Committee meeting 4th November 2024 19.00h

1. In attendance:

Jonty Hitchman: Chairman	JH
Phil Morgan: Chief Flying Instructor	PM
Richard Dann: Treasurer	RD
Gillian Brind: Secretary	GB
Martin Hoskins: Safety Officer	MH
Jamie Minx: Aircraft Officer	JM
Chris Humphrey: Airfield Officer	CH

Apologies:

Rowland Pantling: Equipment Officer	RP

2. Adoption of minutes.

The minutes for the committee meeting held on 1st October 2024 were approved by JM, seconded by PM.

3. Matters arising

Review of Privacy Policy GB had circulated a draft Privacy Policy to the committee. It was discussed and several amendments were requested. **Action GB will make these amendments and circulate again to the committee for approval.**

Review of Cookies Policy GB has consulted with Chris Bessent, Pete Dinham and Maurice (Freeflight) regarding the Cookies Policy. RD had queries re the

advertising part of the policy and **Action RD will discuss this with Pete Dinham**

New articles, S & G article and thank you letters to hosting clubs. JH had spoken with SZ and been informed that he had completed these and would pass them to JH. **Action JH will follow this up and get something out by the end of the month.**

Winch drivers training cards and authorised trainers list. Minimum age of 16 for winch drivers. John Douglass wants to remain as Winch Master and hopes to attend the airfield more. The Winch Master's signature can be done by proxy after a discussion with the winch trainer if JD is not available. This will be reviewed if necessary. **Action Winch driver training cards and list of authorised trainers will be available in the LPV.**

Costings for an advertising board for the main gate. MH shared options with committee and double sided freestanding swing board was preferred. Approximate costs of £50 for sign and £50 for artwork. Discussed wording. Sign would say visitors welcome and TL's available today. Board could be put out when we have availability. **Action MH will compose the wording and get a quote and circulate to the committee.**

Child Protection Policy review. Action MH will review the Child Protection policy and circulate hopefully this week.

Disposal of waste and coolant drums from airfield. Action MH will contact a company he found to see if they will remove the drums.

Removal of bars on red container. Action PM will remove them when he goes to the club tomorrow.

Disposal of failed fire extinguishers. MH has received a quote from Red box however it would be cheaper to purchase the fire extinguishers ourselves and then get Red box to commission them. **Action MH will cost this option and circulate to committee for decision.** The extinguishers in the winches are fine until February.

4. Treasurer's report

The attached report was discussed. Considering the club was not on the airfield for 3 months the loss is quite small however it is still going to be tight to get through to the winter. It was estimated that the club lost £10k due to being off site. The average income from now until the end of February is £5K. JH discussed the potential to simplify the Junior rates and suggested that this could be discussed at the BGA conference. Committee discussed how to increase

revenue from TL's and evening flying. The new website will be instrumental with this. ICO contact needs changing from Terri Cook. MH volunteered to take on this role. **Action RD will look into changing this contact**. The second access for the bank is still Terri Cook. This needs changing. GB volunteered to be the second access. **Action RD will organise this.**

5. CFI's report

The attached report was discussed**.** The club is lacking in rated instructors. PM is approaching members regarding this. There is one member starting instructor training early next year and one member starting basic instructor training. Annual checks have now been changed to being able to be completed anytime of year and then run for 1 year from the completion date as it is being recorded on Freeflight.

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6. Aircraft Officer's report

HCF is offline for Annual & ARC. The Vega needs refinishing and PM and JM have volunteered to carry out the work at cost**. Action PM will provide a costing for the refinish for the committee to consider authorising if funds allow**. The restricted C of A request needs completing for the Vega. **Action GB will send over the form again to JM.**

7. Equipment Officer's report

RP not able to attend the meeting and hadn't sent a report. **Action JH to contact him to see if he has any attendance issues.** The green jeep is offline and needs a new belt. JM had contacted Michael re students assisting with this. **Action JM will purchase a belt and oversee the students replacing it.**

8. Safety Officer's report

Most points had been covered in matters arising. However new first aid boxes are required. **Action MH will purchase new first aid boxes**

9. Airfield Officer's report

See attached report that had been circulated to committee members before the meeting. A discussion took place regarding the diesel tank in the container as Watson Fuels are not happy to fill tanks in unventilated steel containers. It was suggested that an external filling point and an extraction fan on the rear of the container could be fitted. Also, the fuel pump could be brought forward, near to the front of the container. A solution to these issues needs to be found before the next fill of diesel.

CH thanked Andy Brind for rewiring the signal lights on the LPV and all the members who have been mowing the grass.

Andy Brind had supplied a quote to insulate and clad the front of the workshop for a maximum of £600. The work would be completed by himself and a few other volunteers. The committee agreed unanimously with this proposal and GB will ask him to go ahead with this.

10. Directors and Officers insurance

GB has received 3 quotes for this insurance which the BGA recommend clubs have. The committee discussed the quotes and JH proposed that the Axa £2 million cover for £199 should be purchased and this was agreed by the committee. **Action GB to organise this insurance.**

11. BGA Club annual return.

The annual return is being completed by Jacques (Membership Secretary) and RD and is in hand.

12. Membership proposal from SO ref SUGC & reciprocal.

SO proposed that limits on SUGC pilots should be kept at 4 pre-solo pilots but allow additional solo pilots. This was discussed and most committee members where in agreement that if the capacity is there ie in the winter months then additional solo pilots should be allowed but not at the detriment of full members. The current agreement with SUGC does not officially allow these additional pilots. The solo pilots can join the club directly and not be affected by these limits. **Action JM will look at different options and see what the financial implications are.** Committee members can also speak with other club officials at the BGA conference regarding this.

SO country/associate membership proposal of 50%. This was discussed along with the current reciprocal agreements with local clubs. JM mentioned that SZ had spoken with Sandhill Farm regarding reciprocal agreement**. Action JH will speak with SZ regarding the reciprocal agreement with Sandhill Farm.** There does not seem to be a formal agreement with Sandhill Farm. Currently SGC charges members of other clubs a reciprocal day rate if the person's club would charge SGC members flying there. The reciprocal arrangements might need to be formalised with local clubs. The proposal for a 50% country/associate membership was not agreed.

13 Collision avoidance and radios from BGA

The BGA sent an email out to Safety Officers and CFIs recommending that gliders have radios to reduce accidents. This was however mainly intended for sites where aerotow takes place. A discussion took place regarding whether handhelds could be used as a cheaper alternative to installing radios, mics, speakers, aerials etc in the gliders. A plan is needed to introduce radios into the gliders with a phased approach over a 5 year period so that it can be budgeted for. **Action MH will consider a costing for each glider to show handheld versus full installation costs.**

14 AOB

GB mentioned that Pete Smith had stopped sending his weekly update that gave the weather and duty pilot details for the weekend. **Action GB to contact PS to ask if he would be willing to restart this**. GB also mentioned that this coming Sunday is Remembrance Sunday so the 2 minutes silence needs to be observed. PM is Duty Instructor and will ensure that this takes place.

Next meeting Tuesday 3rd December at 7pm
Meeting finished at 21.45 pm