

**Minutes of the
Board Meeting of Walking on Air held on the
26th June 2024 at 19:30 on ZOOM.**

Attendees:

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

1. Apologies:

Garry Simpson	Director.
Maria Duncan	Director.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Approval of minutes of last meeting.

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

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over the hand and foot controls for the rudder were not available on the website and the board member details were out of date.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.

Action:- Secretary & Treasurer

- b) Secretary has Prepared draft report for CTO of the BGA of the potential fault condition that may cause the front rudder foot control to disconnect from the rudder. To be reviewed by Treasure, Derek, SGU technical officer and Chairman before forwarding to the BGA for any further action.

Action:- Secretary, Treasurer, Derek & Chairman.

- c) Secretary still to pursue Perth and Kinross Disability Sports Organisation to meet WoA Treasurer suggested a visit be arranged.

Action:- Secretary

- d) Treasurer agreed to forward contact details for Bob Petrie 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) Alan reported that he has received a positive response from the CFI confirming that WoA members that cannot physically perform all the tasks on the Green card only need to demonstrate a good understanding of the task to be signed off on the green card prior to the first solo flight. Alan also reported that he has spoken with all twelve pre solo WoA members and 80% reported that they would eventually like to be able to solo. The remaining 20% were happy to continue to fly with an instructor. Clare reported to the meeting that the CFI and others have informed her that fully qualified solo pilots can sign off items on the green card.

- f) Clare and Alan confirmed that the OZEE suits will be available to other WoA members on a Friday, but currently there is nil demand as it is too hot. **Action ongoing:- Clare Johnstone and Alan Carbray.**

- g) The board reported that instructor and ground crew availability remain satisfactory. Derek reported that three instructors have been available and a fourth (Kate Byrne) is now also on the rota. Board will continue to monitor the situation **Action:- Board to monitor.**

- h) The Treasurer reports that £3,000 owed to the EUGC has been returned.

i) Treasurer reports that he is working on the draft accounts, and they are nearly complete.

Action:- Treasurer.

j) Treasurer reports that he spoke with David Coats ref the stiff trim lever in WA1. David agreed to resolve the problem.

Action:- Treasurer to monitor.

k) Treasurer reports that a storage location for the scales has not yet been identified.

Action:- Treasurer.

4. **Chairman's report.**

The Chairman thanked all the instructors and helpers for their ongoing support. He reports that he is making slow progress in recovery and hopes to be back soon. The board hopes so as well and send him best wishes for a speedy recovery and that he is be back flying soon.

5. **Treasurer's report.**

Treasurer reported that he expects the accounts to be finalised shortly and will circulate the draft accounts to directors.

Action:- Treasurer.

- £2,426:00p in the bank.
- Donation from Pooleys £560:00p.
- Annual Return to Company's House £34:00p.
- Insurance £4,487:00p.
- Wheelchair repair following onsite accident £525:00p.
- Two deposit accounts of £20,000 earning 3.5% interest and £15,000 earning 3.6% interest, respectively.

6. **Secretary's report.**

Secretary asked the meeting if the rules for booking flying slots on a Friday were in accordance with the board's decision at the previous board meeting in April 2024 the meeting confirmed that the rules were as agreed.

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

Treasurer reported WA1 serviceable.

- Trim lever stiff to operate being resolved.
- Front Canopy stiff to open. Steve Clinton may raise defect report.

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

As agreed at the last meeting the new directors, Clare and Alan, will give their views, at the end of the year, on how WoA should operate in the future.

Clare spoke of the Edinburgh Airport Charitable fund that may provide potential funding to WoA. Treasurer responded that these types of organisations want to know what we would use the funds for. The Treasurer also informed the meeting that Iain Masterton's wife oversees a charity fund. After discussion, it was agreed to address this in the autumn.

In the meantime, it was suggested that a suitable project for funding would be to purchase and fit a set of hand controls to another glider (LOV maybe) to replace the HPV glider that was previously fitted with hand control prior to its loss in an accident. This would restore the back-up glider capacity should WA1 become unserviceable for any length of time as has happened in the past. Treasurer agreed write to the SGU ref fitting hand control to an SGU glider.

Action:- Treasurer.

9 Any other competent business.

The Treasurer informed the meeting that the SGU had been reported for employing non-UK nationals as winch Drivers. After discussion with the immigration authorities, it was recognised that non-UK nationals can volunteer to help a charity. A draft agreement is to be prepared between the SGU and WoA to enable this arrangement.

Action:- Treasurer and SGU

Alan asked the meeting if SGU members can use WA1 when they like? He reported that he had seen SGU members and instructors use WA1 on a recent Friday when it was booked for a WoA member. Treasurer responded that they cannot. Use of WA1 by the SGU is limited to training flights alone with an SGU instructor as P1. The SGU cannot take a Friday slot from a WoA member, but if the glider is free, then with the agreement of the duty WoA instructor, the SGU may use WA1 for a training flight with an instructor ensuring that the glider is returned in suitable time for the next WoA flight. WoA will confirm the agreement with the SGU.

Action:- Treasurer

Alan enquired of the meeting if the BLESMA bookings could be on a day other than Friday? The meeting agreed that is possible if we can get ground crew and instructors. Alan reported that previously he had a 1-minute flight that had to be terminated due to the arrival of BLESMA for their flights. The Treasurer noted that BLESMA were a significant source of funds which allowed WoA to operate at reduced costs to members. Alan suggested that we get the glider out earlier on a Friday to maximise flight times for WoA members prior to the arrival of the BLESMA pilots.

Alan asked if an SGU member could transfer from an SGU membership to a WoA membership once she has completed her SGU flying course. The meeting agreed that is appropriate. Secretary stated that it had been agreed in the past that a blue badge holder was entitled to join WoA as a blue badge holder is disabled and recognised as such by their doctor and the state. There was a concern in the past that WoA should not take members from the SGU unfairly, and it was agreed at that time that the blue badge would settle any doubts. It was also suggested that ground crew could get the glider ready during briefing, but this already happens.

Another potential problem addressed was the situation where the first slot on a Friday is not booked. If so, ground crew are told so and come in later. If a WoA member wants to book that slot at the last moment, there is no ground crew to help, so the WoA member wanting that slot will have to find the ground crew to help as well as an instructor. It was felt that having volunteer ground crew turn up for the first slot of the day with it not booked would alienate our volunteers. A member making a late booking for an empty early slot should ring the duty instructor and helpers to ask them to come at the usual time.

10. Date of next meeting.

7th of August 2024 at 19:30 via ZOOM.

Andrew Gordon,
Secretary WoA,
26th June 2024.