**Minutes of MDOC Committee Meeting 14th April 2014**

**Present:** Dave McCann (Chairman), Steve Dempsey, Tony Wagg (Secretary), John Britton, Andrew Gregory, Margaret Gregory, Trevor Hindle, Julie Brook, Sue Birkinshaw **.**

**Apologies for Absence:**  Pete Lomas, Eddy Speak, Kath Speak.

**1. Minutes of Last Meeting:** Accepted.

**2. Matters Arising/Actions:** Eddy Speak had not had chance to check the function of the LCD start clock. **Action continues ES.**

1000 flyers have been printed for the Central Manchester Events and will be made available and displayed at the JK.

It has been agreed by the NW Exec that Place Fell and Angle Tarn shall become MDOC areas.

Xplorer Events. These events are aimed at novice family groups and are largely run by non-orienteers such as park rangers. Details and fixtures are given on the Xplorer website. Dave McCann has arranged a meeting with Tom Brown, BOF participation officer and the Xplorer co-ordinator in the NW, to offer suggestions and ensure participants are aware of MDOC and its activities. Sue Birkinshaw has attended one such event in Lyme Park and was concerned that the map and location of some controls (not on a mapped feature!) differed radically from normal orienteering practice. MDOC publicity has been passed to Tom Brown.

Nopesport has shut up shop but Nick Barrable (Mr Compass Sport) has begun an alternative forum.

**3. Treasurer’s Report:** The treasurer submitted a written report for March. Finances are healthy. The night street league yielded a significant profit. The BOF Board has recently confirmed a decision not to waive the levy on charity events. Sue B suggested that if no better alternative is proposed, next year’s charity could be Lyme Park itself. This would cement good relations between the Club and Park.

**4. Future Events:** Central Manchester urban event. Margaret Gregory reported that a meeting had been held with the Castlefields Residents Association, local councillor and local police officer. No problems were raised. Permission is being sought to sign the event from the nearest (Deansgate) Metrolink station.

The committee agreed that £3 food vouchers (for the Owens Park café) should be given to those who help at Platt Fields but do not run. At present the span of start times is short so a pool of non- runners is required. However start times at both events will be extended if required by the likely number of entrants.

The annual footpath relay will take place on Saturday 21 June and we need a team of 20, plus support drivers. It coincides with a junior squad weekend and we may struggle to raise numbers. Tony Wagg has ‘volunteered’ to organise in the absence of the usual suspect (AG).

JK2015 in the NW. Dick Towler has written to Sue Birkinshaw to ask whether we might stage an event shortly before or after the JK. We are due to organise the relay and the committee view was that the Club would be overstretched by any additional commitment. However we could offer the Lyme Park permanent course to benefit those flying into Manchester, and a training event at High Dam provided others organised it.

Local events. It is becoming difficult to find planners for local events, especially on Saturday mornings. Sue argued that these events were important in that many were well attended and gained us odd new members. Steve D suggested we might reduce the number if we were overstretched. Some planners or potential planners were reluctant to become involved with O Cad or CONDES.

**Action** Eddy Speak – to circulate the new CONDES key to planners.

**Action** John Britton and Eddy to consult each other about the arrangement of a new CONDES course.

It was agreed that the course format for autumn Saturday morning events should be yellow plus score plus some more demanding option for the fit and capable. There had been 8 night street league events. A meeting is due to be held and further mapping may be forthcoming.

**5. North West OA: JK2015.** BOF wish to award central contracts for catering and equipment suppliers at major events. The NW Exec has concerns, especially with regard to catering, including possible restrictions on the NWJS cake stall at the JK. Discussions between Steve Round (NW Treasurer) and Mike Hamilton and Sally Pygott (BOF) have not fully resolved the issue and Dick Towler (NW Sec) was actioned to draft a letter to BOF, to be sent following the experience of JK 2014. Steve Dempsey commented that he was not encouraged by notes on this issue from the BOF Exec Meeting and the NW cake stall had taken £300 at the Stickle Pike Event.

**6. AOB:** (a)MDOC/DEE Challenge . We have accepted their challenge, to take place on May 17th. The challenge was issued in a largely incomprehensible language but we believe there will be some form of orienteering and social events involved.

(b)BOF News. Mike Hamilton has sent out an informal email to club officers covering BOF issue. Dave McCann will circulate this to Club members **(Action DM).**

(c) New urban vests are expected to arrive in a few days.

**7. Date of next Meeting:** 12th May 2014.