

## Minutes MDOC Committee Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

**Attendees: In person:** Paul Watson (acting Chair), Tony Wagg (Sec), Sue Birkinshaw.. **Via Zoom:** Trevor Hindle, Julie Brook, Liz Hamer Davies, Alain Kyd, Peter Cull (Treasurer), Graham Heap, Andy Thornton.

**Apologies:** Alison Fryer Catriona Beynon, Dom Wathey, Pete Hayes, Simon Freytag.

**1. Minutes of Last meeting:** Accepted. It was agreed that the minutes should record the situation at the time of the meeting and any subsequent information should form an amendment.

### **2. Matters Arising and Actions:**

(a) Club becoming a trust. **Action continues PC.** Benchmark survey, see section 4 below.

(b) Marketing. Determine Facebook and Twitter content. **Action continues PW.**

(c) Newsletter editor. Sue awaits a reply to her email to Graham H.

(d) Storage of club archives. **Action continues SB.**

(f) First Aid course. Tony has spoken to Kath Speak who confirmed that he and Paul Jarvis are registered for the January course, arranged by DEE.

(g) Paul Watson will obtain a stores key from Andrew Gregory. **Action continues PW.**

(h) Paul has produced a multi-directional microphone for zoom meetings.

(i) Distribution of funds awarded to the Club from the Lakes 5 profit. The total now due is just over £2000. It was agreed that this should be passed on to helpers according to their contribution, but also allowing the option of donating their winnings to the O Foundation. Tony has a record of who did which shift but the issue is slightly more complicated. Some key people not on this list worked on all 5 days or possibly more. In addition, LOC are proposing to give a large sum to one of our members who controlled the event that they organised. It is not clear whether this is in addition to any expenses incurred. We need to clarify the LOC position and check with Trevor Roberts, who was treasurer for the whole series. It was agreed that Tony, Sue and Peter C should discuss and report back to the committee. **Action TW, SB, PC.**

**3. Junior Issues:** Alain reported an impressive turnout from Fallibroome at the British Schools Champs. About 12 year 7's took part and we won medals in Years 8 and 12 girls. Alain will send details to the club website.

### **4. Finance:**

(a) The Treasurer reported that our bank balance exceeds that at the start of the financial year by £2375, but of this, £2085 is owed to members as detailed in section 2(i) above. A written account for November was submitted just before the meeting but had not been circulated.

(b) Support for MapRun. Peter Ross has explained that the Club has made extensive use of MapRun during the current financial year, amounting to 349 runs by the end of November. MapRun is free to participants but clubs who are regular users are asked to support the ongoing operation and development, by donating 40p per runner per event. We charge typically £4 entry for these events and after accounting for other costs we should be able to afford the 40p. A key advantage of MapRun in some circumstances is that much less work is required from planners. It was agreed that we should donate £140 to cover the events detailed so far, and donations should be reviewed quarterly

henceforth. In addition, Peter C was asked to contact Steve Round (NW Treasurer) to encourage other clubs to follow our lead. **Action PC.**

(c) Projects for funding by the NWOA. The region has a significant funding surplus. The Chairman (Dave McCann) has appealed to all members via their clubs for proposals for projects to benefit the sport. Proposals were required by 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and are to be reviewed by a 3 person NW subgroup. MDOC members have made 6 submissions of varying complexity. Some would involve commitment of effort by the club (and in some cases other clubs), but MDOC is not required to endorse or otherwise any proposal. The six proposals are: purchase of a significant stock of base plates and SIACS for the region, a temporary mapping officer to update maps, control site familiarisation for newcomers, a club development officer, purchase of defibrillators and a program of linked mini weekend O festivals around the region. Andy Thornton explained the latter proposal in some detail He suggested that it could attract both regular orienteers and newcomers, and MDOC could stage one such weekend even if the idea was not supported more widely.

(d) BOF club benchmark survey. This is a long, complex and user-unfriendly survey, whereby BOF is attempting to find out more about how clubs operate and how it might help. In the absence of a functioning chair or secretary in October, Peter C was left with the short straw. Financial information formed only a small part and for us is the least of our worries. After 2 hours of work Peter gave up! Note that a subsequent communication from BOF thanked those clubs who succeeded in wading through to the bitter end and promised that future surveys would not employ unsuitable off the shelf/out of the bin software.

## **5. Reports:**

### **5.1 Event Operation/Planning:**

Local events. The Longford event took place in the snow with a reasonable turnout given the conditions (the parkrun was cancelled!). Only some of the controls were SIAC enabled. Sue drew attention to the website spreadsheet listing who is scheduled to do what, and where vacancies exist. This is to be found under 'News'. The Lyme introductory events have attracted no officials and are likely not to take place. It might be possible to hold one event based on POC controls and/or to consider another venue such as Bramhall Park. Otherwise, gaps are confined to controllers. A fair number of our controllers are not available for a range of reasons. Sue suggested we may need to again operate local events with no controller.

### **5.2. Marketing:** See 2(b) above

**5.3 Membership:** CompassSport Cup. We have had to change our entry from Bickerton (DEE) in February to the POTO event at Park Hall on March 12<sup>th</sup>. This is because the DEE event has entry limits set by the National Trust and we have been given no option.

**5.4 Mapping and Printing:** Nothing to report.

**5.5. Schools;** No report.

**5.6. Performance and training:** Nothing to report.

**6. GMOA:** Nothing to report.

## **7. AOB:**

(a) Lakes 5 2026. NWOA are seeking areas. Sue queried whether we should offer any of our areas.

(b) JK 23. Sue and Julie are willing to run enquiries.

(c) Planning software courses. Border Liners are running a course on the use of Purple Pen. We prefer to use CONDES and Liz expressed an interest in such a course. There exists an SOA document explaining CONDES with a link on our website but we could consider arranging a course.

(d) Charges for local events. Young people sometimes opt to follow a course in a small group. It was agreed that each group member must enter as an individual and receive a map. Adults accompanying young children still only pay a single junior entry fee.

(e) Future meetings. The committee will henceforth meet every 2 months, with subcommittees meeting with a similar frequency. Liz is willing to chair bi-monthly meetings.

**8. Next Meeting:** The next committee meeting will be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.30pm at Sue's house and via Zoom.