

Borders Exploration Group Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 18 August 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: Jim McPherson, David Hunter, Ron Sutherland, Geraldine Bouglas, Nancy Anderson, Pam Hunter, Ruth Longmuir, Ross Purves, Christine Anderson • Apologies: Lorraine Sinclair 	
<p>2 Minutes from previous meeting (April 2014) Approved by Geraldine and 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> • 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 purchased the vests and they look good. • Meeting to lay down an expedition planning timetable <u>Action carried forward:</u> <i>Date still to be organised and circulated</i> • Mountain training walking awards. Pam did investigate this but is still to type up her findings. It was noted that the courses are quite an undertaking but would be good for someone who was very keen. • Insurance claim for tents. Jim reported that before and after photos of the car port are needed for the claim. <u>Action:</u> <i>Everyone to check for photos and send to Jim</i> • New tents for Malawi. These were purchased; 3 by BEG and 3 by the Malawi team. The ones that belonged to the expedition were left in Malawi. The tents that returned were split between different people and so need collected and returned to the stores. There might have been DEET sprayed in one tent but hopefully it won't have damaged it. <u>Action:</u> <i>Geraldine agreed to check that the 3 new BEG owned tents came back from Malawi</i> <u>Action:</u> <i>Geraldine will contact Bronwen about coordinating the collection and return of the tents to the stores</i> 	<p>Jim (and Allan)</p> <p>Rachel</p> <p>Rachel</p> <p>Nancy / Ruth</p> <p>Everyone</p> <p>Geraldine</p> <p>Geraldine</p>
<p>4 Chair's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Borders' newsletter. Jim sent this out recently with 3 matters of interest: Advanced driving test for newly qualified drivers, an Outward Bound course in Wales for 14-18 year olds, and a 22 day cycling trip in France. Jim encouraged everyone to send this information on to any potentially interested parties. 	
<p>5 Treasurer's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The balance of the main BEG account is £5,055.21. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A £250 charities cheque has been received but it is yet to be determined where it has come from or what the money is for. • Ron has not been back in contact with OSCR yet but he has received notification that they are changing the way things are done. • Ron and Ruth are in the process of sorting out the Cuba account. It seems that it was closed in March 2013 but the whereabouts of the £285.25 closing balance is being investigated by the bank. • The Chile expedition and Borders Exploration Group want to close the account and Ron has been authorised to do this on their behalf. The balance is £257.59. <i>Action: Ron has worked out what needs to be done to close the account and will progress this after meeting with Lesley Turnbull for confirmation</i> • The Malawi team plan to close their account after the report writing weekend expenses have been dealt with. It should be closed by the AGM. 	Ron
6	<p>Secretary's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No business. 	
7	<p>Alternative Stores</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As agreed, Les spoke to James Morrison to update him. • Nancy has offered to join the group to identify alternative stores, no one else has come forward. • David has made some investigations at the Council regarding the property at Craik. • Sir Michael Strang Steel contacted Jim to suggest BEG might like to take over Cappercleuch Village Hall. There were mixed opinions as to whether this would be possible and it was agreed that more information is needed. <i>Action: Jim will contact Sir Michael to find out a timescale and what is required</i> • Ruth reported that she had received two suggestions in response to her emails – one in Hawick and one in Selkirk. She will bring the details to the subgroup. • Another possibility is a farm building outside Selkirk, on the road to Whitmuir. Alan Young and Sir Michael had mentioned this previously. • Another suggestion was somewhere that is empty but that the owner would like occupied, such as the old Clovenford Primary. It was thought that this may now have been sold. • Nancy, Christine, Bronwen, Ruth and David were appointed to the group. <i>Action: David to arrange a meeting within the next month</i> 	<p>Jim</p> <p>Ruth</p> <p>David</p>
8	<p>Events</p> <p>Kirsty MacAskill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that this should become an award for a venturer, presented after each expedition, starting with Malawi. Criteria needs drawn up for choosing someone. There is not enough time to do this before choosing a Malawi venturer but it will be done before the next expedition. The Malawi leaders will make the decision this time without any set criteria. • Presentation of the award should happen at the Malawi presentation night. There was some discussion as to whether a presentation 	

