

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 16th MAY 2022

PRESENT Andy Perkins – Chairman
Richard Brickwood
Bill Brittain
Rebecca Bryan
Peter Hibbard
David McGrath
George Metcalfe – Vice Chairman
Matt Page
Lucy Wootton

APOLOGIES Nick Garland

IN ATTENDANCE Tony Smith - Treasurer and Company Secretary
Pete Stratten - Chief Executive Officer

18/22 PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES

The Executive Committee meeting notes of 13th April 2022 were approved and will be signed by the chairman at the next opportunity.

19/22 WWGC2022 UPDATE

Pete Stratten spoke to a briefing supplied by the WWGC2022 organising team that covered operations, events, budget and sponsorship, and attendance at a Parliamentary reception during June. Andy Perkins described how the 6th of June event in partnership with The Air League aims to highlight STEM opportunities, women role models in aviation, and access to aviation careers.

Status: Open until September 2022

20/22 MARKETING UPDATE

Pete Stratten reported that the marketing consultancy had been formally engaged, that a kick-off meeting took place on site at Cambridge Gliding Centre, that the first round of interviews had taken place and that the next step is a meeting in June to consider the content and delivery of the survey. Those present asked several questions and it was noted that following the next step an interim report will be provided to the Executive Committee.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: July 2022

21/22 CLUB HEALTH UPDATE

Following up agenda item 17/22b, Pete Stratten reported that a club in the Thames Valley Region that is in dispute with the airfield operator and as a result has not operated during 2022 so far is working hard to survive with the aim of recommencing operations at the airfield at which they have a lease, subject to a Council landlord decision in early June. It was noted that discussion is continuing regarding potential use of an unused military airfield and that Development Committee support continues where requested.

As an update from agenda item 16/22, Andy Perkins reported that project Future Proof, which aims to establish a sustainable future for gliding clubs on an airfield in the Thames Valley region, will be described in an S&G article this summer. David McGrath reiterated the importance of the project including the development of a business model and template that can be picked up by clubs with BGA support as and when a future long-term lease or purchase opportunity arises.

Status: Closed

22/22 REGULATION, CAA AND AIRSPACE UPDATE

Pete Stratten reported that UK aviation regulation is now based on retained EU regulation with emerging differences. He noted that the DfT is dependent on CAA for subject matter expertise, that the CAA has formed a rulemaking department, and that the situation is a potential risk as a new way of working has yet to be firmly established and at least one politically driven rather than risk-based regulatory decision has emerged that impacts gliding. He went on to note that going forward BGA contact with CAA should encourage meaningful and positive engagement.

Noting the ongoing flow of ACP consultations, Pete Stratten noted the A4AT ACP cell work is anticipated, highlighted the great work carried out by airspace committee colleagues and by clubs including an established group in Yorkshire and Derbyshire that works with BHPA colleagues in the area, and went on to note the need to continue to take an informed and flexible approach where gliding needs are addressed as an integral part of wider shared airspace developments.

Status: Closed

23/22 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Climate. It was noted that accuracy is important where describing climate change in news and website articles.
- b. Planning and Environment Fund. Those present agreed that Lisa Humphries, Robert John, Diana King and Robert Tait should be re-appointed as Trustees of the BGA Planning and Environment Fund for the period May 2022 to May 2027.
- c. BGA club in hibernation. It was noted that a club that has been in managed hibernation for two years during which assets have been loaned to other clubs is considering extending that period subject to a decision made at their AGM. General discussion took place around CASC status, the potential disposal of assets and governance.

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