

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

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

PRESENT

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

APOLOGIES

Nick Garland
Craig Lowrie

IN ATTENDANCE

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

31/23 PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES

The meeting notes of the 20th July were approved.

32/23 GO GLIDING - UPDATE

Richard Brickwood described several features of the project to date noting completed events at clubs and online seminars, lessons learned regarding club engagement and contacting organisations, external partners including the Stemettes and Talentview, next steps, and plans to reapply for funding for 2024. Those present thanked Richard Brickwood, Liz Sparrow, and contractor Mark Batin for their great work in developing and delivering the Go Gliding initiative.

Status: Open Action: Richard Brickwood Due: November 2023

33/23 GRANT FUNDING - UPDATE

Andy Perkins reminded those present of the outline and noted that the detailed proposal will be provided to the Executive Committee in due course.

Status: Open Action: Andy Perkins Due: November 2023

34/23 AAIB RECOMMENDATION 2023-026 ASW20 G-CFRW

Pete Stratten spoke to a previously circulated briefing note describing extensive BGA actions to date and the AAIB recommendation 'that the British Gliding Association should mandate the conduct and documenting of Positive Control Checks as part of glider Daily Inspections'. Those present reflected on their previous discussion on this topic including the need for cultural change, considered any new information in the AAIB report, and accepted the recommendation. Those present went on to identify the need to draft a proposed change to an operational regulation, ensure that the context of any proposed change to a BGA operational regulation is clearly explained, and that safe rigging is to be the subject of an ongoing campaign including relevant output from BGA sub-committees. Pete Stratten agreed to inform the sub-committees and to respond to the AAIB regarding their recommendation.

Status: Closed Action: Pete Stratten

35/23 COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Andy Perkins described a situation where a series of emails were sent to the chair of the CC from several pilots which included allegations related to team voting pool creation. The subsequent investigation found these allegations to be unsubstantiated. The chair of the CC found the approach, tone and language used in the emails rude and personal resulting in the resignation of the chair of the CC.

Andy Perkins described how he had subsequently communicated in detail with the parties involved. Those present discussed the issues in detail. The need for all in gliding to treat others with respect was noted and the potential benefit of a code of conduct for all parties involved in BGA competitions was discussed. As is expected across all of gliding, no-one should be subjected to verbal or written abuse. The benefits of engagement and consultation with those who are subject to requirements associated with competition activities and of transparent processes were noted.

Andy Perkins reported that the CC members are progressing CC activity, have a meeting planned, and that the team vote results have been promulgated. Those present thanked Alan Langlands for his highly successful work as the Competitions and Awards Committee chair. It was noted that an advertisement for the CC chair role had been shared with the CC and published in BGA news.

The Executive Committee agreed to assist the incoming chair of the CC and the wider CC to ensure that the required tools and framework are in place to support their important role in competitive gliding.

Status: Open Action: Andy Perkins Due: November 2023

36/23 CLUB DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

It was noted that the Club Development conference will take place on the 19th November 2023, that all Executive Committee members are welcome to attend, that pre-booking is required, and any proposed inputs should be directed to the organizer, Alison Randle.

Status: Closed

37/23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Women's event. Andy Perkins described BGA Women's Advocate Yvonne Elliott's draft paper describing a proposed Women's Gliding event delivered at BGA clubs during March 2024. Those present thanked Yvonne, welcomed the initiative, identified a potential opportunity to link into Go Gliding, and look forward to seeing more detail in due course. Pete Stratten agreed to circulate the briefing document.
- b. Parliamentary event. Andy Perkins described a planned Parliamentary event with The Air League during October 2023 that involves Go Gliding. Details will be circulated.
- c. External engagement. Pete Stratten described planned GAA meeting activity and a reduction in GA related resources within DfT.

The next meeting will take place during October 2023. A date will be proposed by Andy Perkins for an Executive Committee workshop during October or November.