	<p>evening has been planned. The committee felt strongly that there should be a presentation night to thank supporters. <u>Action:</u> <i>Geraldine will speak to Catherine about the award and the presentation evening</i></p> <p>Members Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The beach day went well yesterday with 9 people attending. Some people went swimming and did a scavenger hunt. The weather was much better than expected! <u>Action:</u> <i>Christine to write an article and send photos to Pam for the newsletter</i> • The next event is Ben Nevis on Saturday 20 September which Ross has sent an email about. It sounds like quite a few people are keen to do it. It was decided to organise a meeting in a pub afterwards as an added incentive to stay for the weekend. <u>Action:</u> <i>Nancy to contact Ross with the name of a suitable pub</i> • Winter Weekend (27 Feb-1 Mar). There has not been a great response perhaps because the date is a long way off. <u>Action:</u> <i>Nancy to go ahead and book accommodation for more people than have intimated interest as it is anticipated more people will want to come closer to the time</i> • The Christmas meal is Friday (not Thursday) 5 December. The Members Events subgroup will investigate venue options. <p>Tower Trophy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nancy pointed out that next spring will be two years since the last Tower Trophy Challenge and asked whether another one should be organised. It was recognised that BEG is currently in a good financial position but also that it helps to raise the profile of the organisation and that it might be short sighted not to plan some fundraising. The committee agreed that it would be great if Nancy was willing to coordinate the organising of another Tower Trophy. <u>Action:</u> <i>Nancy will check if Allan McGee, Jim Shepherd and Andrew Grant are willing to organise another event</i> 	<p>Geraldine</p> <p>Christine</p> <p>Nancy</p> <p>Nancy</p>
9	<p>Expeditions: Malawi 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geraldine reported that the expedition went really well and gave an excellent summary of it. • The report writing weekend is the first weekend in September and preparations for this are underway. • Jim extended congratulations to the Malawi team for a fantastic expedition. He thanked Geraldine for her brief report and everyone agreed that they're looking forward to hearing more at the presentation. • Geraldine thanked the committee for their support. 	
10	<p>Future Expeditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is due to be a European expedition next summer. Destination proposals need to be in by the next meeting. • Proposals for an international expedition in 2016 need to be brought to the AGM. <u>Action:</u> <i>Jim will send an email regarding proposals for both expeditions within the next week</i> • If no one comes forward with a European proposal Nancy suggested a distance walk in Scotland instead of going abroad. Ron suggested a 	<p>Jim</p>

	<p>trip that involved walking, cycling and canoeing. Ocean Bounty was mentioned but it is thought that it no longer exists.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim has given some thought to Hungary as a destination but is struggling to find adventure options. It was suggested that cycling might be a possibility. A possible community phase could be visiting orphanages. It was pointed out that there doesn't have to be a community phase; Norway, for example, had cultural exchange elements and was a chance to learn travelling skills. 	
	<p>Newsletter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam will produce another newsletter by the end of August. • Catherine/Rosy to write about Malawi. • Jim might do something about Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. 	
	<p>Any Other Competent Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ron had a pile of Disclosure certificates which it was decided were out of date and should be shredded. • Jim pointed out that there are still some items of equipment at Riddell from the Malawi training weekend which need collected and returned to the stores. • Nancy suggested that a day at the stores is needed to tidy, compile an inventory, air the building and put away tents and the marque. <u>Action:</u> Nancy to choose a Friday and circulate the date 	<p>Malawi team</p> <p>Nancy</p>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting Monday 29 September 2014, 7.30pm at the Argus Centre, Selkirk</p> <p>Future Meeting Dates (all Mondays) 17 November (AGM)</p>	

Future agenda items: