

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL HELD ON THE 14th JANUARY 2016

PRESENT:

Peter Harvey - Chairman
Nick Bowers
Bill Craig
Neil Goudie
Lisa Humphries
Dave Latimer
George Metcalfe
John Williams

IN ATTENDANCE:

Les Kaye – Treasurer
Anthony Smith – Company Secretary
Pete Stratten – Chief Executive

APOLOGIES:

Ron Bridges
Andy Perkins

01/16 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes from the 2nd December 2015 meeting were approved and will be signed in due course by the chairman.

02/16 BGA MANAGEMENT PUBLICATION ‘BGA GLIDING OPERATIONS 2016-2019’

Pete Stratten spoke to the previously circulated final draft of the publication ‘BGA Gliding Operations 2016-2019’ which is a development of the previous ‘BGA Gliding Operations 2012-2015’ and is designed to provide the Executive Committee and others involved with guidance on related strategic issues. All those present agreed to adopt the publication which can be reviewed and updated as required.

03/16 AUDITED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS YEAR END 30th SEPTEMBER 2015

The previously circulated year end accounts supplied by the auditors were considered in detail. Following a number of questions answered by Les Kaye and Pete Stratten, all those present approved the accounts which will be circulated to the member clubs ahead of the AGM. Noting the auditor’s audit observation relating to BGA internal controls, it was agreed by all those present that a suitably independent review would be carried out during 2016 to include where appropriate updated financial procedures. Those present thanked Les Kaye and the team involved for their work on the BGA’s financial accounts.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: September 2016

04/16 BUDGET 1st OCTOBER 2016- 30th SEPTEMBER 2017

Pete Stratten spoke to the previous meeting notes and a circulated revised budget that includes a cost allocation for potential professional input into airspace work during the budget period and associated income. All those present agreed that the full membership levy should be increased by 50p, the temporary membership levy should remain unchanged, that the airworthiness charge should be increased by £1 and that a budgeted overall loss of circa £6k (including contingency of £10k) on the year is acceptable following several years of surplus. The budget was accepted by those present. Pete Stratten noted that the draft budget will be circulated to the member clubs ahead of the AGM.

05/16 AIRSPACE UPDATE

John Williams updated those present on a number of ongoing airspace related developments that the BGA is engaged with including, among many, the Hawarden radio mandatory zone proposal; Belfast Air Traffic procedural changes resulting in improperly consulted imposition of class D; a class F post implementation review; the ongoing delay in the Doncaster post implementation review; and Farnborough. The 10th consecutive reduction in traffic at Southend was noted. In noting the huge significance of the Farnborough airspace change proposal, John Williams identified a large amount of work going on behind the scenes. He noted that there is excellent work being carried out by a team at Lasham. He noted that following dialogue between BGA and CAA, the FASVIG has been introduced to the issue. He described a CAA airspace design error that supports the Farnborough proposal, was identified by Lasham, and which is now being satisfactorily resolved between FASVIG and the CAA. He went on to note that further FASVIG facilitated discussion is expected take place between the involved stakeholder groups. Those present thanked John Williams. In responding to an observation from those present about the ongoing need to be balanced in the BGA's approach to airspace development, John Williams confirmed that the BGA carefully considers every proposed change and responds proportionately in partnership with other sporting and recreational aviation associations.

06/16 AGM UPDATE

It was noted that the pre-AGM notification had been submitted to member clubs in late 2015, that an adequate number of Executive Committee member nominations are expected, and that further AGM-related documents will be supplied to member clubs during January. Pete Harvey, Tony Smith and Pete Stratten agreed to liaise on the AGM detailed arrangements.

Status: Open Action: Pete Harvey, Tony Smith, Pete Stratten Due: February 2016

07/16 AoB

- a) Competitions Committee December Meeting Notes. The previously circulated Competitions Committee December meeting notes were considered. It was noted by a number of those present that the rationale behind the proposed equipage mandate under item 2 'FLARM in Comps' is unclear, particularly when considered within the BGA's normal approach to 'recommend', rather than 'mandate', unless an engaging case for mandate is established. Noting the Competitions Committee need to resolve the 2016 competition rules as soon as possible, it was agreed that Pete Stratten should contact the Competitions Committee chairman to ask for a brief written report describing the rationale supporting the proposed requirement, following which the issue will be considered by the Executive Committee during a single-subject conference call to ensure that there is no unnecessary delay in process. Pete Stratten agreed to confirm that safety management data is available to the Competitions Committee.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: January 2016

- b) BGA Awards. Those present confirmed their support of the previously circulated Diploma nominations submitted by various member clubs and individuals. Pete Stratten agreed to discuss a recently submitted nomination with a member club. If the member club is satisfied, those present agreed that the nomination should be accepted. Pete Stratten described the long term and exceptional work by a named volunteer that contributes and will continue to contribute an enormous amount to the long term success of the sport, member clubs and individual participants. Those present are aware of the contribution, welcomed the proposal, and wholeheartedly agreed that a BGA medal should be awarded at the BGA AGM in 2016. Those present discussed future National awards and Pete Stratten agreed to progress drafting of nominations.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: January 2016

The next Executive Committee meeting with conference call facility will be held on Friday 26th February 2016 at the Nottingham Belfry Hotel.