



## Meeting 2014A of the BHPA Executive Council

Meeting held on Saturday 1st March 2014 at the Belfry Hotel, Nottingham.

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  
Martin Baxter  
Bill Bell  
Ed Cunliffe  
Paul Dancey  
Martin Heywood  
Brett Janaway  
Angus Langford  
John Nash  
Angus Pinkerton  
John Welch

**In attendance:**

Jennie Burdett  
Mark Dale  
Joe Schofield  
Dave Thompson

### ITEM 1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Adrian Thomas.

### ITEM 4: POST AGM

There were no matters arising from the AGM and no members of the Executive Council wished to change their area of responsibility.

### ITEM 5: STAFF SALARIES

Staff members left the meeting while salaries were discussed.

### ITEM 2: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

#### 2013C - 06 October 2014

Item 9 – Paragraph 2. Paul said it should be made clear that this paragraph refers to Facebook, not the website.

Action 2013 – C2. This should refer the Facebook not the website.

Changes for 'Yellow' minutes:

Item 10 – Delete both paragraphs and replace with "The terms of Colin Fargher's contract were reviewed."

13.3 – Delete second sentence.

With the above amendments the minutes were approved.

### ITEM 3: MATTERS ARISING

2012 – B3	Continuing
2012 – B4	Continuing
2013 – A1	Closed
2013 – A2	Continuing
2013 – B1	Closed
2013 – B2	Continuing
2013 – B12	Membership fees were discussed and Angus L said he would like to leave things as they are for this year and consider an increase next year.

Bill felt that a cheaper membership category should be introduced for non-flying volunteers. Less than the £40 and without Skywings. This was discussed and it was agreed that this matter should be progressed via email.

2013 – C1 Closed

2013 – C2 Closed

### ITEM 6: HANG GLIDING HISTORY WEBSITE

Marc reported that Terry Aspinall is running the Hang Gliding History website and he needs a

back-up plan in case he is unable to continue for some reason. It is really only a few pounds per year to maintain the registration.

**FOR ACTION: (2014 – A1) Paul Dancey to speak to Terry Aspinall to put a plan in place for the future.**

### ITEM 7: GENDER DEFINITIONS

Marc explained the FAI and IOC have different definitions in regard to gender reassignment. The IOC say that the original gender is retained until sufficient time has lapsed for the hormones to sort themselves out (two years) and this is the policy that BHPA has adopted. The FAI Policy appears to be that whatever gender a competitor's ID documents state, that is the competitor's gender for the purposes of FAI. Our competitions people are concerned that this could result in the FAI saying one gender and us another.

After discussion it was agreed that BHPA should stay with the IOC definition and Brett said that this need to be included in the Competition Handbook and minuted. It was also agreed that this should be given to the RAeC to take up with the FAI.

### ITEM 8: PILOT HANDBOOK

An approach had been made by two Chinese entrepreneurs who want to translate and publish our Pilot Handbook as there is a dearth of paragliding material in China. Clearly they are willing to pay, the question therefore is how much to charge and where does the money go. Mark Dale does feel a little aggrieved that he wrote the book, it has sold 10,000 copies, yet he has not seen anything from it.

John Welch said that Mark had done a good job on the book and Exec should agree in principle that he should get something if the translation went ahead. This was agreed.

### ITEM 9: PURPOSES OF SITES FUND

9.1 Martin B. had circulated a paper setting out the purposes and general principles of the sites fund. This was approved and it was agreed that an article should be published in Skywings.

**FOR ACTION: (2014 - A2) Martin Baxter to write article re Sites Fund.**

9.2 Martin B. had also produced draft Guidance Notes for Site Negotiation. This was discussed and Marc said that landowners of sites that have not been negotiated "may" not be benefit from our insurance cover. This is not black and white and so when referring to insurance it is always better to us "may not" rather than "not".

Martin B. said that the notes are a work in progress which

will be improved. In the meantime he would keep them available for anyone who asks for a copy.

9.3 Another document in progress is Guidance Notes for Windfarms which Martin said would also be available on request.

9.4 In regard to the Sites Database, some progress has been made but there is still a long way to go.

9.5 Martin B. felt that communication between Exec and the membership should be improved and Exec should contribute more to Skywings and the website. He would like to go out to clubs and by using a PowerPoint presentation explain what the Exec actually does. He would also ask the members what they wanted and thought about the Exec and the BHPA.

Exec agreed that Martin B. should continue with this project.

## ITEM 12: SCOTTISH INDEPENDENCE

Marc asked if it would be possible to continue as 'BHPA' if Scotland votes for independence. Angus P said the expectation is that it will be 2016 before anything is done. He said that Scotland already has a SHGPG Federation so if they want to go it alone they can. The question is, as approximately 10% of our members are in Scotland, if they do become independent would they be entitled to 10% of our assets.

