



## 2017 Annual General Meeting of the BHPA

Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday 25th February 2017 at the Nottingham Belfry Hotel, commencing at 11.00am

These minutes are not to be taken as an accurate record without referring to the minutes of the Executive Council meeting at which they were approved.

**Present:**

Marc Asquith  
Martin Baxter  
Bill Bell  
Ian Curren  
Martin Heywood  
Brett Janaway  
Angus Langford  
Michelle Lanman  
Angus Pinkerton  
Joe Schofield  
Mark Shaw  
Richard Shaw

Dave Thompson  
John Welch

**In attendance:**  
6 Voting members of  
the Association

**Apologies:**  
Ed Cunliffe  
Paul Dancey  
Adrian Thomas  
Bill Morris

### ITEM 1: CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

BHPA Chairman, Marc Asquith, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Marc then explained the agenda and that it was an uncontested election this year. Following the formal part of the meeting, there would be presentations, awards etc. and then a general discussion.

### ITEM 2: RESOLUTIONS

**2.1 That the Accounts and Report of the Executive Council for the year ended 31 March 2016 be approved.**

Before voting commenced Angus Langford gave a brief overview of his financial report included in the AGM pack.

The BHPA's finances remain in good shape. Despite the increase in insurance and Flight Safety Committee (FSC) costs the continued growth in membership meant that we ended 2016 with a surplus of £2K on turnover of £757K. Reserves stand at £500K with £349K of that invested in our freehold office. As subscriptions are paid annually in advance the BHPA holds reasonable levels of cash. This gives us a cushion to be able to plan ahead.

It is anticipated that we will have a larger surplus at the end of 2017 and as such subscriptions have not been increased

Members voted unanimously in favour of approving the accounts and the resolution was carried.

**2.2 That five members be elected to the Executive Council from the following five candidates: M. Asquith, M. Baxter, P. Dancey, A. Langford, J. (Richard) Shaw.**

Members present at the meeting who had not already sent in a proxy vote were then asked to vote by a show of hands.

Marc welcomed Richard Shaw to the Executive Council.

**2.3 That Clear & Lane be re-appointed as auditors and the Executive Council be authorised to fix their remuneration.**

Members voted unanimously in favour and the resolution was carried.

### ITEM 3: AWARDS

3.1 The Wings Over A Cloud award for the best article in Skywings during 2016 was awarded to Lee Cooper for his 'Love, hate and wave flying' attitude page.

Marc Asquith explained that the award had been introduced by David and Barbara Bedding. The article selection had been carried out in the past by Ann Welch followed by Barbara Bedding, Mark Woodhams and this year by Mike Hibbitt.

3.2 Andrew Wakelin had been nominated for an Award of Merit for his many years of support of the Association. Andrew has worked tirelessly behind the scenes writing and continually developing our database to keep up to date with our constantly developing sport. Unfortunately, due to ill health, Andrew was unable to collect his award in person.

3.3 Bryan Hindle was nominated for an Award of Merit by Malvern Hang Gliding Club for his invaluable contribution as treasurer and club coach. Unfortunately Bryan was unable to attend to collect his award, however it will be presented to him at a Coach Course being held in early March.

3.4 The final Award of Merit was presented to Ian Brown who has been an active instructor for over 20 years and has safely trained many thousands of students to fly paragliders in that time. Ian has recently retired as CFI of Sunsoar Paragliding Ltd. Ian received his award in person.

3.5 The President's Trophy has been awarded to Paul Dancey for his tireless work on Skywings and the BHPA website. Unfortunately Paul was unable to attend the meeting to receive his award.

3.6 Marc Asquith commented that we have made nominations for Royal Aero Club Awards for:  
Jennie Buck - Bronze  
John Lovell - Bronze  
Alan Horsfield - Certificate of Merit  
The BGA have also nominated Tom Hardie for a Silver award.

3.7 Finally in recognition of caring for Rob Gregg in the aftermath of their midair collision Ben Philpott has been awarded the CIVL Pepes Lopes Medal.

## **ITEM 4: OFFICERS' REPORTS**

Reports from Exec Members were included in the AGM folders and members now had the opportunity to ask questions.

### **4.1 Chairman**

Marc Asquith's report gave an overview of what has been happening within the Association during the last year and thanked Exec Members and Staff for their work.

There were no questions from the floor.

### **4.2 Treasurer**

Angus Langford's report had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

### **4.3 Insurance**

Martin Heywood reported that it had been a steady year on the insurance front with no nasty surprises. However due to direction changes within Liberty we have now moved to a new insurer.

Martin made a special mention of our broker, Martin Mansley from Romero, who has worked very hard on our behalf, not in just being able to deliver our needs to the various underwriters we have had in the past, but also by having built up a strong portfolio of outdoor sports clients so we directly benefit from being part of a larger package to be able to take to new insurers.

### **4.4 FSC**

Angus Pinkerton asked that members remember to submit accident forms. The analysis of these reports help us develop our training systems, advise pilots of higher risk activities and informs the development of equipment standards.

### **4.5 Sites**

Martin Baxter explained that his report mirrored that of his article published in Skywings. Whilst a considerable amount of progress has been achieved on developing the sites database we still have a way to go.

Marc Asquith commended Martin on the work achieved thus far.

### **4.6 Skywings**

Paul Dancey's report was included in the AGM folder.

### **4.7 Website**

Paul Dancey's report was included in the AGM folder.

### **4.8 Competitions**

Bill Bell's report was included in the AGM folder.

### **4.9 Admin**

Marc Asquith's report was included in the AGM folder.

There being no further matters to discuss the Chairman thanked those attending and closed the meeting at 11.40am.