

BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 20th NOVEMBER 2021

PRESENT:

Andy Perkins – Chairman
Pete Bennett
Richard Brickwood
Bill Brittain
Rebecca Bryan
Nick Garland
Peter Hibbard
George Metcalfe – Vice Chairman
Matt Page
Tony Smith - Treasurer and Company Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lucy Wootton
Pete Stratten - Chief Executive Officer

40/21 PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES

The Executive Committee meeting notes of 21st September 2021 were approved and will be signed by the chairman at the next opportunity.

41/21 DECLARATIONS

For the record, Andy Perkins noted that he is a director of Turnpoint, a company that provides experiences for young people, and a trustee of the Philip Wills Memorial Fund. George Metcalfe noted that he is a trustee of the A4A Trust and of the charity Launchpoint. Tony Smith noted that he is a trustee of the Philip Wills Memorial Fund. Pete Stratten noted that he is a trustee of Launchpoint.

Status: Closed

42/21 BGA HEALTH CHECK

Pete Stratten spoke to and those present discussed the detail of a presentation describing several BGA Health Check themes including membership and activity statistics, office and staff, external engagement, sub-committee activities, and finance. Tony Smith provided a summary of the 30th September 2021 year-end financial outcome, noted plans for the audit and a subsequent presentation of the accounts, and noted a planned meeting to develop a draft budget for 1 Oct 22 to 30 Sep 23.

43/21 FIT FOR THE FUTURE

Pete Stratten spoke to and those present discussed the detail of a presentation describing 'Fit for the Future', which is a long term BGA project that aligned with the BGA strategy aims to deliver several lines of work regarding Advocacy, Contingency, Marketing, Discover Gliding, Pilots and Instructors, and Operational Risk Management. With the past 18 months and longer term COVID situation and forecast demographic developments in mind, the contingency issue was discussed in detail. Several potential challenges and opportunities were identified, and it was agreed that the work should continue. Pete Stratten noted that the new BGA Student Pilot Manual that has been developed over the past 12 months is about to be printed.

Status: Open

44/21 BGA PILOT SURVEY

More than 1600 pilots from all gliding clubs responded to the BGA pilot survey. Bill Brittain presented the output of his analysis of the survey and in doing so clearly identified the headline issues and supporting detail. Those present discussed the headlines and agreed that next steps include a 'gap' analysis against current BGA activity, BGA strategy and plans, engagement with the BGA sub-committees where relevant, and communication to clubs and their members noting how the survey output is being utilized. Those present thanked Bill Brittain for his ongoing work on this important topic.

45/21 MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

Pilot survey output highlighted the challenges of communicating to individual members of BGA member clubs. Those present discussed potential opportunities to improve engagement with and communication with individuals through multiple platforms. The concept of 'one community', the differing needs of different segments of gliding, and how that maps across to the BGA's role and communications was explored in detail. The BGA's communicated position on inappropriate comment, action and behaviors in gliding was discussed, noting that the BGA equity and equality policy establishes the BGA's position and is currently highlighted on the BGA members website under 'Your BGA'. It was identified that a published club template policy list may be out of date and Pete Stratten agreed to follow that up with the Development Committee.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: December 2021

46/21 AIRSPACE

George Metcalfe spoke to a presentation describing the A4A Trust (A4AT) which has formed, is currently funded, and is developing its priority actions going forward. It was noted that the A4AT is established to support GA needs through the UK's airspace modernisation strategy including engagement on policy issues and airspace change proposals, that it will utilize paid contractors, that organisations such as the BGA will need to continue to be directly involved with the ACP process, and that in due course additional funding will be required to continue the A4AT work. George Metcalfe spoke to a previously circulated draft and non-legally binding Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between BGA and A4AT, noted that he has received comments from those present, and sought approval for the MoU as soon as practical. Those present agreed that the MoU should be signed for the BGA subject to the final draft being provided.

Status: Open Action: George Metcalfe, Andy Perkins Due: December 2021

47/21 WWGC22

Andy Perkins described recent WWGC22 planning developments including that the budget will be monitored for BGA by Ian Baker, that a small surplus is currently forecast based on 'average' weather conditions, that there is a previously agreed BGA contribution of £5k, and that the legacy potential is exciting. Andy Perkins went on to note the priority of delivering a safe, fair and excellent competition, and that ideally the competition will include sponsorship and additional activity that will support a vibrant legacy. Richard Brickwood provided an update on sponsorship. It was agreed by those present that there should be a clear decision point in early 2022 if it becomes apparent that progress with the legacy aspiration element is continuing to be impacted by Covid and related economic uncertainty.

48/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Inspector Forum. Rebecca Bryan suggested that the BGA develop a forum for instructors as a medium for sharing good practice. Those present noted the request and the challenges of managing forums. Pete Stratten agreed to contact the BGA Technical Committee for its view on the subject.
- b) SFCL. Pete Stratten noted the CAA's pilot licence review, the associated 24-month delay to the implementation of SFCL, that sailplane licensing may be considered in that review, that in due course the Executive Committee will be provided with guidance by the BGA working group engaged with the CAA's review, and that an Executive Committee view is likely to be requested within the next few months.

The next meeting will take place in December. Date to be advised in due course.