



Meeting 2020C of the BHPA Executive Council

These minutes are not for circulation outside the Board Members and attendees until approved.

Meeting held online on Sunday 8th November 2020, commencing at 10am by GoToMeeting.

Present

Marc Asquith
Martin Baxter
Bill Bell
Ed Cunliffe
Paul Dancey
Martin Heywood
Angus Langford
Angus Pinkerton
Tom Prideaux-Brune

In attendance:

Jenny Buck
Michelle Lanman
Joe Schofield
Mark Shaw

Apologies:

Julie Drake
Adrian Thomas

ITEM 1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Julie Drake and Adrian Thomas.

Ian Curren and Dave Thompson were absent due to furlough.

ITEM 2: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous Exec meeting, held on Thursday 11th June 2020, were approved.

ITEM 3: MATTERS ARISING

2018 – B1	Continuing
2018 – B2	Closed
2019 – B3	Closed
2020 – A6	Closed - The possibility of sharing a Chief Executive with another association to be explored (2020 – A11)
2020 – A7	Closed
2020 – A11	Continuing
2020 – B1	Closed
2020 – B2	Closed – Not possible to remove commenting from Facebook.
2020 – B3	Closed
2020 – B4	Closed
2020 – B5	Closed

FOR ACTION: (2020 – C1) Ed Cunliffe to include a disclaimer on Facebook.

FOR ACTION: (2020 – C2) Ed Cunliffe to contact the

RSPB.

ITEM 4: PILOT HAND BOOK

Marc Asquith explained that the Pilot Hand book is in need of revision but at present we do not have the capacity to do this in house.

Mark Dale had been approached to undertake the work and supply the revised edition to the BHPA.

Mark Dale's proposal was circulated for consideration and accepted.

FOR ACTION: (2020 – C3) Marc Asquith to progress the update of the Pilot Hand book with Mark Dale.

ITEM 5: LOAN SCHEME

Angus Langford had circulated an explanatory note regarding the BHPA Loan Scheme which is to be made available on the website for all clubs to access. The document summarises the loan scheme's guidelines and gives the clubs parameters to work within. Angus stressed that the terms were not absolute and could be varied at the Exec's discretion.

The new document was approved.

ITEM 6: FLYABILITY FUNDING

It was agreed that Marc Asquith would inform Flyability that in light of the pandemic the BHPA would not be providing any funding this year.

FOR ACTION: (2020 – C4) Marc Asquith to inform Flyability that we will not be providing funding this year.

ITEM 7: JOHN WELCH RESIGNATION

It was noted that John Welch had resigned from the Executive Council in September 2020 due to personal reasons.

ITEM 8: AGM

Marc Asquith advised that the AGM will be held on Saturday 13th March 2020. The venue will most likely be the Nottingham Belfry, and the meeting will be live streamed across Facebook. Members will be encouraged to vote early and not attend in person.

FOR ACTION: (2020 – C5) Marc Asquith to write a piece for Skywings about the AGM.

ITEM 9: AWARDS

Marc Asquith asked for any candidates for BHPA Merit Awards and RAeC Awards be circulated for discussion. It was agreed that the deadline for nominations be published in Skywings as 30th December 2020.

FOR ACTION: (2020 – C6) Joe Schofield to publish the deadline for BHPA Merit nominations in Skywings as 30th December 2020.

ITEM 10: FEES & SUBSCRIPTIONS

After discussion it was agreed that the headline subscription fee for 2020/2021 will be £139. The rest were referred to F&GP.

FOR ACTION: (2020 – C7) F&GP to set fees and subscriptions for 2021.

ITEM 11: REPORTS

11.1 Finance

Angus Langford's report had been circulated showing an estimated surplus for the financial year ending March 2021. Savings in staff costs driven by furlough have offset the loss of income from reduced membership and the increase in the cost of insurance and Skywings.

11.2 FSC

11.2.1 Angus Pinkerton reported that after an investigatory hearing Simon Payne's senior instructor rating and school registration had been revoked. Simon had also been removed from the FSC and a replacement was being sought.

11.2.2 Angus thanked Mark Shaw for the sterling job he has done keeping things ticking over by himself. There have been fewer incidents, which has helped, and courses have been put on hold. There are plans to trial an online coaching course in the near future.

11.2.3 Forward planning has taken a back seat and school inspections have suffered. Moving forward we will look at using furloughed staff on a part time basis to increase resources.

