

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 25th JULY 2021

PRESENT: Andy Perkins – Chairman
Pete Bennett
Richard Brickwood
Bill Brittain
George Metcalfe – Vice Chairman
Matt Page

IN ATTENDANCE: Lucy Wootton
Pete Stratten - Chief Executive Officer

APOLOGIES: Rebecca Bryan
Nick Garland
Peter Hibbard
Tony Smith – Treasurer and Company Secretary

27/21 PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES

The Executive Committee meeting notes of 10th June 2021 were approved and will be signed by the chairman at the next opportunity.

28/21 SAFETY MATTERS

Pete Stratten described a recent accident resulting in serious injury and follow up engagement with the involved club, the AAIB and the CAA. It was noted that the club chairman and CFI have agreed to meet with representatives of the BGA safety committee with the aim of the club identifying how to move forward with effective safety management.

It was noted that club safety officer seminars will be delivered by the Safety Committee later in 2021. Those present considered other club officer training opportunities and guidance, including for CFI's. It was agreed that the Instructors and Examiners Committee Chairman should be asked to review and develop CFI training opportunities and bespoke guidance and report back to the Executive Committee by October 2021 with advice on how that could be delivered to CFIs who would welcome the support.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: October 2021

29/21 SUSTAINABILITY, MARKETING AND SPONSORSHIP

Richard Brickwood reported on plans to publish an article in S&G during September, to report and link to that article in the September BGA e-Newsletter, and to write to clubs during August to remind clubs about the information sent to them during May. Andy Perkins and Richard Brickwood agreed to liaise regarding several clubs that may be best placed to engage with and pilot aspects of the initiative.

Status: Open Action: Richard Brickwood, Andy Perkins Due: October 2021

30/21 COVID GUIDANCE

Pete Stratten reported that following the recent changes to COVID restrictions, detailed operations-specific guidance previously published by the BGA has been replaced with signposting to generic DfT GA COVID and Devolved Administrations guidance. Any future COVID-passport requirements will be reflected in that guidance.

31/21 SAILPLANE FLIGHT CREW LICENSING EXEMPTION EXTENSION

Pete Stratten described the background to the CAA's sudden decision to extend the exemption from the requirement to hold an SPL from 8th December 2021 to 8th December 2023. He went on to note that the CAA intends to review and simplify GA pilot licensing during 2022 and 2023, with various new expert

groups being formed by CAA to inform the process. Those present agreed the vital importance of gliding subject matter experts being involved in CAA decision-making on the future of sailplane pilot licensing and that simplicity is a fundamental requirement along with the retention of all existing privileges. Pete Stratten noted that a meeting of BGA subject matter experts is taking place late in July to consider the subject and that the output from that meeting will be reported to the Executive Committee. Those present agreed that clarity of direction of travel and engagement with clubs and pilots on this topic will continue to be important going forward.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: October 2021

32/21 WWGC22

Andy Perkins reported on WWGC22 preparation discussions he had recently held with Liz Sparrow, the Competition Director. Noting the huge amount of effort by Liz Sparrow, Andy Perkins went on to propose greater BGA Executive Committee involvement through monthly updates from the appointed BGA Executive Committee representative within the event organizing team. All those present agreed that Andy Perkins should invite Iain Baker to brief the Executive Committee as a fixed agenda item at each Executive Committee meeting from September 2021 leading up to the event.

Andy Perkins noted a potential sponsorship opportunity that could involve the development of an e-powered sailplane. Noting the potential link to previous conversations regarding university engineering departments, Lucy Wootton agreed to supply contact details.

Discussion took place regarding third-party supplied events associated with the WWGC22 and the need for expertly informed risk-management to be established within those arrangements and that need to be clearly described within the associated contracts between TGC for the WWGC22 and the suppliers.

Status: Open Action: Andy Perkins Due: September 2021

33/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) British Gliding Team success at the Junior European Gliding Championships. All those present offered their congratulations on the fantastic result by the British Gliding Team, who are returning from the competition with a Gold medal (Finn Sleigh, Club class), Silver medal (Tom Pavis, Standard class), Bronze medal (Henry Inigo-Jones, Standard class) and the Team Gold medal. Andy Perkins agreed to write to each Team member including Toby Freeland and team captain Clement Allen.
- b) Funding Opportunity. Bill Brittain reported on discussion he is having regarding funding opportunities and that he will report back later in 2021. He additionally noted that he is preparing a detailed analysis of the BGA pilot survey feedback.
- c) Shenington. Lucy Wootton noted the intention to form Edgehill Gliding Centre as a limited company and described options going forward that are being discussed between Shenington GC members and the airfield owner. Those present thanked Lucy and others at Shenington GC for their significant efforts to date in establishing an ongoing future for gliding at that site and noted the need for detailed information ahead of any obligations being placed on the BGA.
- d) Airspace. Pete Stratten noted that the CAA is engaging with the BGA on its revised Airspace Modernisation Strategy (AMS) and that airport driven Airspace Change Proposals (ACPs) are re-emerging. He noted that the workload can be expected to increase exponentially in the coming months and years. George Metcalfe noted that work continues to establish the A4A Trust, which aims to support general aviation's response to the AMS and related ACPs.

The next meeting will take place in September. Date to be advised in due course.