

**Minutes of the
Board Meeting of Walking on Air held on the
7th August 2024 at 19:30 on ZOOM.**

Attendees:

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| Dave Tuttle | Chairman, Director. |
| Peter Clayton | Treasurer, Director. |
| Derek Storey | Director. |
| Clare Johnstone | Director. |
| Alan Carbray | Director. |
| Jim Cook | Director. |
| Garry Simpson | Director. |
| Andrew Gordon | Secretary, Director. |

1. Apologies:

Maria Duncan Director.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Approval of minutes of last meeting.

Prior to the approval of the minutes, there was a discussion about the blue badge criteria for WoA flying membership to be confirmed by having a blue badge. On a recent flight with WoA, a disabled person (who did not have a driver's license or a blue badge) asked if this excluded them from membership of WoA. The meeting realised that a blue badge is not exclusively for disabled drivers, but for disabled people who may or may not be drivers. For example, A non-driving disabled person with a blue badge may be driven to the supermarket by a non-blue badge holding driver and use the disabled persons blue badge to park in a disabled parking spot so long as the blue badge holder is in the car for the trip to the supermarket. After further discussion, it was agreed that WoA membership criteria is:-

- a) A blue badge in their name.
- b) Have applied for a blue badge.
- c) A Doctors letter.

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

3. Matters arising.

- a) Secretary reported that the WoA website details the instructions for changing over the hand and foot controls for the rudder were not available on the website and the board member details were out of date. Treasurer reported that Sally is busy at present but will update ASAP. Treasurer agreed to pass Sally's E-mail address to the Secretary. **Action:- Treasurer**
- b) Secretary has Prepared draft report for CTO of the BGA of the potential fault condition that may cause the front rudder pedal control to disconnect from the rudder. The meeting agreed the content of the report and the secretary will copy to the SGU Technical Officer (D Coats) then forward report to the CTO at the BGA for any further action. **Action:- Secretary.**
- c) Secretary to contact Perth and Kinross Disability Sports Organisation to arrange a visit to WoA. Alan Carbray kindly agreed to function as liaison with Perth and Kinross Disability Sports Organisation for their visit to Portmoak. **Action:- Secretary & Alan Carbray.**
- d) Treasurer still to forward Bob Petrie contact details to Clare ref the WoA Facebook page transferring to Clare to manage the website domain name and the Facebook page. **Action:- Treasurer & Clare Johnstone.**

- e) The board agreed that instructor and ground crew availability is satisfactory, and the system is working well. The meeting recognised the help provided by Jim Cook in support of the Friday flying program. The Treasurer also confirmed that he was giving up his instructor rating at the end of this year. It was agreed to drop this item for discussion at board meetings as a regular item unless new problems emerge.
- f) The Treasurer reports that £3,194 owed to the SGU/EUGC has now been returned.
- g) Treasurer reports that he has forwarded the accounts to the examiners.
- h) Treasurer reports that the stiff trim lever and canopy in WA1 are fixed.
- i) Treasurer reports that a storage location for the scales has not yet been identified.

Action:- Treasurer.

- j) Treasurer will draft a letter to Reiner Kipp, SGU Chairman, proposing that front hand controls are fitted to LOV, to replace those lost in HPV, at the expense of Walking on Air. Treasurer will circulate the draft letter to board for approval.
Action:- Treasurer.
- k) Treasurer reports that he has signed an agreement between the SGU and WoA ref the non-UK nationals volunteering as winch drivers working for WoA.
- l) The meeting confirmed that SGU cannot deprive a WoA member the use of WA1 on a Friday. The SGU can use WA1 if it is available on a Friday only if the WoA duty instructor approves it.

4. Chairman's report.

The Chairman as always thanked all the instructors and helpers for their ongoing work in support of the Friday flying program. He reports that he is continuing to make slow progress in his return to fitness. The chairman asked if anyone would like to draft an article about their first solo flight for publication? Alan very kindly agreed to write about his recent first solo flight in WA1.

Action:- Alan Carbray.

The Chairman also reported his disappointment that the Perkoz glider recently purchased by the SGU was not fitted with hand controls as requested by the SGU as the hand controls were not yet approved by EASA.

5. Treasurer's report.

Treasurer reported the accounts were submitted to the accountants 3 weeks ago. Treasurer warned the meeting that there may be some "difficulties" this year due to changes in the internal SGU accounting system that have resulted in improvements to the previous accounting system.

Action:- Treasurer to monitor.

Treasurer reported:-

- £3,352:00p in the Current Account.
- Donation from BLESMA and others.
- Deposit account of £20,000 earning 3.5% interest, matures 23rd Sept 2024.
- Deposit account of £15,000 earning 3.6% interest.
- Deficit for 2023 is £3,169 compared to 2022 deficit of £6090 per draft accounts.
- Spinal injuries unit are owed £2,733 in unused flight-time with WoA. It was agreed by the meeting that WoA re-establish contact with Jon Hasler at the National Spinal Injuries Unit at Quenn Elisabeth Hospital Glasgow (formerly the Southern General Hospital)

Action:- Secretary

The Treasurer also reported that the SGU have not been using WA1 due to the cost, but in the last month used the glider seventy-seven times earning WoA around £500.

6. Secretary's report.

Discussed in the matters arising section of these minutes, 3a, 3b and 3c.

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

- Treasurer reported fully WA1 serviceable.
- Mics in front and rear cockpit working satisfactorily.
- ARC inspection due shortly, arranged with the SGU maintenance organisation.
- WA1 ARC expires 17th August. Treasurer to check situation with David Coats.

Action:- Treasurer.

8. **Future of Walking on Air post 2024 flying season**

As agreed previously by the board, the new directors, Clare, and Alan were asked to give their views on how WoA should operate in the future at the end of the year.

Alan stated that he saw enormous potential for WoA but was concerned with how future demand will be met. He felt that the current six flying slots on a Friday might not be enough to satisfy demand and that more slots may be required on another day. Jim Cook stated that the problem would be the getting instructors to cover for these extra slots. It was suggested that weekend flying using the SGU flying list might be an option to increase capacity.

Treasurer reported that there is usually a spare slot on a Friday and a couple of WoA AirEx flights are flown for potential new members. The Treasurer suggested that to increase capacity when that becomes necessary, Friday flying could be exclusively for WoA pilot instruction and training flights and the weekend could be for AirEx flights for potential new WoA members. The board agreed this if the Friday flying slots are swamped with AirEx flights.

Clare asked about the use of a Friday flying slot for a Friend & Family (F&F) flight. The meeting generally felt that using Friday slots for F&F flights should be discouraged and used only in exceptional circumstances if a slot is free. The board also agreed that if a WoA member gave up a Friday Slot to a F&F flight, and then decided to have an instructional flight thereafter, this would not be supported.

Clare explained that the SGU use the 996 code on Aerolog where WoA are charged for the launch cost only as Aerolog only allows a single code per flight, so no day rate can be charged. Treasurer suggested that we do not fly F&F but use AirEx flights exclusively (£60 plus 3 months membership of WoA with subsequent flights at WoA prices) for all flights other than training flights with WoA members. The board supported this proposal but need to check how Aerolog will cope.

Action:- Clare Johnstone.

9 **Any other competent business.**

Garry Simpson reported that he felt that the WoA meetings are too long and could be shortened by two thirds. The board reported that it will try and reduce the time required for board meetings. It was suggested that some items could be discussed at the club on Fridays to speed up the actual "online" meetings.

10. **Date of next meeting.**

11th September 2024 at 19:30 via ZOOM.

Andrew Gordon,
Secretary WoA,
7th August 2024.