11.2.4 The CAA rebate scheme, for EC devices, is now active for pilot rated members.

11.2.5 WG6 meetings continue online, this has reduced costs but does mean progress is slower.

11.2.6 Examinations continue but on a one-to-one basis.

11.2.7 Francis Rich has been granted a dispensation from the CAA to instruct on a two seater wheeled paramotor. Mark Shaw and Marc Asquith worked closely with the CAA to put this in place and for the first time with a CAA exemption BHPA membership is required.

Mark and Marc have agreed that Francis will be classed as a new type of instructor and we will run it as a trial.

11.3 Insurance

11.3.1 Martin Heywood reported next years premium will reflect a 10% increase, considerably lower than anticipated. He thanked Marc Asquith for dealing with negotiations as a heavy workload had taken him out of the loop.

11.3.2 Marc Asquith reported that proceedings have been issued against the BHPA, under the equality act, by an ex member. This is in respect of an independent expert witness report written by one of our senior instructors. It is currently under consideration whether this is allowed to run its course or whether we apply to strike it out.

11.4 Sites

11.4.1 Martin Baxter's report had been circulated.

11.4.2 The CAA have confirmed that only tow sites are shown on their charts.

11.4.3 The low flying booking cell is currently closing at 5pm which is a temporary measure during lockdown. Joe Schofield commented that block booking is causing a lot of controversy on forums and could cause damage to our reputation.

11.5 Skywings

11.5.1 Paul Dancey's report had been circulated.

11.5.2 Advertising revenue has been seriously affected during the Covid Pandemic and has had to be offset by a reduction in expenditure. Paul thanked Joe Schofield

for all his efforts in producing high quality issues during difficult circumstances.

11.5.3 Angus Pinkerton asked whether compostable bags had been considered for Skywings packaging. Paul explained that the packaging used is constantly under review but at present to use compostable bags would double our packaging costs.

11.5.4 Tom Prideaux-Brune asked whether members could opt out of a hard copy of Skywings and just view the digital copy. Paul explained that if fewer copies were printed costs would increase and advertising revenue would be negatively impacted.

11.6 Website

Paul Dancy reported that the new online application form and renewal system is being widely used and being tweaked as needed.

11.7 Competitions

Bill Bell commented that there is some doubt that competitions will run next year. If the situation changes he will make an approach for funding.

11.8 External representation

Marc Asquith reported that he missed the RAeC online meeting.

11.9 School Liaison

No report.

11.10 Paramotor Liaison

Nothing to report.

11.11 Admin

11.11.1 Marc Asquith reported that Carla Bradley had resigned. Whilst we will cope during the quieter winter months this would need reviewing in the spring.

11.11.2 Invites to download their own digital membership cards had been sent to Exec members. Issues raised were being addressed.

11.11.3 Office staff have resumed working from home during lockdown.

ITEM 12: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Marc Asquith had been approached by a club asking for a member to be refused BHPA membership. Following discussion Marc commented that the situation would be monitored, but currently there were insufficient grounds to refuse membership.

12.2 A member, who is instructing without the relevant qualifications, has been written to requesting him to stop and advising he is not insured to do so.

12.3 Angus Pinkerton asked for an update on the EHPU. Mark Shaw advised that the AGM has been moved to June 2021 and he anticipates it will be held virtually.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 12.50pm.

ACTIONS – OPENED, CONTINUING

WHO	NUMBER	WHAT	STATUS
Marc Asquith / Angus Pinkerton / Michelle Lanman	2018 – B1	Marc Asquith, Angus Pinkerton and Michelle Lanman to review the GDPR policy document.	Continuing
Marc Asquith / Michelle Lanman	2020 – A11	Marc Asquith and Michelle Lanman to set up a working group to look at closer working relations between the BHPA and the BGA.	Continuing
Ed Cunliffe	2020 – C1	Ed Cunliffe to include a disclaimer on Facebook.	Open
Ed Cunliffe	2020 – C2	Ed Cunliffe to contact the RSPB.	Open
Marc Asquith	2020 – C3	Marc Asquith to progress the update of the Pilot Hand book with Mark Dale.	Open
Marc Asquith	2020 – C4	Marc Asquith to inform Flyability that we will not be providing funding this year.	Open
Marc Asquith	2020 – C5	Marc Asquith to write a piece for Skywings about the AGM.	Open
Joe Schofield	2020 – C6	Joe Schofield to publish the deadline for BHPA Merit nominations in Skywings as 30 th December 2020.	Open
F&GP	2020 – C7	F&GP to set fees and subscriptions for 2021.	Open