The referendum is in September but all the legalities would take at least eighteen months so there is nothing for Exec to do just yet.

## ITEM 10: QUESTIONNAIRE TO CLUBS / SCHOOLS

During December 2013 John N had contacted all Clubs & Schools to ask the question 'What's holding back our sport?' as part of the CAA Red Tape Challenge (RTC).

The points put forward to the RTC were:

1. No to Transponders
2. Right to Roam to include Hang Gliding & Paragliding in England & Wales
3. Aircraft certification from other countries (tugs)
4. Charity Flights

Other comments that had been made and were considered by the Exec.

a) Non Linear Training. Angus P made the point that FSC are continually looking improvement of training programmes.

b) Better support for UK (as opposed to foreign based) schools. Angus P said that the moving of top landings had been seen as support for foreign schools. We are getting quite a lot of pilots coming to the UK who have been taught abroad. The BHPA strive to validate the entry of pilots into the BHPA wherever they come from.

c) Legally required national rating. Angus P said there was no chance that the CAA would consider this.

d) Trike attachments included as foot launch. Ed mentioned that the CAA has asked us to comment on this and Martin B. said that Mark has done some work on it and will reply to the CAA.

**FOR ACTION: (2014 – A3) Mark D to check response to CAA.**

e) Appoint PR Agency. This has been done in the past but did not prove to be cost effective.

f) Olympic Sport. Marc suggested speed gliding on skis and thought it may be worthwhile having a word with CIVL. The meeting agreed that it was worth a try.

**FOR ACTION: (2014 – A4) Marc Asquith to speak to CIVL re speed gliding on skis as an Olympic sport.**

g) How to deal with the rogue element and stop their activities spoiling the sport and its image. It was noted that this problem has always been with us but John N said it is increasing. Angus P said these are local problems and it has to be peer pressure to get these people in the BHPA.

## ITEM 11: LAPSED MEMBERS

John N had done a trial of emailing lapsed members in an effort to get them to rejoin. This was discussed and Angus P suggested that the email should adopt the tone of asking them why they had not rejoined and expressing interest in knowing why they have left us.

It was agreed that John N should implement this scheme. Also try to find a way to get members to keep us up to date with their email addresses.

**FOR ACTION: (2014 – A5) John Nash and Paul Dancey to try to come up with a way to get more email addresses.**

## ITEM 13: REPORTS

13.1 Finance. Angus L said we made a loss of £381 last year and should make a profit of around £50k next year so fees will not need to be increased until 2015.

13.2 Admin. Marc reported that we had negotiated a new deal with Vaioni for an upgrade to our leased line.

13.3 Paramotor Liaison. Ed said that airprox reports for paramotors are now coming in and the airprox board are revisiting their recommendations. Two recent airprox reports were discussed and Exec agreed that Ed should be on the working group. Ed would replace Dave Thompson on the working group.

**FOR ACTION: (2014 – A6) Dave Thompson and Ed Cunliffe to liaise re airprox working group.**

## ITEM 14: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

14.1 Martin B said he had written a paper to help clubs answer questions from the media following an accident. He asked if BHPA had a press officer and was advised that there was no real need. Martin said he would circulate his paper and would appreciate comments.

14.2 The forthcoming even at Green Dragons was discussed and it was agreed that no money would be available to support it in the absence of detailed proposals.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 3.35pm

# ACTIONS - OPENED, CONTINUING

<b>WHO</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>WHAT</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Ed Cunliffe	2012 - B3	Check if paramotor paperwork suitable for template for Comps Directors Handbook.	Continuing
John Nash	2012 - B4	Investigate website improvements.	Continuing
Martin Heywood	2013 - A2	Check Comps Director's Handbook from legal point of view.	Continuing
Jennie Burdett	2013 - B2	Investigate PayPal for renewals.	Continuing
F&GP	2013 - B12	Consider reducing NFM when reviewing membership fees.	Continuing
Paul Dancey	2014 - A1	Speak to Terry Aspinall re plan for HG history website.	Opened
Martin Baxter	2014 - A2	Write article re Sites Fund.	Opened
Mark Dale	2014 - A3	Check response to CAA.	Opened
Marc Asquith	2014 - A4	Speak to CIVL re speed riding on skis as Olympic sport.	Opened
John Nash/ Paul Dancey	2014 - A5	Find a way to get more email addresses.	Opened
Dave Thompson/ Ed Cunliffe	2014 - A6	Liaise re airprox working group.	Opened