

## Minutes of MDOC Committee Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 V2

**Attendees:** Julie Brook, Pete Hayes, Tony Wagg (sec), Paul Watson, Marie Roberts, Andy Thornton (Chair), Sue Birkinshaw, David Isherwood, Wang Ki Yuen.

**Apologies:** Dom Wathey, Liz Hamer Davies, David Wathey, Peter Cull, Rae Lomas, Kath Speak

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

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

(a) Branding questionnaire. This has been issued via simple lists. Andy suggested that we should allow the option of an anonymous response. David Isherwood proposed that this was best achieved by inserting the dummy email address [mducbrand@gmail.com](mailto:mducbrand@gmail.com) and he will agree with Rebecca Glen as to how this is publicised. **(Action DI)**.

(b) Waiver of levy on our charity event (Jan 2024). David W wrote to the BOF chairman asking them to waive the levy on this occasion. The latter replied with a degree of sympathy and said he would raise the issue at the next BOF Board meeting. Pete Hayes commented that the Club had paid the levy in 2021 and should be prepared to pay again.

(c) Single entry system for events. See 6.3 below.

(d) New membership structure – deferred to April meeting.

### **3. Intermediate Committee Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> February:**

3.1 Website development. It was agreed that the Club needs a website and needs to commence work with a view to the new version going live in 2025. We should progress development with Paul Frost. Julie has circulated a link to Paul's portfolio of Websites developed for orienteering clubs etc. Committee members are requested to look at this portfolio and to send comments to Julie by April. **(Action whole committee)**. Further actions need to be agreed in April.

3.2 Club development. This will be progressed at a single topic meeting via zoom on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Paul will set up on Zoom. Tony W will send out further copies of David W's strategy Paper. **(Action TW)**.

**4. Membership Status Report:** Kath Speak submitted bar charts and supporting notes showing membership totals, gains and losses to 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024. We have gained 49 new members, but the net gain on last year is 10. This will in some cases be due to late renewals, some have moved away and others have departed for reasons unknown. Kath is invited to the development meeting in 3.2 above to give a picture of year-on-year membership, such as April to April for example.

**5. Stores update:** A text exchange with the caretaker revealed that the sale of the building is progressing slowly. Tony, Julie and Sue will visit stores and draft an initial list of what items can be scrapped or donated elsewhere. There will be wide consultation before your favourite goodies vanish!

### **6. Fixtures Report:**

6.1 The last committee meeting voted that there should be pre-paid entry to all MDOC events except NSL (see Feb 12<sup>th</sup> mins for details). Sue raised two issues. Diber allocation was currently problematic for pre-entries but also registration provided an opportunity for social interaction, especially with newcomers.

Andy pointed out that there were many more issues with not having pre-payment which adversely affect the participant experience and operational and marketing matters.

Andy pointed out that there were many different solutions to loan-dibber issue (as used by other clubs) and also that there were many better ways of providing for social interaction – especially with newcomers.

David Isherwood agreed to contact both SI and Race Signup to see what solutions they might offer.  
**(Action DI).**

6.2 Recruitment of helpers for the May mini Ofest is in progress. Pete H pointed out a spelling error in the publicity flyer (ginnel not ginnal, which has another meaning!). Race sign up has been chosen for the event, mainly because it allows a helper's discount on individual days rather than as a block that might include non-helping days.

6.3 Single entry system evaluation. The appointment of a team and its leader is deferred to the next full meeting. Marie agreed to 'start the ball rolling' in May, in consultation with Trevor (Roberts).

6.4 Urban Sunch in April and May. Venues and maps are sorted and planning is in progress. Publicity remains to be done.

**7. Finance:** Peter was unable to attend but sent a note to cover issues raised at the meeting on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

(a) Distribution of JK profit share. A total to the value of about £700 pounds (vouchers and wine) has been distributed to 10 members who played key roles and these costs have been paid. The remainder has joined club funds.

(b) The account originally set up for the Northern Champs has now been set up to receive money for the Manchester weekend (May 2024) and will then remain for club use.

(c) High Interest Deposit. Peter has applied for a £10,000 15-month fixed term deposit paying 4.7%.

(d) Lakes 5 profit share. Peter sent a further request to those helpers entitled to funds but who had not responded with their wishes (payment or donation). Two replied. One requested payment. The other donated to club funds and the rest is retained in club funds, as stated as the default in his last communication.

**8. AOB:** Clare Griffin has satisfied all the requirements to become a controller and the committee agreed to sent a recommendation to this effect to the NW Region.

At the end of the meeting Andy stated that he had decided to resign from the committee and had notified David Wathey of his decision the previous week. Andy intends to remain an active club member, focusing on organising and promoting events. He wished all the best to the committee with the development and growth of the club.

## **9. Next Meeting:**

25<sup>th</sup> March via Zoom (development plan only)

8<sup>th</sup> April venue tba (possibly Cheadle Village Hall)