



Meeting 2020B of the BHPA Executive Council

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

Meeting held online on Thursday 11th June 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
John Welch

In attendance:

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 Currer and Dave Thompson were absent due to furloughing.

ITEM 2: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous Exec meeting, held on Sunday 8th March 2020, were approved together with the AGM minutes.

ITEM 3: MATTERS ARISING

2017 – A4	Closed
2018 – B1	Continuing
2018 – B2	Continuing
2019 – B2	Closed
2019 – B3	Continuing
2019 – C4	Closed
2019 – C6	Closed
2020 – A1	Closed – Gareth Bird to be invited to November Exec meeting.
2020 – A2	Closed
2020 – A3	Closed
2020 – A4	Closed
2020 – A5	Closed
2020 – A6	Continuing
2020 – A7	Continuing – Tom Prideaux-Brune agreed to keep in contact with Simon Westmore.
2020 – A8	Closed
2020 – A9	Closed

2020 – A10	Closed
2020 – A11	Continuing
2020 – A12	Closed
2020 – A13	Closed
2020 – A14	Closed

FOR ACTION: (2020 – B1) Marc Asquith to invite Gareth Bird to Novembers Exec meeting.

ITEM 4: PUBLIC FORUM

Ed Cunliffe asked whether the Association should have a public forum. At present we have a Facebook page which is open to abuse. If we decide to have a member's only forum it should be managed.

Martin Heywood commented that if Facebook becomes a forum people become hungry for more and more information supplied on a much quicker basis. His preference would be to impart information via the website as it enables a calmer more studied approach.

It was agreed that the Facebook page would be kept as a source of announcements and as a signpost to the website, however commenting would be removed.

FOR ACTION: (2020 – B2) Ed Cunliffe to remove commenting from the BHPA Facebook page.

ITEM 5: MEMBER M

A discussion was held re the suitability of renewing Member M's membership.

It was agreed that, although their action had been

distasteful, there was insufficient grounds to refuse BHPA membership.

ITEM 6: REPORTS

6.1 Finance

6.1.1 Angus Langford reported that for the year ended 31st March 2020 we reported a loss of £19K. This was worse than expected but was due to a fall-off in membership.

6.1.2 Angus had circulated a report showing the suspected impact on finances from the coronavirus lockdown. Although April and May's accounts are showing a small surplus it is expected we will have a substantial loss by the end of the year.

6.1.3 Marc Asquith commented that the statistics graph took a sharp nosedive at the beginning of lockdown but had now started to stabilize. The general consensus was that there was a huge amount of interest in leisure pursuits which should be capitalised on.

FOR ACTION: (2020 – B3) Bill Bell to write an article for the website.

6.1.4 Marc Asquith explained that it was necessary to keep staff furloughed at present, but this would be reviewed regularly.

6.2 FSC

6.2.1 Angus Pinkerton thanked Mark Shaw for all his hard work.

6.2.2 Angus reported that the resumption of flying had already resulted in a couple of incidents.

6.2.3 There have been concerns over the future of our schools so Mark Shaw spoke to the majority of them during May. Most were understanding of the situation and were managing. We do need to get them up and running as soon as possible. Currently we are waiting for a relaxation in the rules so group sizes can be increased.

6.2.4 We have a new hang gliding school on board who would like to train ab-initio. At present we are unable to travel to complete the usual instructor training. Alternative approaches are being considered.

6.2.5 Angus reported that there have been better relations with the CAA since lockdown. There have been meetings regarding electronic conspicuity for which the CAA are looking to subsidise equipment. Any grants for hang gliding and paragliding will only be available to BHPA members.

6.3 Insurance

Martin Heywood reported that things are quiet.

Marc Asquith commented that he expects the Wayne Seeley incident will result in a claim from the power company.

6.4 Sites

Martin Baxter's report had been circulated.

6.5 Skywings

Paul Dancey's report had been circulated.

6.6 Website

Paul Dancey reported on the new online application form and renewal system he has developed. It has had a fairly low-key launch but has already received much use.

6.7 Competitions

Bill Bell reported that there has not been any competition, it will be some time before any are planned.

6.8 External representation

Marc Asquith reported that the RAeC have an online meeting planned.

6.9 School Liaison

John Welch reported that most schools remain up-beat. They are receiving plenty of enquires, many of which are from new students.

6.10 Paramotor Liaison

Nothing to report.

Tom Prideaux-Brune asked if it was possible for the association to obtain more sites for paramotorists to use. Ed Cunliffe explained that we do not own any sites, although some clubs do. Most pilots obtain permission from local farmers to use their land. Martin Heywood also commented that many small airfields are happy for paramotorists to use them.

6.11 Admin

Nothing further to report.

ITEM 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 John Welch updated the Exec on Julie Drake's cancer diagnosis.

FOR ACTION: (2020 – B4) Michelle Lanman to arrange for a card to be sent and flowers at a later date..

7.2 Bill Bell reported that Gasco have a 'return to flying' online course which is very useful.

FOR ACTION: (2020 – B5) Bill Bell to circulate Gasco's 'return to flying' link.

7.3 Marc Asquith asked for a decision to be made on the venue for the AGM in 2021. After some discussion it was agreed to hold it at Nottingham with the BGA.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 12pm.

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
Angus Pinkerton	2018 – B2	Angus Pinkerton to download the GDPR template from the Sports & Recreation Alliance website.	Continuing
Marc Asquith	2019 – B3	Marc Asquith to speak to Barclays Bank about the dormant BHGA bank account.	Continuing
Bill Bell	2020 – A6	Bill Bell to investigate the costs and merits of appointing a Chief Executive and report back at the next Exec meeting.	Continuing
Ian Curren / Julie Drake	2020 – A7	Ian Curren and Julie Drake to attend Simon Westmore's event in July 2020.	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
Marc Asquith	2020 – B1	Marc Asquith to invite Gareth Bird to Novembers Exec meeting.	Open
Ed Cunliffe	2020 – B2	Ed Cunliffe to remove commenting from the BHPA Facebook page.	Open
Bill Bell	2020 – B3	Bill Bell to write an article for the website.	Open
Michelle Lanman	2020 – B4	Michelle Lanman to send a card to Julie Drake.	Open
Bill Bell	2020 – B5	Bill Bell to circulate the Gasco's 'return to flying' link.	Open