



## **BHPA Loan Scheme**

An interest free loan scheme has been set up by the BHPA in response to suggestions from the membership. The scheme is designed to provide financial assistance to non-commercial groups of BHPA members with a particular focus on supporting clubs to buy sites. The full terms and conditions of the loan scheme are available from the office, but the general terms are described here.

### **Who can apply for a loan?**

Applications must be from BHPA clubs.

### **How much can be borrowed?**

The BHPA has set aside £50,000 of its reserves to be made available for loans. When this has been allocated no more will be available until the outstanding loans have been repaid unless the BHPA Executive decides exceptionally to increase the funding available where, for example, a nationally important site has become available for purchase. Loans to purchase equipment are expected to be for less than £15,000 and loans for the purchase of land for less than £25,000.

### **What kind of things are loans available for?**

It is expected that loans will be used to purchase equipment or land or buildings. Loans will not be made to meet running costs. Each loan application will be assessed by the BHPA Exec. The BHPA Exec will decide each application on its merits and for site purchases in particular the relative importance of the site to the UK hang gliding and paragliding community.

### **How long can the loan period be?**

It is expected that loans will be repaid within three years however loan periods, particularly for the purchase of land, may be extended at the discretion of the BHPA Exec. Repayments should be made quarterly on the first day of January, April, July and October each year.

### **How much notice does the BHPA need to consider loan applications?**

Clubs should allow at least two weeks for the BHPA Exec to consider their application and give an initial response. Clubs should avoid last minute applications as there may not be time for Exec to give the necessary consideration in time to grant a loan.

### **Is there any special paperwork needed?**

Loan applications must be made on the BHPA Loan Application form. These are available from the office along with the terms and conditions of the Loan scheme.

### **What security is required?**

Any loan must be secured by personal guarantees from individual members of the club seeking the loan. The guarantees should be of equal value and the total value of guarantees must cover the loan. The full amount must be guaranteed by no more than ten individuals and the value of individual guarantees should not be less than £500. Loans for the purchase of land will also be secured by a charge against the land the costs of which must be met by the club seeking the loan. Details of loans that have been granted will be published in Skywings so that others may be encouraged to apply in future.

## **Further Information**

Clubs seeking a loan should contact the BHPA Sites Officer or BHPA Treasurer to discuss their requirements.