



## Meeting 2007B of the BHPA Executive Council

Meeting held on Tuesday 1st May, 2007 at Baden Powell House, Queen's Gate,  
London SW7 5JS

These notes of the Minutes are not to be taken as a full record of the meeting of the  
Directors of BHPA Limited.

**Present:**

John Aldridge  
Marc Asquith  
Martin Heywood  
Angus Pinkerton  
Steve Walsh

**In attendance:**

Jennie Burdett  
Mark Dale  
Joe Schofield  
Dave Thompson

### ITEM 1: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Apologies were received from Ed Cunliffe, Paul Dancey,  
Rustam Davar, Edi Geczi and John Welch.

Martin said that as papers for the meeting had been  
circulated by email, it would be assumed that everyone had read  
Officers' Reports and there would be no need for discussion  
unless there were any questions.

2007 - A8 Closed

2007 - A9 Continuing

2007 - A10 Joe said he had spoken to Colin Fargher re  
advertising targeted at our older members.  
Closed.

2007 - A11 Joe reported that he had some articles lined up  
and Angus said there had been a couple of good  
ones in his club magazine which Joe could  
maybe turn into an article for Skywings. Steve  
asked if Joe could do a series of articles on the  
sites that have already been purchased. Closed.

### ITEM 2: MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

#### Meeting 2007A - 13 January 2007

The minutes were approved subject to the following  
amendments:

Action (2007 - A2) - this action was for Steve Walsh not Marc  
Asquith.

Item 8 - should include an action for Dave Thompson to liaise  
with Sean Lovatt.

### ITEM 3: MATTERS ARISING

2005 - A2 Continuing

2006 - B2 Closed

2006 - B5 Closed

2006 - B12 Continuing

2007 - A1 Continuing

2007 - A2 Closed

2007 - A3 Continuing

2007 - A4 Continuing

2007 - A5 Mark reported that there did not seem to be a  
central register or national information centre.  
Joe suggested that a member who is currently at  
university should be co-opted on to the Exec.  
Continuing.

**FOR ACTION: (2007 - B1) Jennie Burdett to check how many  
members we have listed as students and email the list to the  
Chairman.**

2007 - A6 Closed

2007 - A7 Continuing

### ITEM 4: SPORT & LEISURE AVIATION SHOW

Martin said there was not much to report as neither Ed nor  
Rustam were at the meeting. The final figures for the show last  
year showed a nominal profit of £7k.

Marc reported that there were some strange anomalies in  
the accounts, such as Stephanie Blankley's accommodation  
which should be paid for from the show account rather than from  
funds of the BHPA. These anomalies will be ironed out for this  
year.

There was short discussion on whether to continue with the  
show next year and Martin said he would speak to Rustam to  
see how things are progressing.

**FOR ACTION: (2007 - B2) Martin Heywood to speak to  
Rustam Davar re NEC.**

### ITEM 5: STATISTICAL REVIEW

There was no discussion on this item as Rustam was not at the  
meeting.

### ITEM 6: CONCESSIONARY MEMBERSHIP

Mark informed members that it had always been BHPA policy  
that Instructors and TIs could not hold concessionary  
membership and must pay the full annual fee and he wondered  
whether this should be changed.

It was noted that this would involve some fairly major  
reprogramming of the database and since so few members were  
involved this did not seem worthwhile. However, it was agreed  
that if the reduction was requested by a member it should be  
given.

## ITEM 7: FLYABILITY TRUSTEE REAPPOINTMENT

Steve Varden had emailed Martin requesting the re-appointment of John Crosbie and Marc Asquith as Flyability Trustees and this was agreed by the Exec.

Marc had had several email exchanges with Steve Varden who was very annoyed that Exec minutes published on the web said that it was impossible to get accounts out of Flyability. Marc also mentioned that Flyability had not yet had any grant from BHPA for 2006.

## ITEM 8: TERRY PRENDERGAST

Exec members were sorry to learn that Terry Prendergast had passed away and agreed that there should be a BHPA representative at the funeral. For those members who did not know Terry, Marc explained that he had been involved in hang gliding over many years and had done a lot for the sport.

Either John or Mark would attend the funeral, depending who was available. Joe said he would write an obituary for publication in Skywings.

