

Borders Exploration Group Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 13 December 2016
Time: 7:30pm
Place: Focus Community Centre, Galashiels

| Item | Responsible person |
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| <p>1 Welcome and Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present: Ruth Longmuir, Jim McPherson, Ron Sutherland, Rosie Stewart, Graham Little, Nicola Stillie, Keiran Riddell • Apologies: Nancy Anderson, Geraldine Bouglas, Jono Ellis. Eilidh Walker has left the committee | |
| <p>2 Approval of minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minute of the last committee meeting was approved. • The minute of the AGM was approved by Ron and seconded by Graham. | |
| <p>3 Matters arising from previous minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nancy is progressing the PVGs for the Bolivia leader team, for the committee and for anyone else who wants to be involved in events. • Stalls in Hawick – dates have been booked. • How long to retain documents – it is thought that this is still to be progressed. Rosie will follow this up. | Rosie |
| <p>4 Chair's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updating of policies has been a big focus of the last year and this process is almost complete. Rosie will check what else needs to be done and will try to bring some drafts of the remaining policies to a future meeting. • Rosie updated the committee on the ongoing issue with the former leader and a confidential discussion was held. • Focuses for the coming year – Bolivia 2017, a European expedition for 2018, finding new premises for storing equipment. | Rosie |
| <p>5 Treasurer's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicola has been added to the account. Nicola has prepared accounts and Rosie talked through the balance sheets since Nicola has just taken over. • An event shelter has been purchased to replace the marque that blew away at a training weekend and it is really good. • There is still some money allocated to the printing of the Malawi report which seems to be close to being finished. • Rosie mentioned that in the past we considered whether it was worthwhile to go down the route of Gift Aid but it was decided it wasn't. | |
| <p>6 Positions in new committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently, the agreed roles are: Rosie as Chair, Ruth as Vice Chair, Nicola as Treasurer, Jono as Webmaster, Ron as Membership Secretary, Nancy as Child Protection Officer. • Secretary – role will be split – rota for minutes, Rosie will send meeting reminders, Jim will book venues. • Events – not allocated to one person. It was suggested to have less events but make a concerted effort to promote them and hopefully attract more people along. A provisional date of 25 February was set for a Munro walk with the Bolivia team, led by Graham. | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment Officer - Jim. • Newsletter – Rosie will ask Pam if she is still up for doing it. There may be less need for a big newsletter now that we have moved to MailChimp for the email list. | |
| 7 | Programme of Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See point 6. | |
| 8 | Dates and venues for meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesdays, alternating between Peebles Community Centre and Focus Centre, Galashiels. • Next two meetings: 31 January in Peebles, 21 March in Galashiels. | |
| 9 | Expeditions Bolivia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graham gave an update on the expedition. It is hoped that at the next leader meeting (19th December) to have the three phases firmed up. Flights are booked. One further venturer has dropped out so there are 19 venturers going (down from 26). Fundraising is going well and some venturers are ahead of target. Training weekends are going well. The next one is in January and includes a leader only Friday night. • The expedition has one doctor, Richard Lever, who is a recently retired doctor from Galashiels. He is coming along to the next training weekend to do venturer interviews. There is also a doctor from Tiree who is keen but is trying to juggle holidays. European Expedition 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will be discussed in more detail at the next committee meeting. It was agreed that it might be best to stay flexible with the destination until a chief leader can be found. | |
| 10 | Tower Trophy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2017 this is to be a Bolivia fundraiser and Rosie will check with David that this is still happening. Ron offered to go along with some of the Bolivia team to see the Riddell Estate. | Rosie |
| 11 | New premises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosie has been in touch with someone at the Council who is unable to negotiate with us until Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue give notice that they are leaving, but he sounded positive. The latest from the Mountain Rescue is that their new premises may be ready by the end of May and then it may take a couple of months to move. • The equipment will also need to be rationalised as there is a lot that should be disposed of. Moving will be a good opportunity to do this. • Jim suggested applying for a grant to install solar panels which would help with the cost of heating. The Bank of Scotland have 100% grants that we could apply for and it might be quite an attractive project to them. | |
| 12 | Any Other Competent Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no other business. | |
| 13 | Dates and Venues of Future Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 31 January, 7.30pm (Community Centre, Peebles) • Tuesday 21 March, 7.30pm (Focus Centre, Galashiels - TBC) | |

Future agenda items: Continued review of the policies, European expedition for 2018