



Meeting 2011A of the BHPA Executive Council

Meeting held on Saturday 12th February 2011 at Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, immediately following the AGM.

These notes of the minutes are not to be taken as a full record of the Meeting of the Directors of BHPA Ltd.

Present:
Marc Asquith
Bill Bell
Chris Burns
Paul Dancey
Martin Heywood
Brett Janaway
Angus Langford
John Lawson
John Nash
Angus Pinkerton
Steve Walsh

In attendance:
Jennie Burdett
Mark Dale
Joe Schofield
Dave Thompson

ITEM 1: OFFICER ROLES

Martin welcomed the two new Exec Members, Calvo and Bill, to the meeting and said that as soon as the necessary forms had been completed they would be members of the Board. He then explained how the Exec works and said that at this meeting, following the AGM, vacant posts needed to be filled. These are Competitions Director and External Representative. The RAeC meetings alternate between our offices in Leicester and Central London.

1.1 Competitions Director

Marc asked Calvo whether he actually had time to be Competitions Director given that he spends quite a lot of time abroad. Calvo replied that he would have the time.

Martin wondered whether it would be an idea to have a Competitions Director and a Deputy. Calvo thought that this was a good idea and would ensure that all sides were represented. Both Calvo and Bill agreed that they could work together and thereby ensure that their skills would be used as they are from different disciplines.

Calvo and Bill agreed later in the meeting that Calvo would be Competitions Director and Bill would be his Deputy.

1.2 Paramotor Liaison

Martin had spoken to Ed Cunliffe who said that he would be happy to either be co-opted as a Director or to be Liaison Officer without being on the Exec. Martin said he did not want to lose Ed as he was very important to us as far as paramotoring was concerned.

Having looked at the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Marc said it was not possible to co-opt Ed as all the places on Exec were filled. It was agreed that Ed should remain as Liaison Officer without being a Director.

1.3 Vice Chairman

Martin informed the meeting that his workload had increased and he is getting behind with everything, he therefore wanted to resurrect the role of Vice Chairman. Martin had already spoken to John Lawson who was willing to take this on. All were in favour.

The position of RAeC Representative still needed to be filled and Marc suggested that it would be good if this could be the Vice Chairman as he would build up gravitas over the years. John Lawson agreed to take this on.

1.4 External Representation

Brett Janaway agreed to take on External Representation which is really getting information from our representatives on various bodies and producing a report.

ITEM 2: STAFF SALARIES

As was usual, the review of staff salaries was referred to the F&GP and for the benefit of the new Exec Members Martin explained what the F&GP does.

ITEM 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

3.1 Angus P said he wanted to raise the Serial Class issue with our CIVL representative. The majority of Exec had agreed that we should vote for serial class but the Paragliding Panel had informed Martin that they were not in favour of it themselves.

Calvo said that when Serial only had been tried years ago the manufacturers pushed serial class to the limit and there were far more incidents than previously. The paragliding panel view was that Open Class should have a measure of control and this would be a step forward. It is very rarely the case that it is an open class glider that causes an incident and the panel did not feel that serial would make things any better.

Angus made the point that there is no ability to limit who can fly these gliders based on their experience so quite a number of inexperienced pilots turn up. He recommended that we maintain our current position, i.e. instruct our delegate to vote for serial class in 2012 and to vote for the working group proposal for 2011, then we can see how it goes.

Calvo agreed that there are people arriving at the competition who are clearly inexperienced but he felt that this would change when the top 500 in the WPRS were taken rather than the top 1000.

After some further discussion Calvo was instructed by Exec to vote for both the working group proposal and for our own proposal.

3.2 There was some discussion about the lack of information regarding the AGM on the website and it was also suggested that the constitution should be on the website too. Angus P suggested that we should get some novices to try out the site and see if they can find what they are looking for.

Martin closed the meeting. The next meeting would be on 7th April at Merus Court.