

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 30th SEPTEMBER 2020

PRESENT: Andy Perkins – Chairman
Pete Bennett
Richard Brickwood
Bill Brittain
Peter Hibbard
George Metcalfe – Vice Chairman
Matt Page
Tony Smith – Treasurer and Company Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE: Pete Stratten - Chief Executive Officer

APOLOGIES: Rebecca Bryan
Nick Garland

35/20 PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES

The Executive Committee meeting notes of 27th August 2020 were approved and will be signed by the chairman at the next opportunity.

36/20 COVID19 UPDATE

Pete Stratten described; the current situation as briefed to GA organisations in late September by the DfT, recently updated BGA guidance, and planned meetings with club chairmen, Andy Perkins and George Metcalfe on the 26th October. Andy Perkins noted the need for Executive Committee members to have a good understanding of the pandemic financial implications going forward. Tony Smith described his intention to increase the frequency of financial reporting at these meetings. Noting the unavoidable reduction in temporary membership during 2020, it was agreed that the 2020/2021 budget will be reviewed later this autumn using known data. Tony Smith reported that three options for the AGM in early 2021 have been considered, ie a professionally facilitated option that has been rejected due to cost, an online meeting using Zoom or similar, and a model delivered by email. Bill Brittain offered to provide details of online and email delivery of voting activity that he has recently experienced. Those present agreed that Tony Smith should develop and detail the email option for further consideration by those present.

Status: Open Due: December 2020 Action: Tony Smith, Bill Brittain

37/20 CLUB MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Andy Perkins described plans to date to deliver an online club management conference on 22 November 2020. He went on to describe how he and the Development Committee chairman had discussed the need to ensure the event content reflects the current and near-term priorities for clubs and sought comment on headline issues from those present. In response, 2021 financials, getting instructors back in action, marketing and re-engaging with the outside world to attract potential new members, delivery of introductory flying, retention, sharing good practice, succession planning, and helping those new members who have not been able to fly were highlighted as potential topics. It was noted that involving interested pilots in addition to club officers is likely to be helpful and wider engagement should be encouraged going forward. Andy Perkins described a proposal for a pre-conference club survey and agreed to reflect the views of those present to the Development Committee chairman.

Status: Open Due: October 2020 Action: Andy Perkins

38/20 ACCOUNTS AND BUDGETS

Tony Smith described and those present agreed a proposal to develop with the Accounts Manager and Chief Executive a draft budget for 2021/2022 and present that along with draft YE Sep 20 annual

accounts and any necessary review of the 2020/2021 budget to the Executive Committee in a single subject meeting during late November.

Status: Open Due: November 2020 Action: Tony Smith, Pete Stratten

39/20 SFCL, PART-66L AND OVERSIGHT OF GLIDING FROM 2021

Pete Stratten spoke to a previously supplied briefing document to update those present on the Sailplane Flight Crew Licensing (SFCL) pilot licence and Part-66L engineering licence conversion projects. It was noted that CAA expect their 7 month IT problem that has prevented them issuing SPLs will shortly be resolved, that the pilot licence conversion must be completed by October 2021, that SPLs issued by the CAA after 1 Jan 2020 are likely to be 'UK SPLs' rather than 'EU SPLs', that use of a UK issued SPL within the EU from 1 Jan 2020 will be subject to any bilateral agreements developed by Governments, and that the CAA intend during 2021 to approve use in the UK of a Pilot Medical Declaration by all GA pilots including SPL holders who are fit enough to self-declare. The Part-66L licence conversion project had been held up by ongoing negotiations with the CAA regarding process and cost which have been resolved. BGA inspectors are now applying for a Part-66L licence using a BGA managed process resulting in a licence and renewed BGA maintenance authorization ahead of a due date of 1 December 2020. It was noted that CAA are currently anticipating that applications for an initial (rather than conversion) Part-66L licence application should be possible from November 2020.

Pete Stratten went on to describe discussion with CAA regarding oversight of gliding under UK law that from 2021 adopts existing EASA regulations including those applicable to gliding, eg re licensing, medical, training, operations and airworthiness. He described discussion and agreement in principle of CAA delegating authority to the BGA through an approval to manage the oversight of gliding including issuing certificates and licences. He noted that CAA will accept a formal BGA proposal this autumn to inform GA Unit planning for 2021. It was noted that additional delegated responsibility may have resource implications for the BGA. It was agreed that Pete Stratten should develop the proposal for submission this autumn and continue to engage with CAA as described.

Status: Open Due: November 2020 Action: Tony Smith, Pete Stratten

40/20 AoB

- a. Airspace Charity. Pete Stratten spoke to a previously circulated briefing. He described how A4A, which represented GA and other interests within what was the Future Airspace Strategy (FAS) and was funded through NATS/CAA managed en-route funds, is no longer funded under the FAS replacement Airspace Modernisation Strategy (AMS), which leaves a significant engagement challenge both for the strategy and GA. To re-establish the necessary level of coherent and co-ordinated engagement including ACP responses, the DfT has agreed to provide charitable funds to an appropriately governed charitable organization that can continue to provide the necessary support. A charity is being formed and those making the arrangements are seeking support in principle and a potential trustee from each of the beneficiary GA organisations including the BGA. Those present agreed BGA support in principle including the need to identify a suitable candidate trustee. It was noted that the CAA has recently declared an intent to review the AMS with lower airspace needs in mind. T

There was no other business. The next meeting will be held during October 2020. Details will be circulated in advance.