

**Minutes of the  
Board Meeting of Walking on Air held on the  
24<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 19:30 on ZOOM.**

**Attendees:**

Dave Tuttle	Chairman, Director.
Peter Clayton	Treasurer, Director.
Derek Storey	Director.
Clare Johnstone	Director.
Alan Carbray	Director.
Andrew Gordon	Secretary, Director.

**1. Apologies:**

Jim Cook	Director.
Garry Simpson	Director.
Maria Duncan	Director.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. Approval of minutes of last meeting.**

Chairman approved the minutes of the previous meeting, and they were seconded by the Treasurer.

**3. Matters arising.**

- a) Secretary agreed to check that the WoA website details the instructions for changing over the hand and foot controls for the rudder. **Action:- Secretary**
- b) Treasurer reported that he has photographed the incorrect fitting of hand rudder control cables, but the secretary has not received these photos to secretary to prepare report for the BGA. **Action:- Treasurer & Secretary**
- c) Treasurer confirmed that he has written to the SGU confirming WoA charge increase to 32p per min.
- d) Treasurer reported that Linzi O'Neil has returned to flying.
- e) Treasurer spoke to Bob Petrie ref the WoA Facebook page transferring back to WoA. Clare Agreed to manage the Facebook page and contact Bob Petrie to complete the transfer. Treasurer agreed to forward Bob's phone number to Clare **Action:- Treasurer & Clare Johnstone.**
- f) Secretary has spoken with our former chairman, Steve Derwin ref acting as an ambassador to represent disabled sports men and women within the gliding community. Steve reported that he was recovering from recent health issues and was not in position to take on this task.
- g) Secretary still to pursue Perth and Kinross Disability Sports Organisation to meet WoA. **Action:- Secretary**
- h) Derek reported that he has forwarded the letter to those WoA ground crew, instructor's and other members required to be disclosed to VSDS.
- i) Alan confirmed that he has spoken with the CFI of the SGU ref the Green card needing to be signed off prior to the first solo flight. Alan has prepared and forwarded a report to the CFI detailing that most WoA student pilots wish to achieve solo flight. The CFI will report back on whether exceptions are made for WoA pilots who cannot physically complete the green card items such as running with the wing. Alan explained that it would be expected that WoA pilots would need a good basic understanding of the tasks on the green card that they are not physically able to complete. The CFI is expected to respond to WoA shortly on the way forward. **Awaiting CFI response**  
Clare asked if WoA has a "Glide sheet" to allow disabled pilots to view the underside of the glider?

Chairman responded that we do not, but assistance is available to help disabled pilots view the operation of connecting the winch cables to the glider and the operation of the release hook.

- j) Clare and Alan confirmed that the OZEE suits are fantastic and will use them and provide them to other WoA pilots as required. **Action:- Clare Johnstone and Alan Carbray.**
- k) The board reported that so far, instructor and ground crew availability has been satisfactory. Board will continue to monitor the situation. **Action:- Board to monitor.**
- l) The £3,000 owed to the EUGC by the WoA has not been transferred back by the SGU to EUGC. **Action:- Board to monitor.**

#### 4. **Chairman's report.**

The Chairman reported that he is pleased that WoA is busy and that we have sufficient instructors and volunteers. He is hoping to be back flying soon.

#### 5. **Treasurer's report.**

Treasurer reported that he expects the accounts to be finalised this weekend and will circulate the draft accounts to directors. **Action:- Treasurer**

The Treasurer reports that the "Aero log is working well and gives more information than the old system, but unfortunately, he cannot access his own account yet. This is expected to be resolved shortly.

Treasurer reports that he has signed on the new directors at Companies House and deleted the old director.

The current account is £6,910.

Two deposit accounts of £20,000 earning 3.5% interest and £15,000 earning 3.6% interest, respectively.

#### 6. **Secretary's report.**

No new items to report.

#### 7. **Engineering report** (including current WA1 availability).

Treasurer reported WA1 serviceable.

Clare reported that the trim lever was stiff to operate compared to other K21 gliders she has recently flown. Treasurer agreed to speak with David Coats to resolve the problem.

**Action:- Treasurer.**

#### 8. **Future of Walking on Air post 2023 flying season**

The Treasurer reported that WoA should get input from our new directors (Alan and Clare) on how WoA should operate in the future. Clare responded that she was currently "observing for the time being". Alan reported that he sees great potential and a great future for WoA. He stated that the WoA Facebook page needs to be updated. Clare has agreed to take on the management of the WoA Facebook page.

Alan also believes that the potential demand for WoA may rise to needing two operational flying days per week. Other members of the board pointed out that this would also need more helpers and instructors. The Treasurer pointed out that our previous chairman, Steve Derwin was a full cat instructor that had allowed a significant increase in the number of disabled pilots that could be flown. The Treasurer wondered if Alan and Clare were interested in working towards an instructor rating? Clare felt she would like to work towards a BI rating and Alan said that he would love to be an instructor.

The meeting also discussed the BLESMA bookings that are taking up a group booking in the next week or so and would it be feasible to move this to another day other than a Friday. The meeting also noted that the SGU membership has reduced since the pandemic, so the pool of helpers and instructors has reduced even though Ken Robertson and John Hire are always available on a Friday.

There was also a concern that sometimes only a BI instructor was available for WoA when the demand might be for a half cat or full cat instructor to provide the full training including landing and launches.

## 9. WoA booking System

Alan reported that there is conflicting information about booking slots in advance. Some people say that you cannot book more than three slots in advance in successive weeks while others say you can have more than three bookings in advance, so long as they are not in successive week, i.e. there must be gaps between the weeks. After discussion, the board produced the following guidance to ensure everyone gets a fair chance to fly.

**The guidance is:-**

- a) **You can book a maximum of three single flying slots in advance. They can be successive weeks or spaced further apart. You cannot book a double slot in advance.**
- b) **Once you have flown the first slot, you can book the next slot(s) to a max of three slots.**
- c) **On a Thursday night before a Friday flying day, if there is a free slot, you may book that slot meaning that you now have four booked slots. Once you have flown that slot, you may not book another slot as you still have your original three slots.**
- d) **If your booked Friday slot is followed by a free slot, you may extend your booked slot to include the free slot. If the slot following your slot is booked, but the pilot who booked the slot has not turned up, then you may extent your slot. This requires radio confirmation with the launch point and the agreement of your instructor as appropriate.**

## 10 Pilot weighing update

Treasurer reported that we now have scales to weigh a pilot in the wheelchair. Storage of the scales is still to be resolved. Treasurer agreed to monitor the situation.

## 11 Any other competent business.

Treasurer reported that the SGU AGM is next month, and he has been asked to present a small report on WoA at the AGM.

Alan inquired what rate will WoA pilots be charged if they fly WA1 on a day other than Friday? Treasurer responded that they would be charged WoA rates.

## An uplifting Story from Clare.

Clare recounted a meeting she had with a patient returning from a hospital visit where she (the patient) had received bad news about a declining medical condition that she was suffering. The patient had been told that her life would get worse, and she would no longer be able to do things that she once could. Clare offered the patient one of the Walking on Air pamphlets showing that there were options to enjoys new experiences and this pleased the patient and made her feel better about life.

## 12. Date of next meeting.

5<sup>th</sup> of June 2024 at 19:30 via ZOOM.

Andrew Gordon,  
Secretary WoA,  
24<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

Two minor name corrections and a financial correction to v3 following board meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

Andrew Gordon,  
Secretary WoA, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024.