## ITEM 9: GASCO SUBSCRIPTION

Martin informed the meeting that he had spoken to Mark Turner who believed that GASCO was a worthwhile organisation and that we should be making use of it.

Angus said that when this was discussed previously, GASCO did not seem to be doing work that was relevant to us but Mark Turner has made a good case for staying with GASCO. Angus felt that BHPA should support Mark Turner and therefore support GASCO.

Marc said that GASCO is really just a talking shop where you get to meet a lot of other people from air related bodies. There are so many bodies that we are members of now and which we have to make contributions to that anything more than a nominal subscription is not possible. We already have a line on membership renewal forms to enable our members to make a donation to GASCO if they wish. GASCO would be welcome to put something in Skywings which may encourage our members to make a donation with their renewal.

It was agreed that the usefulness of GASCO as a discussion forum had been superseded by other bodies that are more relevant to us. Therefore, BHPA should subscribe in order to receive a few copies of the FSB but these are not required for all our clubs.

**FOR ACTION: (2007 - B3) Martin Heywood to reply to GASCO.**

## ITEM 10: REPORTS

### 10.1 Treasurer

Marc said there was some good news from UK Sport as they had agreed to continue with our funding. This was totally unexpected but very welcome. Also, because our insurance claims were minimal during 2005 we are getting a rebate on the insurance premium, which was also unexpected.

Some urgent discussions had taken place between members of the F&GP about increasing membership fees. However, Marc said he now had no concerns about the finances and did not feel it necessary to increase subscriptions for 2007. It was agreed that this would not be taken any further.

### 10.2 FSC

Mark had circulated a paper on Uncertified Sub 20m<sup>2</sup> paragliders and this was discussed. Mark explained that there are more of these gliders in the UK that had been first realised and they are being used for flying in quite strong winds. These gliders are uncertified and therefore Mark suggested that those wishing to fly them should have a Development Pilot endorsement in order to comply with BHPA rules and regulations.

Members discussed the implications of this scheme and the potential for a speed gliding pilot causing injury to another person, resulting in a claim on our insurance.

Terminology was also discussed and some members felt

that "Development Pilot" which was used for pilots flying competition wings, was not quite appropriate. Members agreed that we do want these pilots within the BHPA at an early stage, and hopefully for this season, but we need to come up with a new method of achieving this.

Angus said that there are an increasing number of people flying these gliders at the moment and they are not insured because our rules state that you cannot fly something that is not certified. We have the problem of small certified gliders being flown by people outside of the weight range.

Martin felt that this should be taken to the insurers before we actually go ahead and the meeting agreed. If the insurers are unhappy with it we could suggest reduced cover, similar to dual pilots and instructors. It was possible that the insurers may not be willing to cover this activity abroad.

**FOR ACTION: (2007 - B4) Mark Dale to give information on sub 20m<sup>2</sup> paragliders to Martin Heywood.**

**FOR ACTION: (2007 - B5) Martin Heywood to check with insurers re sub 20m<sup>2</sup> paragliders.**

10.2.1 At the last Exec Mark had been tasked to come up with a basic training programme for PPG from flat field sites. This he had done and he would be emailing it to the FSC for approval. Once approved it come into operation immediately.

10.2.2 Mark had been doing some research on Child Protection Policies and had concluded that BHPA does not actually need to do anything.

It was decided that Exec should formally agree the policy and guidelines produced by Mark and this should then be published on the website. Any comments should be sent to Mark within two weeks.

Mark was thanked for all the work he had done on this matter.

### 10.3 Insurance

Martin reported that there were no problems with insurance at the moment; there was one claim against a school but this was not expected to be a large or high risk one. Dave added that it was just over three years since there had been a really big claim.

### 10.4 Competitions

John reported that Bruce Goldsmith had won gold at the World Paragliding Championship and there had also been individual and team medal success in the Paragliding Accuracy World Championship.

10.4.1 A pilot had demanded that the office issue him with a FAI licence even though he is not and never has been a member of the BHPA. John said his inclination is to say that we do not issue licences to non-members. Exec agreed that they would be happy for John to deal with this as he saw fit.

### 10.5 Sites

Steve had submitted a written report and no discussion was required.

### 10.6 Skywings

Paul Dancey was not at the meeting but had submitted a written report. Joe explained that Training Wings would be published as part of the May issue of Skywings instead of a stand alone publication. There was no guarantee that this would be a success but if it worked out it should save the Association some money.

