**Minutes of MDOC Committee Meeting 12th December 2016**

**Present:** Eddie Speak (Chairman), Pete Ross, Dave McCann, Sue Birkinshaw, Tony Wagg (Secretary), Kath Speak, Julie Brook, Trevor Hindle, Pete Lomas, Andrew Gregory, David Wathey, Ian Gilliver.

**Apologies:** Alan Ogden, Steve Dempsey, Clare Griffin.

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

**2. Matters Arising/Actions:**

(a) DEE Challenge. Action discontinued (Dave McCann).

(b) A possible insurance claim for lost SI boxes will be investigated by the treasurer **(Action ongoing SD).**

(c) O Safe. Club members have been informed via simple lists of the need to note and follow the BOF safeguarding policy.

**3. Treasurer’s Report:** The treasurer was unable to attend the meeting but submitted a written report. There was a net loss for the month of £800 arising from mapping costs and toner purchase. There was concern that individuals incurring large expenses (several hundred pounds) on behalf of the Club were experiencing delays in reimbursement. There was a proposal that expenses should be paid within 10 working days of receipt of a written invoice. The treasurer could not contribute to the debate and the Chairman agreed to discuss options with him. **(Action Eddie**). Margaret Gregory has suggested to the committee that key officials for the Twin Peaks should be offered free accommodation at the Priestly Centre. The committee rejected this idea except for the day 1 controller who lives in the NE. Others are invited to claim expenses in the normal way.

**4. Future Events:**

(a) Fixtures. David Wathey has produced new postcards publicising future events.

(b) Twin Peaks 2017. The controller for day 2 (Bleathwaite) has safety concerns given that it will be February, the start and finish are remote and some of the terrain is high and exposed. To keep track of competitors it was agreed that there should be a radio link from the start, finish and a common control for longer courses as they descend from the higher ground (just above the Walna Scar road). Batches of text messages are sent to download as people punch. This enables download to interrogate the start time, finish time or time out on the course. Thus overdue runners can be identified within a reasonable time if the system is monitored periodically. The overall cost will be £150 - 200.

Martin Bagness has been approved to remap part of Torver urgently, at a cost of £240. Prizes will be mugs unless further ideas emerge.

(c) Spring series. We need to make clear which events include an urban section in addition to the normal parkland. As there will usually be about 10 urban controls, Eddie proposes that 15 SI boxes are bolted to gripple plates and planners are told to use them for ’at risk‘ controls. They can remain attached for a series of events, saving the time needed to constantly bolt and unbolt plates.

(d) Finland 100. We have learnt from the Finnish Consul in High Lane that there will be great celebrations to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the discovery of Finland (or something like that). Given that Finland and Manchester are both world renowned centres of orienteering there are plans to stage events on 13/14/15th October 2017 as part of the fun. Events on Friday and Saturday, provisionally at Lyme (Park), will be for Finns, while MDOC intends to add an urban event on the Sunday 15th, probably in Stockport centre. Helsinki will be empty that weekend.

(e) SELOC has moved their Lever Park event to October 22nd. If they make the Compass Sport Cup final that weekend we will run the event for them.

(f) Night Street League. The pub at New Mills cannot provide food on the date for which the event was originally planned. There may be a need to change the date. ( NSL = dining club with optional O attached?)

(g) Urban Events. Trevor Hindle has had conversations with Steve Round (SELOC) regarding future events and who wants to develop which areas. Provisional plans are for MDOC to use a new area in 2018. Then in 2019 the clubs could combine to stage an urban at Salford Quays followed by a sprint in Manchester (possibly Beswick). It is hoped that this could become one of the Euro City Races (Brexit permitting?).

(h) NW O League. Paul Turner wants to resurrect this. The Finland 100 event could be included.

(i) Compass Sport Cup. It was agreed that the Club should enter the Simpson Ground event because the terrain is technically more interesting and the opposition may be marginally weaker??? Eddie agreed to contact Tom Fellbaum to check that he was happy to remain as Club Captain. The relay scheme will continue as before. Runners pay a flat fee of £10 for major event relays.

(j) Goyt (TP 2018). Clare Griffin reports that she is discussing access problems with the Peak Park and Derbyshire CC rights of way officers. It was later noted that significant re-mapping will be required at Errwood.

(k) Schools Issues. It is suggested that Lyme (Park) might be willing to host the British Schools Championships. The Club needs someone dedicated to organising schools attendance at major events. Cheadle Hulme includes orienteering as a formal curriculum subject. Parental involvement is highly desirable. Ideas include a post Brereton picnic and an inter-house competition.

**5. NWOA:** Dave McCann reported news of the British Champs 2017 (High Dam). There are significant uncertainties which could lead to a financial loss. Land access charges are high (with 8 landowners) and it is unclear whether BOF will impose a superlevy. Car parking remains problematic and some walls have been rebuilt in the competition area. Martin Bagness is advising on elite course planning. It was agreed that the Club should offer to run central services.

**6. AOB:**

(a) Coaching. Vicky Thornton enquired whether the Club funding policy for the Coaching Conference attendance would cover Dan Riley on the basis that he is running voluntary session for Manchester University students. The meeting took the view that the attendance funds were intended for people offering some coaching to MDOC. The Secretary agreed to draft a reply in consultation with Dave McCann and Eddie. **(Action TW)**

(b) Student BOF membership rates. BOF membership fees currently depend solely upon age so that students who are 21 or older pay the full fee. This could be raised for debate at a future BOF AGM.

(c) OCAD/Mapper. Pete Ross submitted a detailed analysis of the merits and limitations of OCAD (expensive and severe user restrictions) and Mapper (free but less capable). OCAD is the accepted mapping tool by BOF and internationally. CONDES is a very useful planning tool, has few user restrictions but must accept a map from OCAD. Mapper can be used to create maps but it cannot be used for planning. Hence there would be a need to convert a Mapper map to OCAD and thence ship it to CONDES for course planning. The problem with operating solely with OCAD + CONDES only becomes significant if a variety of people need to tweak maps prior to events. Sue agreed to survey planners over the last two years to find out how much tweaking they have performed or caused others to do for them. **Action SB .** Pete suggested we had three options:

(i) Remain as we are with a few copies of OCAD 12 to maintain standards and allow a very limited number of tweakers.

(ii) Splash the cash and purchase a larger number of OCAD 12 copies.

(iii) Retain a few copies of OCAD 12 and migrate planners to Mapper for tweaking.

GMOA has already asked MDOC to order a copy of OCAD 12 on its behalf. A further option is to install OCAD 12 on a dedicated lap top. The Club currently owns 3.

**7. Date of next Meeting:** 9th January 2017, at the Ladybrook Hotel.