

Borders Exploration Group Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 3 March 2014

Time: 7:30pm

Place: Argus Centre, Selkirk

Item	Responsible person
<p>1 Welcome and Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present: Jim McPherson, Ron Sutherland, Geraldine Bouglas, Ross Purves, Rachel Elliot, Bronwen Irvine, Ruth Longmuir • Apologies: Pam Hunter, Patricia Rueda, David Hunter, Nancy Anderson 	
<p>2 Minutes from previous meeting (January 2014) Approved by Geraldine, seconded by Ron.</p>	
<p>3 Matters arising from previous minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the constitution <u>Action carried forward:</u> <i>A revised constitution to be drafted using the OSCR template</i> • Wrist bands. Rachel reported on her investigations into the cost of wristbands that could be handed out with membership. After some discussion it was decided that key rings would be better than wrist bands and it would be good if they could have the web address on them. <u>Action:</u> <i>Rachel will order them</i> • Membership cards and small BEG cards. Rachel has priced these: £26 for 100 at moo.com – they are double sided and good quality. Vistaprint has 250 for £8.99 but they feel cheaper. <u>Action:</u> <i>Rachel to source membership cards and more of the small BEG cards</i> • High-vis vests. Rachel has made many attempts to contact Chris Kemp regarding sourcing vests with the BEG logo on them. They are needed for this weekend for the Malawi training weekend. Jim will buy some from Border Office this week and BEG branded ones can be obtained at a later date. It was suggested that the police be approached as they might give them for free. <u>Action:</u> <i>Jim to buy vests</i> <u>Action:</u> <i>Ross to speak to his contact at Border Embroidery for prices</i> • Dog Show. Geraldine mentioned that someone who runs a dog show in Ayrshire has requested that we send a group to help out, as we do at the show in Kelso each year. • Committee members. Jono is happy to join the committee but not necessarily attend the meetings. • The £50 with confusing letter. It turned out that the money belongs to one of the Malawi venturers and is part of her fundraising. • Achery – no progress as Sir Michael is currently in Brazil. <u>Action carried forward:</u> <i>Contact Sir Michael (BEG Patron/Philipaugh landowner</i> • Walks. Ron has two walks he is willing to lead – Grey Mare’s Tail and Ettrick Ridge. • Tree thinning/planting. No progress. <u>Actions carried forward:</u> <i>Roger to provide dates for both events</i> • Meeting to lay down an expedition planning timetable <u>Action carried forward:</u> <i>Date still to be organised and circulated</i> 	<p>Jim (and Allan)</p> <p>Rachel</p> <p>Rachel</p> <p>Jim Ross</p> <p>Jim</p> <p>Roger</p> <p>Nancy/Ruth</p>

4	Chair's business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter from Youth Borders. Jim has forwarded it on to everyone. 	
5	Treasurer's business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance of main BEG account: £4876 as of 9 January with a few bills having been paid since but it has been a quiet month. • Climbing rope. BEG has been asked to fund some of the climbing kit for the Training Weekend this weekend. A second climbing rope is needed, it costs £50 plus £8.50 for carriage. 	
6	Secretary's business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No business. 	
7	Events <p>Kirsty MacAskill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The question arose as to whether it must be limited to over 16 year olds. <i>Action: Jim to check with the insurance company</i> • Promotional ideas included talks in assembly to promote the event and a DVD of photos with music that could be played in schools. <i>Action: Bronwen to speak to Pati about creating this</i> <i>Action: Geraldine to ask the venturers for ideas this weekend</i> • A subgroup was formed and consists of Jim, Bronwen, David and Rachel (after June) <p>Members Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting of the subgroup to happen in the next few weeks. • The walk yesterday went well and 7 people attended. • Ron will lead a walk to the Grey Mare's Tail on Saturday 29th March, meeting at 10am. It is about 5 miles. 	<p>Jim</p> <p>Bronwen Geraldine</p> <p>Ross/Geraldine/ Lorraine/Robert/ David</p>
8	Expeditions <p>Cuba 2012</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cuba account is still to be closed. <i>Action: Ron to pursue this with the bank</i> • There was some discussion about the bank accounts and it seems that even bank employees do not know how to deal with treasurer's accounts. Geraldine has a friend who works for the Bank of Scotland <i>Action: Geraldine to speak to Lesley and organise a meeting</i> <p>Malawi 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geraldine has produced a newsletter for parents. • A doctor and nurse couple attended the leader meeting last week to find out more about the expedition. They seemed interested and are coming along to the Training Weekend this weekend at Lilliesleaf/Riddell. <i>Action: Info to be circulated to other health boards if nothing comes of this contact after this weekend</i> • Training Weekend 5 will consist of base camp and other meaningful tasks such as bridge building, wall building, sanding, varnishing and clearing out the family chapel at Riddell. • The environmental phase is confirmed and the community phase almost confirmed. There will be speakers at the Training Weekend about Leprosy. Plans are progressing for the adventure phase too. • Ross reported that the Community Woodland at Gordon would be pleased to have a group from BEG again, either as part of a training 	<p>Ron</p> <p>Geraldine</p> <p>Geraldine</p>

	<p>weekend or as a members event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geraldine has researched lifeguarding training and discovered that an open water qualification is more suitable than lifeguarding because of the context in which it will be used whilst in Malawi. Geraldine is sourcing info about a course. Three leaders have expressed an interest. The Bronze Medallion might be another option. Geraldine will keep the committee informed. 	
9	<p>Newsletter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jim congratulated everyone for their efforts in producing this. <u>Action carried forward:</u> <i>Names of venturers/leaders who are currently abroad to be sent to Pam, along with any other ideas</i> <u>Action:</u> <i>Geraldine will write a short report of yesterday's walk</i> <u>Action:</u> <i>A report from TW5 should be included</i> 	<p>All</p> <p>Geraldine Bronwen/ Geraldine</p>
10	<p>Any Other Competent Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a new wild camping site at Spittal Tower near to Denholm and the owners are keen to promote it. West Murrison. Concern was expressed over the state of the buildings, specifically the amount of damp and its potential health hazard. It was pointed out that some of the equipment is also affected by the damp which is a problem given that BEG lends sleeping bags etc to expedition participants. The difficulty is finding an alternative but it was agreed that this should be looked at again. It was also decided not to stay overnight in the buildings at West Murrison again. Merida event. This mountain biking event on 10 May at Selkirk clashes with the sevens this year and the rugby club usually provide the marshals. It was suggested that this could be a possible fundraising opportunity for BEG. <u>Action:</u> <i>Jim to contact the organiser as he knows him</i> Quiz for Malawi. The Selkirk cluster group is holding a quiz on Friday 25 April. 	<p>Jim</p>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting Monday 28 April 2014, 7.30pm at the Argus Centre, Selkirk</p> <p>Future Meeting Dates (all Mondays) 2 June, 18 August, 29 September, 17 November (AGM)</p>	

Future agenda items: