



Meeting 2017B of the BHPA Executive Council

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Meeting held on Saturday 10th June 2017 at 8 Merus Court, Meridian Business Park, Leicester, LE19 1RJ.

Present

Marc Asquith
Martin Baxter
Bill Bell
Ed Cunliffe
Martin Heywood
Angus Pinkerton
Richard Shaw
Adrian Thomas

In attendance:

Duncan Booth
Ian Curren
Michelle Lanman
Joe Schofield
Mark Shaw

Apologies:

Paul Dancey
Brett Janaway
Angus Langford
Dave Thompson
John Welch

There was a brief discussion with elected members only where Marc Asquith and Michelle Lanman discussed personnel matters.

Marc opened the main meeting by welcoming Duncan Booth as an observer.

ITEM 1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Paul Dancey, Brett Janaway, Angus Langford, Dave Thompson and John Welch.

ITEM 2: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Exec Minutes 2017A

The minutes were approved with minor amendment.

AGM Minutes 2017

The minutes were approved with minor amendment.

ITEM 3: MATTERS ARISING

2016 – A3	Continuing
2016 – B5	Closed
2016 – C4	Continuing
2016 – C8	Continuing.
2016 – C11	Continuing. Bill Bell advised that we need to arrange charitable status for our funds before proceeding any further. A proposal will be produced for the next meeting.
2016 – C13	Continuing

2016 – C16	Closed
2017 – A1	Continuing
2017 – A2	Closed. It was agreed to subsidise the Trainers Conference.
2017 – A3	Closed. Marc Asquith had agreed to contribute £750 to Parafest, with an additional £250 if more than twenty new members sign up.
2017 – A4	Continuing
2017 – A5	Closed
2017 – A6	Closed
2017 – A7	Closed
2017 – A8	Closed
2017 – A9	Closed
2017 – A10	Closed

ITEM 4: MEMBER J

Ian Curren referred the case of Member J to the Exec, he is advertising and running a commercial Paramotor training operation for which he holds no BHPA licences or registration.

Also a recent accident investigation into a fatal accident that occurred with one of his ex-students has raised concerns over the wing Member J sold to the student. The wing had been fitted with trimmers and was sold with a wider weight range than the one with which it was tested, which renders the 'Standard' certification invalid. This is a serious safety issue of which he should have been aware.

It was agreed to write to Member J informing him that as a member he is in breach of BHPA rules and we are considering suspending his membership.

FOR ACTION: (2017 – B1) Marc Asquith to write to Member J regarding his breach of BHPA rules.

ITEM 5: ANNUAL DONATION TO FLYABILITY

Marc Asquith had been approached by Flyability for financial assistance in the form of an annual donation. The accounts they provided to support their request indicated that they currently have funds to last just over twelve months.

After discussions it was agreed to make a one off donation this year and to review subsequent years dependant on the provision of a spending plan.

Bill Bell pointed out that funding longer term could be sourced from wills & legacies

FOR ACTION: (2017 – B2) Marc Asquith to communicate the Exec's decision on funding to Flyability.

ITEM 6: THE LONG MYND – LOSS OF BOTTOM LANDING FIELD

Martin Baxter had circulated information about the bottom landing field at Long Mynd, which will be marketed for sale in the next few weeks. Long Mynd Soaring Club are considering purchasing part of the land, which they estimate would cost in the region of £70k. They had asked for clarification as to what financial help the BHPA would be able to provide.

Marc Asquith confirmed that there are funds in place to offer a loan. An application form would need to be completed by the club and they would have to give personal guarantees.

FOR ACTION: (2017 – B3) Martin Baxter to notify Long Mynd Soaring Club of the procedures for applying for a BHPA loan.

ITEM 7: PARAMOTOR TRIKES – SOLO & TANDEM

Ian Currer gave a brief update on the recent temporary exemption issued by the CAA for single seat powered aircraft below 70kgs or 75kgs with an emergency parachute and with a stall speed of 20Kts or less. This allows pilots to fly these machines without an NPPL or Registration. BHPA members with the appropriate power qualifications can now fly these on their BHPA rating.

Wheeled aircraft outside the specifications of the exemption (i.e. heavier, faster or with two seats) still require an NPPL, Registration and to be certified as microlights. A current member, who believes this is an infringement of his rights as a disabled person, has requested further exemption, and the CAA has asked us if we support this.

After discussion it was agreed that although this is a direction we would like to move in longer term, at present we are unable to support dual flying. We need to build up a history of solo trike usage first.

Discussions have been held with the CAA concerning two-seaters and there are two avenues, which are being considered. By March 2018 (when the current exemption expires, and we have more data) we should be in a position to have a slightly altered exemption, which makes provision or suitably licensed pilots to fly acceptable dual aircraft.

FOR ACTION: (2017 – B4) Ian Currer to inform the CAA that at present we do not support an exemption for dual flying.

ITEM 8: AGM

It was agreed that the AGM would be held with the BGA at the Belfry Hotel, Nottingham on Saturday 17th February 2018.

ITEM 9: REMOVAL OF PILOTS DECLARATION: UNCERTIFIED WING REQUIREMENT

Marc Asquith proposed that the current pilot declaration for uncertified wings be scrapped, as there are many pilots who are not completing the form. He suggested that application and renewal forms together with the BHPA rules be amended to say that the member accepts the risks associated with flying an uncertified wing. Also that we send out a BHPA Certification fact sheet.

Angus Pinkerton requested that the FSC be allowed some time to discuss and review the impact.

It was agreed that we would continue with the existing system until the FSC report back, but the wording on forms should be amended in advance, together with rule six.

FOR ACTION: (2017 – B5) Mark Shaw to provide the wording to alter rule six, application and renewal form, and also to write a BHPA Certification fact sheet.

ITEM 10: INVOICING CORONERS FOR TECHNICAL STAFF TIME

It was agreed that the BHPA would in future invoice coroners for technical staff time.

ITEM 11: GAA AIRSPACE SPECIALIST PROPOSAL

Marc Asquith had circulated a proposal from the GAA to recruit a professional airspace response coordinator funded by its members. This would entail a two-year commitment

reviewed annually with initial estimates of a £5000 contribution from the BHPA.

It was agreed that with the current level of airspace change proposals becoming a challenge it was a necessary step to take

FOR ACTION: (2017 – B6) Marc Asquith to communicate the BHPA's acceptance of the GAA proposal.

ITEM 12: REPORTS

12.1 Finance

Angus Langford's report had been circulated.

12.2 FSC

12.2.1 Dual Acro: Ian Curren reported that the relevant parties had been forwarded a new project proposal form to complete, which as yet has not been returned.

12.2.2 Incidents: Angus Pinkerton raised concerns that there have been six incidents in the two weeks from 21st May.

12.2.3 Fox Tug: this has been approved as an aerotow tug and a maintenance schedule has been approved.

12.2.4 Buttermere Bash: Ian Curren reported that this is the first CAA properly sanctioned paragliding display. We now have a template in place and trained evaluators to use for further displays.

12.2.5 Training Courses: Several courses have been run and there are more in the pipeline. There are plans to run a paramotoring course in the future.

12.2.6 WG6: the final version of the harness standard has been sent off for translation and should be in place soon. The next meeting is scheduled to discuss flight test standards.

12.2.7 Marc Asquith highlighted concerns he has over police involvement in investigating a recent towing incident. Normal procedure is for the police to refer an incident to the AAIB who in turn would refer it to us. However in this case the police force involved have a serious collision unit and are remaining involved in the investigations, confiscating equipment and sending it for testing.

Marc and Dave Thompson are working closely to manage responses to police requests and have arranged for a legal representative to sit with witnesses

12.3 Insurance

Martin Heywood had circulated a proposal to extend coverage of the BHPA Master Policy to cover schools, trainees and qualified members within the EEA (European Economic Area). On balance it was agreed that as the

downsides were relatively few it would be worth taking the proposal to the insurers, however it was important to time this correctly. Martin's opinion was that we should leave this for twelve months and approach them then with the view to introducing it in 2018/2019.

FOR ACTION: (2017 – B7) Martin Heywood to produce a document re EEA cover to pass on to Martin Mansley.

12.4 Sites

Martin Baxter's report had been circulated.

12.5 Skywings

Paul Dancey's report had been circulated

12.6 Website

Paul Dancey's report had been circulated.

12.7 Competitions

Bill Bell's report had been circulated.

12.8 External Representation

At the last meeting Marc Asquith had agreed to act as BHPA RAeC rep as he was already attending meetings in his capacity as Vice President. Recently, however, increased workload has meant he has missed meetings. It was therefore agreed that Adrian Thomas would take on the role.

Marc reported that he had proposed a change to the management structure of the EHPU. He was considering proposing a committee of six people (including a general secretary) with four members elected from delegates in order to give more stability.

12.9 School Liaison

No report available.

22.10 Paramotor Liaison

Ed Cunliffe reported that a paramotor pilot, Giles Fowler, has flown from east to west coast in one flight.

FOR ACTION: (2017 – B8) Martin Baxter to approach Matt Tandy.

22.11 Admin

Marc Asquith's report had been circulated.

ITEM 13: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting.

ACTIONS – OPENED, CONTINUING

WHO	NUMBER	WHAT	STATUS
Marc Asquith	2016 – A3	Marc Asquith to look at the feasibility of holding a chairman's dinner	Continuing
Marc Asquith	2016 – C4	Marc Asquith to report to F&GP on Romero life and personal injury insurance.	Continuing
Ian Curren / Mark Shaw	2016 – C8	Ian Curren and Mark Shaw to review the Dual Flying Factsheet with reference to tandem acro paragliding.	Continuing
Bill Bell	2016 – C11	Bill Bell to obtain quotes for completing phase one of his wills and legacies proposal.	Continuing
Marc Asquith	2016 – C13	Marc Asquith to discuss the details of the reciprocal agreement with Ski Club GB.	Continuing
Marc Asquith	2017 – A1	Marc Asquith to monitor and report back on advertising in Microlight Flyer magazine.	Continuing
Martin Heywood	2017 – A4	Marc Asquith to produce an Equal Opportunities Policy.	Continuing
Marc Asquith	2017 – B1	Marc Asquith to write to Member J regarding his breach of BHPA rules.	Open
Marc Asquith	2017 – B2	Marc Asquith to communicate the Exec's decision on funding to Flyability.	Open
Martin Baxter	2017 – B3	Martin Baxter to notify Long Mynd Soaring Club of the procedures for applying for a BHPA loan.	Open
Ian Curren	2017 – B4	Ian Curren to inform the CAA that at present we do not support an exemption for dual flying.	Open
Mark Shaw	2017 – B5	Mark Shaw to provide the wording to alter rule six, application and renewal form, and also to write a BHPA Certification fact sheet.	Open
Marc Asquith	2017 – B6	Marc Asquith to communicate the BHPA's acceptance of the GAA proposal.	Open
Martin Heywood	2017 – B7	Martin Heywood to produce a document re EEA cover to pass on to Martin Mansley.	Open
Martin Baxter	2017 – B8	Martin Baxter to approach Matt Tandy.	Open