to inform all the sub-committee chairmen.

**Status: Closed Action: Pete Stratten**

58/19 PATRON

Andy Perkins noted and those present discussed the BGA Patrons highly valued support over very many years and associated with that potential celebration and other opportunities that could be linked to the BGA's 90<sup>th</sup> year and the WWGC 2021. Andy Perkins agreed to take the topic forward with the relevant authorities.

**Status: Open Due: February 2020 Action: Andy Perkins**

59/19 REGULATORY ISSUES AND RELATED BGA ACTIVITY

Pete Stratten spoke to a previously circulated paper describing regulatory issues and BGA activity. It was noted that Part-66L (maintenance licence rules for sailplane and balloon inspectors) will require BGA inspectors to convert to a Part-66L licence under a process being developed between BGA and the CAA, and that future inspectors will need to qualify under a Part-66L compliant process that will ideally be managed by the BGA. It was further noted that Part-SFCL (sailplane flight crew licensing) rules will apply to all pilots of EASA sailplanes in the UK from 8 April 2021 and at that point the associated Part-MED (medical) and Part-DTO (declared training organisation) rules will apply. It was noted that the BGA should continue to press for continuation of self-declaration medicals in the UK and that a formal request and supporting case should be put to the DfT (Department for Transport) as soon as practical. It was agreed that BGA clubs should be encouraged and supported to achieve DTO status by the end of 2020 and that pilot licence

conversion should be promoted and encouraged through 2020 once CAA are legally permitted to issue the SFCL compliant SPL (sailplane pilot licence).

**Status: Open Due: December 2020 Action: Pete Stratten**

60/19 WOMENS WORLD GLIDING CHAMPIONSHIP 2021 (WWGC21)

Liz Sparrow joined the meeting to provide a presentation regarding the WWGC21 to be held at Husbands Bosworth in August 2021. Having described the vision, it was noted by Liz Sparrow that the delivery team comprises of BGA and The Gliding Centre (TGC), the draft amended operating agreement is currently with FAI, a BGA/TGC agreement will be drafted, BGA is committed to a £5K cost, TGC requires a £15k operating surplus, a further practice event will take place during 2020, local sponsorship may be forthcoming, it may be appropriate to support nine UK entries in the competition, a sponsor and VIP day will be delivered, and that a risk analysis will be developed during 2020. Noting her role as Director and the currently involved TGC team, Liz Sparrow requested that a WWGC21 BGA lead representative is appointed. She went on to describe potential legacy benefits from the competition and described how those could be levered. Those present enthusiastically discussed the detail and potential opportunities with Liz Sparrow, thanked her and others who have put in so much successful effort to date, agreed to consider the WWGC21 BGA representative role, and requested more detail in due course.

**Status: Open Due: April 20 Action: Andy Perkins**

61/19 BUDGET FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2020/2021

Tony Smith reported on the BGA management accounts. Those present discussed several points of detail, including limiting the impact of potential external regulatory costs on BGA inspectors, and discussed options to most effectively and appropriately disburse three separate historic donations made to support pilot development and that currently reside within the management accounts. Other than Launchpoint trustee George Metcalfe who recused himself from the decision, it was agreed by all to transfer the three donations totaling £9K to the Launchpoint charity. Tony Smith proposed a 2020/2021 budget including revised membership fees that in due course would be presented at the 2020 BGA AGM. Those present discussed and approved the draft budget subject to final approval following the annual audit of the BGA accounts. Those present thanked Tony Smith for his ongoing work as BGA Treasurer and asked Pete Stratten to pass on their thanks to the BGA Accounts Manager.

**Status: Open Due: Dec 19 Action: Tony Smith**

62/19 OPERATIONAL REGULATIONS UPDATE

Pete Stratten spoke to a previously circulated paper that identified an inconsistency in two Operational Regulations and proposed amendments. Those present discussed the detail and agreed that as required by the BGA Articles of Association, the amendments should be proposed to the membership at the next AGM.

**Status: Open Due: Dec 19 Action: Pete Stratten**

63/19 CLUB DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Dave Latimer joined the meeting to provide a club development update. Those present were briefed on the most recent membership statistics including by club and the associated demographics. Junior membership is continuing to grow, female membership numbers are static and overall the total membership number is slowly declining. It was noted and agreed that some form of online annual reporting by clubs would be advantageous and that the reporting period should be aligned with that of the reporting club.

**Status: Open Due: Aug 20 Action: Pete Stratten**

Dave Latimer described several club successes and went on to note several challenges at clubs, that a SASP review is underway, how a currently dormant club is likely to be re-appearing at a new site, and potential site purchases. He described Glide Britain work underway that has a theme of encouraging pilots to become instructors and of volunteering in clubs more generally. Those present thanked Dave Latimer and the wider Development Committee team for their ongoing successful efforts.

#### 64/19 STRATEGY

Andy Perkins described the need to reflect on strategic issues, to review and where necessary update the existing BGA strategy, and in doing so to carefully consider the BGA's role on behalf of the membership. George Metcalfe reminded those present of the purpose and evolution of the currently published BGA strategy.

It was agreed by those present that the published 'BGA vision' remains appropriate and that the vision should be promoted to clubs for use in their own strategies.

Several strategy related topics were discussed including; safety management, participation and membership, technical issues including re non-EASA airframes, fleet vulnerability, team funding, airspace and pilot development, and Brexit implications. It was agreed that;

- a) The safety committee and the instructor and examining committee safety initiative approach should continue.
- b) A new initiative to develop pilot coaching, ie of qualified glider pilots sport gliding potential, will be launched once suitable people are identified to take it forward.
- c) BGA will continue to seek maximum delegation from CAA on issues that legally require CAA involvement.
- d) Following clarity about the UK's status with respect to Brexit and EASA, the Technical Committee should revisit and develop the topic of BGA support to EASA and non-EASA airframes.
- e) Clubs should be encouraged to consider legacy two-seat fleet replacement.
- f) The BGA should further develop its capabilities, partnerships, lobbying and response mechanisms relating to Airspace Modernisation and to Part-ATS activity.
- g) The BGA will continue to support the team funding change programme and that the Comps Committee should further develop innovative options for future team funding and clarify the benefits.

It was agreed that the BGA strategy will continue to be periodically reviewed and updated where required. Those present thanked George Metcalfe for his continued oversight of the BGA strategy publication including periodic engagement with the BGA sub-committees as principle delivery channels.

**Status: Open**

#### 65/19 AOB

- a. 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Those present agreed to defer this topic to a future meeting.
- b. Encouraging Diversity. Those present agreed to defer a topic exploring how to encourage a broader range of society into gliding to a future meeting.
- c. Suffolk Soaring. Pete Stratten spoke to an application for Associate membership from Suffolk Soaring. Those present sought assurance regarding the legal entity status of the organisation. Subject to that assurance, those present agreed in principle to a trial period of associate membership.

The next meeting will be a conference call during December. A date poll will follow.