

Borders Exploration Group Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 2 June 2014

Time: 7:30pm

Place: Argus Centre, Selkirk

Item	Responsible person
<p>1 Welcome and Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present: David Hunter, Ron Sutherland, Geraldine Bouglas, Bronwen Irving, Nancy Anderson, Lorraine Sinclair, Robert Sinclair, Pam Hunter, Ruth Longmuir • Apologies: Jim McPherson, Ross Purves, Jono and Ruth Ellis 	
<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes from previous meeting (April 2014) Approved by Geraldine and seconded by Pam. 	
<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> • Key rings <u>Action carried forward:</u> <i>Rachel will order some with the web address on them</i> • Membership cards and small BEG cards <u>Action carried forward:</u> <i>Rachel to order more of each</i> • High-vis vests Ross has received a quote of £4.25 plus VAT per vest for 12 vests. This would include the BEG logo on the front. <u>Action:</u> <i>Ross to order 12 vests</i> • Tree thinning/planting. Roger will be in touch if and when people are needed; he has noted that BEG are happy to be involved. • Meeting to lay down an expedition planning timetable <u>Action carried forward:</u> <i>Date still to be organised and circulated</i> It was agreed that the meeting will happen over summer and will be put on the agenda of the next committee meeting. Everyone felt this documentation would be useful for future chief leaders. • Malawi. A doctor and nurse have been recruited. Nancy reported that the parents evening had gone well and that Catherine and the leaders had given a great presentation. • Bronwen has bought four new toilet tents and has been refunded £90.96 from the BEG account. • Selkirk clean-up. The Malawi team are doing the clean-up but are happy to have help. Helpers would also be invited to the BBQ afterwards. This is on Sunday 15 June. • The Hawick moor gates are being covered by Ron, Pat, Pam and Nancy and the money will go to Los Coipos. • Open water lifesaving course. It looks like none of the three who had expressed an interest in the course will complete it before the expedition due to illness and time constraints. This doesn't compromise the expedition as it was an extra skill (Bruff already holds a pool based qualification). One of them might do it after the expedition if it is still on offer. • Newsletter. Pam will produce one soon – she has enough content. The general feeling is that it is better to produce short newsletters 	<p>Jim (and Allan)</p> <p>Rachel</p> <p>Rachel</p> <p>Ross</p> <p>Nancy / Ruth</p>

	<p>regularly rather than wait for more articles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sourcing alternative stores. Nancy suggested that a subcommittee is needed as it is a big piece of work and needs people to commit to it. Bronwen mentioned that Craikhope has been handed back to the Forestry Commission and it is to be demolished. It is a great property with drying room, kitchen, open fire, can sleep 20+ indoors and there is ground outside. The downside would be that it is not easily accessible (~10 miles from Hawick) but would be a great asset alongside a more centrally located storage facility. It would be worth investigating, if only to discover whether the Forestry Commission would want anything for it as BEG likely couldn't afford this. It was also suggested that our patron may be able to help us with accommodation/land. Another suggestion is to approach the region to see what buildings are currently available. A container was suggested but it would likely be damp. It was decided to form a subgroup of BEG members – not necessarily committee members. <p><i>Action: Committee members to approach potential members and let Ruth know names – Bronwen will ask Keith</i></p> <p><i>Action: Ruth to send an email in a weeks' time to Members/Friends of BEG asking for people to be involved, with a reminder just before the next committee meeting</i></p> <p><i>Action: Nancy/Les to update the Morrisons on our plans regarding leaving West Morriston</i></p> 	<p>All</p> <p>Ruth</p> <p>Nancy</p>
4	<p>Chair's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No business. 	
5	<p>Treasurer's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have only been two transactions in the last month so very little to report since the last meeting. The balance of the account is £5190.17. • OSCR. Ron tried to complete the form online but the accounts part was very difficult and confusing. He wrote to them explaining why there are no 2011 accounts but they rejected the explanation. He will call them to explain again. Ron has also arranged to see Kenneth for advice. • The Chile and Cuba accounts are still open. Lesley Turnbull has offered help and Ron will contact her. 	<p>Ron</p> <p>Ron</p>
6	<p>Secretary's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No business. 	
7	<p>Events</p> <p>Kirsty MacAskill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was discussion as to whether there is still a need for this event as there are now so many other extracurricular activities. It was suggested that it needs to change radically ie. it could be an award for an expedition participant, perhaps voted for by venturers. • David asked about Kirsty's family and how involved in the award they are. There has been no contact with her dad in the last few years and it was thought that he's no longer in the Borders. <p><i>Action: Bronwen and David will meet with Jim and come up with suggestions for the next meeting. Any suggestions to be sent to David.</i></p>	<p>Bronwen / David / Jim</p>

	<p>Members Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The walks are gathering pace thanks to Geraldine's organising. The Duchess Drive walk happened on 20 May. • Future events and dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 June – the Jubilee walk near Earlston ○ 17 August – beach day (location TBC) ○ 20 September – Ben Nevis (individuals to organise own accommodation if desired) ○ Thursday 5 December – Christmas night out ○ 28 February-1 March – Winter weekend in the Cairngorms, walking or skiing depending on the weather. Staying either at the Braemar or Aviemore end. <p><u>Action:</u> Ruth to send Nancy's email asking for a note of interest for the winter weekend so that accommodation can be booked</p>	Ruth
8	<p>Expeditions</p> <p>Cuba 2012</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update. <p>Malawi 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone has completed their fundraising. • The final TW is 13-15 June. BEG members are to be invited to the BBQ on the Sunday – Catherine responsible for issuing invitations. • The packing day is on 22 June with a parents' information evening/BBQ. • Stuart has been unwell but is now back to work. Plans are therefore slightly behind for TW. • There are a couple of interim leader meetings arranged at Geraldine's house just to make sure everything is organised. • ERG – Jono and Ruth Ellis and Ron have agreed to be the ERG contacts. Good to let parents know how much communication to expect. Ron to deal with this. <p><u>Action:</u> Ron to contact council and emergency services.</p>	Ron
9	<p>Newsletter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed above. 	
10	<p>Any Other Competent Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountain training walking awards. Nancy has come across these training courses – expedition leader, lowlands leader etc – and thought people might be interested in them. <u>Action:</u> Pam will email and find out more about them • New tents needed. Two new four man tents are needed because the poles broke at Riddell Estate. After some discussion it was decided that it is the expedition's responsibility to buy tents needed for going abroad. However these two should be covered by BEG's insurance along with the car port which also broke in the wind. A new four man tent could cost about £200-£250. <u>Action:</u> Ruth to contact Jim to obtain the insurance details and arrange for the form to be completed then returned to Jim for signing <u>Action:</u> Ruth to liaise with Bronwen and Ron over the purchase of 2 new tents as she is planning a visit to Go Outdoors next week <u>Action:</u> Upon their return the Malawi team are to replace any damaged 	Pam Ruth Ruth Malawi team

	<p><i>tents or any they chose to leave in Malawi</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marshals needed. David is looking for volunteers to marshal at the Marie Curie 10km walk on evening of Friday 18 July. • Members' walk – Jubilee walk, meet this Thursday at 7pm outside chemist in Earlston. • The committee would like to wish the Malawi team all the best for their expedition to Malawi - have a great time! 	
	<p>Date of Next Meeting Monday 18 August 2014, 7.30pm at the Argus Centre, Selkirk</p> <p>Future Meeting Dates (all Mondays) 29 September, 17 November (AGM)</p>	

Future agenda items:

Expedition planning timetable – meeting report
Subgroup for sourcing alternative stores

Nancy / Ruth