



Meeting 2015A of the BHPA Executive Council

These minutes of the meeting are not to be taken as a full record of the meeting of the Directors of the BHPA Ltd.	Present: Marc Asquith Martin Baxter Bill Bell Ed Cunliffe Paul Dancey Martin Heywood Brett Janaway John Nash Adrian Thomas Angus Pinkerton	In attendance: Jennie Burdett Ian Curren Mark Dale Michelle Lanman Joe Schofield Mark Shaw Dave Thompson

ITEM 1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2014 – B2

Apologies had been received from Angus Langford and John Welch.

Martin H. said it was unlikely that we would be able to get travel insurance for members. Martin B. suggested that we should be telling members what we are doing to make them aware that we are making an effort, even if we do not get the result that we want. We need to explain why the insurance is not possible. Continuing.

ITEM 2: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2014 – B4

2014C - 16 November 2014

'Administrator' to be removed from the distribution list and replaced with 'Office Manager'.

2014 – B5

2014 – B6

2014 - C1

ITEM 6: Remove everything from the beginning of 6.2 to last paragraph beginning 'It was finally agreed....'.

ITEM 7: Change first sentence to 'Bill was concerned that the CAA may view this as counter productive'.

10.10: Change first sentence to 'Mark reported that we have responded to CAA setting out possible options open to them'.

With the above amendment the minutes were approved.

Continuing

Closed

Continuing

Mark reported on his meeting with the CAA. In regard to aerotowing, he explained that they have agreed to issue an exemption. It should have been issued last month but the BMAA heard of it and were most unhappy. This now requires some clauses which were put in by the CAA legal department to be removed.

Mark expressed his concern that there will be no checks and balances to keep old and unsafe machines from flying. The system of permit renewal is currently keeping them grounded. He said maybe what we should be asking for is a bit of slack. Do we want our tugs with the checks and balances or do we allow our clubs to use any old tugs.

Bill agreed that there is a risk but there will also be an opportunity for clubs to use better tugs. There will be a decreased cost because of no annual permits and increased safety due to better machines being available. Bill was keen to introduce SDDR aerotowing and Marc asked him how he would deal with a "cowboy" using an old machine as a tug. Bill did not think that this would occur but we could reserve the right to say that if we were not happy with the tug then it would be taken off the list.

Ian said we could apply for exemptions for specific SDDRs.

ITEM 3: POST AGM – ALLOCATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Marc Asquith reported that he and Martin Heywood had agreed that they may job share in due course.

Ed asked if we should have someone on Exec or FSC with an interest in radio. Bill said he had some background experience in this and volunteered to keep an eye on it.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – A1) Marc Asquith to write to Richard Shaw thanking him for standing for election.

This debate went on for some time until Marc suggested that it should be left for the next meeting, by which time everyone would have had time to think about it and come up with proposals.

ITEM 4: MATTERS ARISING

2012 – B3 Closed

2013 – A2 Closed

2013 – B12 Closed

2014 – A4 Marc explained that speed gliding is the only type of paragliding / hang gliding that could conceivably become an Olympic discipline. Continuing

2014 – C2

2014 – C3

2014 – C4

Closed.

Dave informed members that there were now nine schools taking part in the speed flying trial and on lower hills. Closed.

Closed.

2014 – C5 Closed.

2014 – C6 Closed.

ITEM 5: TEST RIG

Marc pointed out that Mark Dale is the only person who knows how to operate our test rig and as he is leaving Marc wondered whether we should still keep the rig. Mark pointed out that the rig had not been used in over a year and if someone did want to use it, it would take one and a half days to get it ready to use it for just one day. It is not really cost effective.

Brett asked it it could be used for paraglider load testing.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – A2) Ian Currer to investigate the possibility of using BHPA test rig for load testing paragliders.

Joe said that even though the rig is only used by two manufacturers in this country, that is not a reason to get rid of it. It may have only been used for one day in the last year but maybe next year will be completely different.

Ian said he would not be able to take over the test rig when it is only used once a year, it would require quite a lot of training to use something this old without breaking someone's new glider.

It was agreed that we would keep the test rig.

ITEM 6: SUBSCRIPTIONS

Marc informed the meeting that the Flying Membership subscription had been increased from £95 to £99 and all other membership categories had been increased proportionally, except Non-Flying Member which had been reduced from £57 to £39.

The insurance supplement had been reduced from £80 to £30 for Trainee Instructors.

ITEM 7: DATABASE MAINTENANCE

Martin B. gave some background regarding difficulties he had had in getting the sites database up and running.

ITEM 8: PARAMOTOR EVENTS

Ed gave details of Parafest, a new paramotor event taking place this year. He felt it would be good for BHPA to be present there rather than at the paramotor nationals this year as he thought there would be more people attending.

It was agreed that the BHPA stand would be at Parafest instead of the nationals this year.

ITEM 9: SSSR TOWING

It had been agreed earlier in the meeting (2014 – C1) that this item would be left until the next meeting.

ITEM 10: REPORTS

10.1 Finance

Michelle said the profit for the current year was about £29k but may be slightly less due to costs incurred for the new Technical Officers.

10.3 Insurance

Martin H. reported on an accident where a paraglider had hit a car. The paraglider pilot was a BHPA member under training but

on that flight he was not under training because he was flying with a friend. He has caused £10k damage and he is not insured. On top of that, it was on a sensitive site.

As we do not actually have our insurance document yet, Martin H. may propose to the insurers that they cover the member as they have not produced the document showing the exclusions.

Marc said he would write to the club asking why they have an unqualified member flying on their site.

10.5 Skywings

There was a short discussion concerning test flight reports in Skywings. Joe explained why there had been a discussion at the AGM.

10.6 Website

Marc asked Paul if there would be a problem if we were to employ someone to do more things on the website, such as online voting. Paul replied that it would depend on what was required but really we need a new website.

10.10 Paramotor Liaison

Ed reported on a paper he had received from Francis Rich requesting BHPA to lobby the CAA to get 'is foot launched' removed from the ANO. As this had been put up at the Red Tape Challenge and had been shot down in flames, members agreed there was no point in putting it up again.

FOR ACTION; (2015 – A3) Ed Cunliffe to reply to Francis Rich.

ITEM 11: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Martin H. explained that we are now in litigation with one of our members who is taking action for defamation.

Before closing the meeting the Chairman welcomed the two new Technical Officers, Ian Currer and Mark Shaw, to the BHPA. The next meeting would be in June at the BHPA office as usual.

ACTIONS - OPENED, CONTINUING

WHO	NUMBER	WHAT	STATUS
Marc Asquith	2014 - A4	Speak to CIVL re speed gliding on skis as Olympic sport.	Continuing
Martin Heywood	2014 - B2	Look into travel insurance for members.	Continuing
Martin Heywood	2014 - B4	Write something for schools re PA insurance.	Continuing
Martin Baxter	2014 - B6	Produce PowerPoint presentation.	Continuing
Mark Dale	2014 - C1	Arrange meeting with CAA.	Continuing
Marc Asquith	2015 - A1	Write to Richard Shaw thanking him for standing for election	Opened
Ian Curren	2015 - A2	Investigate the possibility of using the BHPA test rig for load testing paragliders	Opened
Ed Cunliffe	2015 - A3	Reply to Francis Rich	Opened