

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 6th MARCH 2015

PRESENT:
Peter Harvey - Chairman
Nick Bowers
Lisa Humphries
George Metcalfe
Andy Perkins
John Williams

IN ATTENDANCE:
Les Kaye – Treasurer
Pete Stratten – Chief Executive

APOLOGIES:
Ron Bridges
Bill Craig
David Latimer
David Fidler

7/15 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes from the 28th January 2015 meeting were approved and will be signed in due course by the chairman.

Status: Closed

8/15 STRATEGIC CONTINGENCIES AND MITIGATIONS

George Metcalfe spoke to previously circulated detail describing the Strategic Contingencies and Mitigations working group output to date. While the BGA priority and emphasis on growing membership continues, this work seeks to identify strategic issues and potential mitigations associated with a reduction in overall membership at member clubs with the aim of addressing any related challenges. George Metcalfe summarised the situation including noting a membership 'break point' in the future at which a number of strategic issues become critical, and that a number of mitigating actions that could be started almost immediately subject to sub-committee and other expert buy-in. In that vein, those present agreed that clubs should be approached to seek their involvement in an annual 'resilience survey' through supplying more detail through a revised version of the standard annual club return. Those present accepted the report and agreed that a number of proposed actions should be moved forward with care.

Status: Open Action: George Metcalfe Due: October 2015

9/15 CORPORATION TAX

Pete Stratten reminded those present of the need to establish the exact CT liability and noted a planned meeting with a tax advisor during the second week of March. The Executive Committee will be consulted on the outcome of work in progress prior to considering the final figure.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: April 2015

10/15 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – CHANGE OF OFFICERS

Pete Stratten reminded those present that in accordance with the Articles of Association, Dave Fidler, who was unavoidably absent, would be standing down as an Executive Committee member at the 7th March AGM. Peter Harvey described the excellent service provided to the BGA and the Executive Committee by Dave Fidler and confirmed that he would be writing to pass on his thanks and those of his Executive Committee colleagues. Pete Stratten noted that Neil Goudie of Cambridge GC would be established as an Executive Committee member at the AGM.

Status: Closed

11/15 COMPETITION COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Those present considered and accepted with thanks the previously supplied and circulated competitions committee meeting notes. Pete Stratten agreed to notify the sub-committee chairman, Mark Holden.

Status: Closed

12/15 AIRSPACE UPDATE

John Williams presented a powerful explanation of the current airspace situation including significant concerns about the CAA's conduct around airspace changes. It was noted that although all airspace proposals under consideration by the BGA are critically important, the Farnborough ACP represents a significant point from where, if the CAA makes the wrong set of decisions, it is likely that a number of potential applicants for class D airspace will be encouraged to move forward, comfortable in the knowledge that CAA consider commercial operators interests above all others. It was noted that Farnborough has recently shown individual stakeholders revised versions of its original proposals. The version seen in a Farnborough meeting with GAA/RAeC elements including BGA demonstrates that Farnborough have adjusted their plan to meet one or two individual needs, but the proposal remains significantly flawed and dangerous for all other than Farnborough traffic. Pete Stratten noted that Gordon MacDonald of the airspace committee is the appointed technical expert/focal point for BGA on Farnborough and that he has available to him any BGA support needed. It was noted that a BGA single subject meeting of those involved for BGA would take place on 7th March at 4pm chaired by Peter Harvey following which regional club meetings and RAeC/GA meetings on the subject would be informed of the BGA position. All those present supported the views expressed and the approach being taken.

13/15 CASC UPDATE

Peter Harvey noted the previously circulated briefing note from Dave Latimer that described the current situation including the delivery of two regional meetings on the subject attended by clubs. He went on to note the fabulous work carried out by a small team of experts within the Development Committee. It was noted that there is a need for an education and communication piece to ensure that the situation is clear and understood by those clubs who either have or intend to hold CASC status.

Status: Open Action: Dave Latimer Due: May 2015

There were no items of AoB.

The next Executive Committee meeting will take place at Bicester on Wednesday 22nd April at 7.30 pm. Full details will follow.