There seemed to be a problem with the Exec and Staff group email addresses which kept bouncing back.

**FOR ACTION: (2007 - B6) Martin Heywood to contact Sean re email addresses.**

### 10.7 External Representation

Reporting on RAeC matters Marc said that the idea of having a Project Director for the RAeC had been allowed to slide. He also mentioned that there had been discussion about subscriptions and funding.

10.7.1 In regard to the World Air Games, John reported that even though the RAeC had voted against, someone from the UK had put a bid in. They would not now be taking it any further.

### 10.8 Paramotor Liaison

Ed was not at the meeting but had submitted a written report.

John had some queries about the British Paramotor Association and whether it was being supported by the BMAA. The meeting also discussed the paramotor magazine edited by Michel Carnet and which is a XC publication.

#### **10.9 Admin**

Marc informed the meeting that Carolyn Childs was in the process of changing the accounting system but was not progressing too well with it at the moment. We needed to have this ready to start the new financial year.

10.10 Joe mentioned that there had been a problem with the March Skywings when Newman Thompson had printed less than had been ordered. They made up the difference by printing some digitally.

### **ITEM 11: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

11.1 Three volunteers had come forward to run the BHPA simulator, one of them was Ian Currer who we had bought the simulator from.

Discussion followed and it was suggested that Ian running the simulator would be a similar situation to when Andy Shaw was promoting the BHPA at the shows. All felt that Andy had been scrupulous in his representation of BHPA and Ian would have to do the same if he was running the BHPA simulator.

It would make sense to take up Ian's offer as he would be able to maintain and store the equipment.

Steve wondered whether we could subsidise Ian to attend shows in the north with his own simulator and have the other two volunteers attend the shows in the south with our simulator.

Angus was concerned that there would be a negative reaction from some of our other schools but the meeting felt that it would be worth trying for a year to see how things worked out.

Ian was actually offering more than we had asked for and it was too good an offer to turn down but at the same time Exec did not want to turn down the other two volunteers. Ideally we would like Ian to take on these other volunteers as a second team to go to shows with him and train them up.

***FOR ACTION: (2007 - B7) Mark Dale to produce reply to Ian Currer and let Martin Heywood see it before sending.***

In regard to expenses, BHPA would pay mileage, accommodation and stand space.

11.2 Mark informed members that Russ Hicks had at last succeeded in getting the tow site database from Tom Hardie but there had been no progress on the sites database.

Steve said he would speak to Tom one more time but if that failed we would create a new version of the database.

11.3 It was agreed that the Annual Accounts would be circulated by email for approval.

### **ITEM 12: DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held in September.

## ACTIONS - OPENED, CONTINUING

WHO	NUMBER	WHAT	STATUS
All Exec	2005 - A2	Email Job Description and photo to Sean.	Continuing
Ed Cunliffe	2006 - B12	Liaise with Mark Dale re AP ratings for SPHG.	Continuing
Jennie Burdett	2007 - A1	Search membership database for accountants etc.	Continuing
Edi Geczi/ Rustam Davar	2007 - A3	Explore options for BHPA show / AGM.	Continuing
Marc Asquith	2007 - A4	Approach CCPR and liaise with Angus Pinkerton re CAA.	Continuing
Mark Dale	2007 - A5	Follow up on university clubs.	Continuing
Rustam Davar	2007 - A7	Contact David Wootton re marketing.	Continuing
Mark Dale/ Dave Thompson	2007 - A9	Make schools aware of the benefits of starting training using tow.	Continuing
Dave Thompson	2007 - A11	Liaise with Sean Lovatt re publishing IRs on the web.	Continuing
Jennie Burdett	2007 - B1	Check how many members are listed as students on the database.	Opened
Martin Heywood	2007 - B2	Speak to Rustam Dave re NEC.	Opened
Martin Heywood	2007 - B3	Reply to GASCo.	Opened
Mark Dale	2007 - B4	Give info on sub 20m <sup>2</sup> paragliders to Martin Heywood.	Opened
Martin Heywood	2007 - B5	Check with insurers re sub 20m <sup>2</sup> paragliders.	Opened
Martin Heywood	2007 - B6	Contact Sean Lovatt re email problems.	Opened
Mark Dale	2007 - B7	Reply to Ian Curren.	Opened