



Meeting 2015C of the BHPA Executive Council

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Meeting held on Sunday 29th November 2015 at Telford International Centre

Present

Marc Asquith
Bill Bell
Ed Cunliffe
Martin Heywood
Brett Janaway
Martin Baxter
Angus Pinkerton
John Nash
John Welch

In attendance:

Michelle Lanman
Joe Schofield
Mark Shaw
Richard Shaw
Dave Thompson
Ian Currer

Apologies:

Adrian Thomas
Paul Dancey
Angus Langford

There was a brief discussion with elected members only where Michelle and Marc discussed personnel matters.

ITEM 1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Adrian Thomas, Paul Dancey and Angus Langford.

ITEM 2: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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Item 4 Amend to member R.

Item 5 Delete last sentence.

ITEM 3: MATTERS ARISING

2015 – B1 Closed. The FSC have concluded that tandem licences will henceforth be subject to external examination.

2015 – B2 Closed. Report issued

2015 – B3 Closed.

2015 – B4 Continuing.

2015 – B5 Closed.

2015 – B6 Closed.

ITEM 4: INSURANCE FOR SCHOOLS ABROAD

Dave Thompson raised a request that the association consider insuring the schools we have training abroad. He felt there is minimal cost involved doing this and it could generate extra members, which those schools currently turn away. The general consensus was positive although thought would need to be given as to the implications of doing so.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C1) Dave Thompson to email Martin Heywood with his recommendations.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C2) Martin Heywood to consider and report back at next meeting.

ITEM 5: AMENDMENT TO TECHNICAL MANUAL – SITE SOVEREIGNTY

Martin Baxter asked that an amendment to the Site Sovereignty document (held in the Technical Manual) be approved. The amendment is required to clarify that only clubs and schools can register sites (not individuals), and also so we record closed sites.

It was agreed that Martin Baxter would produce the written amendment for approval.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C3) Martin Baxter to write amended Site Sovereignty policy for circulation and approval.

ITEM 6: BHPA ROADSHOW PRESENTATION

Martin Baxter asked whether the Exec felt it was worthwhile

him continuing updating the roadshow presentation, as it was time consuming and had only been used three times.

It was felt that we needed to publicise its availability again and run with it for another season.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C4) Joe Schofield to publicise the presentation in Skywings.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C5) Michelle Lanman to publicise the presentation in the club bulletin.

ITEM 7: AGM

Joe Schofield gave apologies as the wrong closing date for Exec nominations was printed in the November issue of Skywings. This had created some timing issues with getting the voting papers printed in time for them to go out in January's Skywings.

Marc Asquith informed the Exec that he was taking legal advice about changing the associations Memorandum and Articles of Association with regard to members reapplying for membership each year. This would also need including in the voting papers.

Marc asked that all Exec members review the Memorandum and Articles of Association so that any other changes necessary could be actioned at the same time.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C6) Marc Asquith to circulate the approved changes.

ITEM 8: PENSIONS

It was agreed that Angus Langford would investigate and put an appropriate scheme in place.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C7) Angus Langford to set up pension scheme.

ITEM 9: AWARDS

It was agreed that Noel Whittall should be nominated for a Royal Aero Club Award.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C8) John Nash to complete citation for Noel Whittall.

BHPA Merit Awards are to be given to Robert Chettleburgh, Richard Hunt, Kathleen Rigg and Lee Bligh.

Tony and Rona Webb are to be put forward for the Ann Welch award.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C9) Marc Asquith to nominate Tony & Rona Webb for the Ann Welch Award.

ITEM 10: PPG TRAINING

Ian Curren highlighted a concern raised by Tom Hardie that there are BHPA members offering PPG training outside the BHPA scope. It was felt that we could not let members 'cherry pick' which guidelines they followed and which they didn't.

Angus Pinkerton agreed that as long as they were not passing themselves off as BHPA schools we would not interfere. However we would also contact them to see if we could integrate them into the BHPA.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C10) Ian Curren to contact the members concerned.

ITEM 11: CIVL VOTES

Bill Bell raised a concern that there are plans in the pipeline to change how the Worlds are allocated. He asked that two delegates be allowed to go to the plenary meeting in March. Exec. agreed that the attendees should be mandated to vote on our behalf.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C11) Bill Bell to report back at the next Exec meeting

ITEM 12: SDR TOWING UPDATE

Ian Curren confirmed he had written to the CAA with regard to aerotowing, proposing two viable options - the first using SDR and the second by bringing in foreign aircraft. The CAA had written back saying we could use a BCAR Certified aircraft – which did not address either of the options we had suggested and was one we had explained was not appropriate.

However, we are now in the position of being able to request an exemption to test a particular tug. Flylight are prepared to do the paperwork for this and Donald McKenzie and the Malvern Aerotow Group are ready to carry out the test flights.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C12) Ian Curren to write to the CAA to specify what we propose to do and the aircraft to be trialled.

ITEM 13: DRONE AWARENESS

The BMFA are setting up a drone awareness initiative to ensure resource is available to pilots to educate and inform them of their legal and safety responsibilities. They are asking other Associations to support and participate. It was agreed that we would donate £100 to the campaign and feature the Drone Aware Logo on our website.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C13) Paul Dancey to put the Drone Awareness Logo on our website.

ITEM 14: REPORTS

14.1 Finance

Angus Langford's written report was included in the folder. He asked that the question of 2016 subscriptions and staff salaries be passed to FG&P for consideration. The Annual Accounts were approved.

