

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 19th JANUARY 2023

PRESENT

Andy Perkins – Chairman
Richard Brickwood
Bill Brittain
Nick Garland
David McGrath
George Metcalfe – Vice Chairman
Matt Page
Lucy Wootton

APOLOGIES

Rebecca Bryan
Tony Smith - Treasurer and Company Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE

Pete Stratten - Chief Executive Officer

1/23 PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES

The Executive Committee meeting notes of 19th November 2022 were approved.

2/23 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AUDIT 2022 AND AGM 2023

Pete Stratten noted that the financial audit had taken place and that the Treasurer and Accounts Manager are communicating with the auditors to ensure that the final audited accounts are complete ready for Executive Committee approval ahead of the required timeline. Andy Perkins noted the need for a single subject call to review the final version of the accounts and anticipated that would take place before the 27th January. Pete Stratten noted that club secretaries had been notified during December by email of the AGM timing and date and that there is a vacancy on the Executive Committee, and that nominations were sought for that vacancy. He went on to note that at the closing date for nominations, one nomination had been received and therefore there is no requirement for a ballot, and that the agenda and other required documents and information will be supplied to clubs during late January.

Status: Open

3/23 BGA CONFERENCE

Pete Stratten reported that a topical and widely appealing range of presentation topics have been agreed, including external speakers presenting on e-powered opportunities and challenges. The 'about the BGA' and BGA awards sessions in the morning will be presented by Andy Perkins and Pete Stratten and reference several current priorities and successes. Bookings appear to be normal this far ahead of the event.

Status: Open

4/23 WEBSITE

Pete Stratten and Bill Brittain described a recent meeting with the BGA website supplier noting an initial exchange of thoughts about the website family refresh project including prioritizing the members website and Bill Brittain's kind offer to advise on the important knowledge management aspects and the contextual approach via engagement with subject matter experts. Noting several queries had been received from the supplier, Pete Stratten reported that some had been answered while others needed further research and noted that sub-committees had been contacted with the aim of 'weeding' out unnecessary documents that will be archived elsewhere. He went on to note a proposed timeline of member site refresh by October 2023 and the complete refresh by February 2024. Those present supported the approach being taken and Pete Stratten agreed to brief the Executive Committee ahead of contracting the first phase of the refresh.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: March 2023

5/23 SUB-COMMITTEES

Andy Perkins reported on helpful conversations he had held with individual sub-committee chairmen. He noted that some sub-committees are by necessity operating differently from the traditional periodic formal meeting approach, with most of the engagement and sub-committee activity and exchanges taking place online and via email exchanges. Andy Perkins proposed and all agreed that those sub-committee's chairmen will be asked to report quarterly to the Executive Committee. Pete Stratten agreed to make the arrangements with the sub-committee chairmen. Andy Perkins noted that some sub-committee chairmen find that the limited direct contact with club's members resulting from the BGA's membership structure can make it difficult to get important messages to individual pilots. Pete Stratten supported the sub-committee chairmen view and reported that contact can be made by club or BGA role and by engagement with subscribed services including the free newsletter, however complete contact is not possible as clubs do not share their membership details. It was agreed that clubs would be approached to discuss opportunities and options to improve important knowledge and information sharing and in compliance with GDPR requirements.

Those present reviewed the supplied Development Committee meeting notes and the supplied Airspace Committee report, both of which were accepted with thanks.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: March 2023

6/23 GO GLIDING PROGRAMME AND GRANT

Richard Brickwood reported on the successful bid for DfT supplied and CAA managed 'Reach for the Sky' funding. He noted how Liz Sparrow had developed the BGA's 'Go Gliding' application with support from Andy Perkins, Bill Brittain and himself, and that the BGA had subsequently been awarded a 'Silver' grant which will be used to support a planned and budgeted activities facilitated by contracted Go Gliding Programme Manager services, for which applications are currently being sought. Andy Perkins has written to club chairmen to seek engagement and identify associated opportunities for clubs including local and national engagement.

Status: Open Action: Richard Brickwood, Andy Perkins, Pete Stratten Due: March 2023

7/23 ROYAL AIR SQUADRON YOUNG INSTRUCTOR BURSARIES

Andy Perkins reported how the Royal Air Squadron has generously approached the BGA to offer bursaries for young gliding instructors which will be managed by the BGA through a process agreed with the Royal Air Squadron. The detail and application form are available on the BGA members website and applications have been received.

Closed

8/23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- a. Voucher prices. In response to a query, Pete Stratten noted that BGA voucher prices are periodically reviewed against a range of club published prices.
- b. Simulated gliding. In response to a question, Pete Stratten noted that the BGA does not provide guidance or recommendations on the use of simulated gliding software products. It was additionally noted that contact with an international supplier of gliding simulator software had been made and a response was awaited.
- c. Repeal of EU Legislation Bill. Pete Stratten reported on a positive meeting with DfT to discuss several important legislative issues around licensing, training, and medical requirements, the DFT's expected approach to REUL Bill developments, and expected ongoing opportunity to address outstanding issues of concern previously noted by the BGA, and that more detail is expected by mid-2023.

The next full meeting will take place ahead of the BGA Conference. Details to follow.
A single subject meeting will be notified as described at 2/23