14.2 FSC

14.2.1 Angus Pinkerton reported that there is a need to amend the BHPA rules (rule 4) re wearing helmets. He would have liked to adopt the FAI list rather than specifying a list ourselves, however the FAI list includes EN1077

Class B snow sports helmets, which are not suitable due to their limited impact protection.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C14) Angus Pinkerton to add list of suitable helmets to the BHPA rules.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C15) Adrian Thomas as CIVL rep to get class B (EN1077) helmets excluded from the FAI list.

Angus reported that there are plans to run an intensive instructor course abroad in September 2016. This will speed the process of qualifying as it covers the instructor course, coach course and spending time in schools. The budget estimate is around £700 plus flights and would be based in Portugal or Bulgaria. The course will need to be self-funding so is dependant on interest from members.

Angus confirmed that the trainers' conference will run in February 2016. We have had lots of interest, with twenty-nine attendees currently signed up.

Angus reported back on Dave Shields' accident as there had been concerns that the harness may have been a contributing factor. Dave Thompson confirmed that this was not the case. However there are some known issues with early versions of the harness and it was considered appropriate that a safety notice be issued.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C16) Ian Currer to issue safety notice.

Angus reported that he and Mark Shaw had attended the DHV meeting where discussions had been held re saving hang gliding. Their report will be published in Skywings.

14.3 Insurance

Martin Heywood confirmed that litigation with member R was still on-going and asked that any requests from member R be referred to him.

14.4 Sites

Martin Baxter reported that the database development is on going with mapping causing some issues. Data has been sent out to all clubs and this is expected to generate considerable response.

14.5 Skywings

Joe Schofield reported back in Paul Dancey's absence that a demo of Skywings was up on the website and asked for feedback from the Exec.

FOR ACTION: (2015 – C17) Exec members to view online version of Skywings and provide feedback to Paul Dancey.

Ian Currer raised the subject of complaints being received after a picture of a dual powered paraglider was used on the front cover of Skywings. Joe Schofield explained that

the picture was related to a particular challenge someone undertook and that it was too good a story to miss. After some discussion it was agreed that in future we would run a disclaimer.

14.6 Website

Joe Schofield reported that the PayPal option had been added to the shop.

14.7 Competitions

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

14.8 External Representation

Nothing to report.

14.9 School Liaison

Nothing to report.

14.10 Paramotor Liaison

Ed Cunliffe reported that Parafest will run in June 2016 and the World Championships in August 2016.

14.11 Admin

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

ITEM 15: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Bill Bell reported back on his recent attendance of the Gasco meeting. He advised that he would require accident statistics for the next meeting.

15.2 Ian Currer reported back on a recent SSSDR fatality, which the AAIB are investigating. It was felt that they had picked this up 'accidentally' and that in the future the BHPA Technical staff will investigate any similar incidents.

15.3 Richard Shaw asked whether day tickets could be extended to include a second day in situations where the weather caused problems. Marc Asquith explained that this had previously been the case and the result was that Day Tickets effectively became under-priced 2 Day Tickets. We had resolved that problem with the introduction of Day Tickets and we would not be changing back.

15.4 Marc Asquith asked about Richard Thompson's tandem licence examination. Angus Pinkerton confirmed he would expedite it.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 15.00.

ACTIONS – OPENED, CONTINUING

WHO	NUMBER	WHAT	STATUS
Michelle Lanman	2015 – B3	Open new bank account for site funds and transfer from old account.	Continuing
Dave Thompson	2015 – C1	Dave Thompson to email Martin Heywood with his recommendations for insuring schools abroad.	Opened
Martin Heywood	2015 – C2	Martin Heywood to consider insuring schools abroad and report back at next meeting.	Opened
Martin Baxter	2015 – C3	Martin Baxter to write amended Site Sovereignty policy for circulation and approval.	Opened
Joe Schofield	2015 – C4	Joe Schofield to publicise the roadshow presentation in Skywings.	Opened
Michelle Lanman	2015 – C5	Michelle Lanman to publicise the roadshow presentation in the club bulletin	Opened
Marc Asquith	2015 – C6	Marc Asquith to circulate the approved changes to the Memorandum & Articles of Association.	Opened
Angus Langford	2015 – C7	Angus Langford to set up pension scheme.	Opened
John Nash	2015 – C8	John Nash to complete citation for Noel Whittall.	Opened
Marc Asquith	2015 – C9	Marc Asquith to nominate Tony & Rona Webb for the Ann Welch Award.	Opened
Ian Curren	2015 – C10	Ian Curren to contact the members providing PPG training outside the BHPA remit.	Opened
Bill Bell	2015 – C11	Bill Bell to report back re CIVL's plenary meeting at the next exec meeting	Opened
Ian Curren	2015 – C12	Ian Curren to write to the CAA to specify what we propose to do and the aircraft to be trialled.	Opened
Paul Dancey	2015 – C13	Paul Dancey to put the Drone Awareness Logo on our website.	Opened
Angus Pinkerton	2015 – C14	<i>Angus Pinkerton to add list of suitable helmets to the BHPA rules.</i>	Opened
Adrian Thomas	2015 – C15	Adrian Thomas as CIVL rep to get class B (EN1077) helmets excluded from the FAI list.	Opened
Ian Curren	2015 – C16	Ian Curren to issue harness safety notice.	Opened
All exec	2015 – C17	Exec members to view online version of Skywings and provide feedback to Paul Dancey.	Opened