

Borders Exploration Group Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 29 September 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, Nancy Anderson, Pam Hunter, Ruth Longmuir, Christine Anderson, Bronwen Irving • Apologies: Ross Purves, David Hunter 	
<p>2 Minutes from previous meeting (April 2014) Approved by Ron and seconded by Nancy.</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> • Meeting to lay down an expedition planning timetable Date has been set: Wednesday 15 October, 7pm, Carfraemill Hotel. All welcome. • Insurance claim for tents. Geraldine sent photos to Jim but he didn't receive them. • Tents. One of the new tents that BEG bought was left in Malawi but the expedition has now reimbursed BEG. It was agreed that more of the same tents should be purchased. Nancy and Pam will check what tents are in the stores and decide how many to buy (authorised to spend up to £1200). • Ron has spoken to Lesley Turnbull regarding closing the Chile account and plans to meet with her to complete the necessary form. • Ruth reported that the bank's investigation into what happened to the balance of the Cuba account is still ongoing. • Kirsty McAskill Trophy. The leaders have identified a candidate but some have raised concerns about singling out one person when everyone made great personal achievements. Following discussion about this and alternative uses for the trophy it was decided to retire the trophy. Jim to update Catherine. 	<p>Jim (and Allan)</p> <p>Rachel</p> <p>Rachel</p> <p>Nancy/Pam</p> <p>Jim</p>
<p>4 Chair's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2015 Committee. Discussion over who might form the new committee at the AGM. Possibility of changing the nights, perhaps revolving Mon-Thurs on a rota to allow more people to be able to attend. • AGM business. Discussion over whether there is a need for a secretary's report. There will be presentation(s) for a 2016 expedition. It was decided that a 20 minute presentation on Malawi would also be good. • Argus House committee. Jim reported that the fee for using the Argus Centre may increase. 	

5	<p>Treasurer's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The balance of the main BEG account is £4744.01. • The mystery of the £250 charities cheque has been solved and the money returned to the venturer. • Ron reported that the balance of the account is only slightly less than what it was at the start of the year. It was noted that money is needed as contingency for expeditions and possibly for new stores. 	
6	<p>Secretary's business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter has been received from Youth Borders regarding a proposed rise in fees. Ruth to reply to the letter and give Ron's address as a new contact address. 	Ruth
7	<p>BEG Stores</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sourcing alternatives. The subgroup met and have come up with the following recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To focus, for now, on acquiring premises for centrally located stores with the possibility of looking for somewhere with accommodation in the future.</i> • <i>There should be a low level of heat on over the winter for one room of the current stores at West Morriston to prevent deterioration of equipment.</i> • The committee agreed the recommendations. It was noted that BEG would need to pay for the electricity. • The subgroup will meet again to explore various options. • Nancy noted that there will soon be a lot of empty chicken sheds due to recent closures. These may be worth exploring. • A stores day. Nancy and Pam will meet this Friday at the stores. 	
8	<p>Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ben Nevis was a great trip with 18 people attending. Thanks was extended to the organisers. • The events planning subgroup meets again on Wednesday. <p>Tower Trophy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning meeting is organised for 14 October at Riddell. There are some BEG shovels and picks still at Riddell – Nancy will try and pick these up when she is there. 	Nancy
9	<p>Expeditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Malawi presentation will be on Sunday 26 October, 2.30pm, Selkirk Rugby Club. It was agreed that invitations for this should be sent out to all that helped the expedition. It was noted that Catherine doesn't have email addresses for all these people and so it might be better to send them by post since there are address labels for all the people who received postcards. <p>2015 Expeditions – Proposals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catriona Davidson has suggested Austria as she is now living there. She has sent various options for activities/volunteering groups etc. Flights to Munich c £108. • Roger Hemming has suggested Barra as a UK option. 7.5 hour ferry 	

	<p>from Oban. He has also suggested possible activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim would be willing to lead an expedition to Austria but would like to do it as a leader training ie. leader heavy, perhaps ratio of 1:1. There was discussion about whether a good community project could be found in Austria but it was pointed out that expeditions can have other focuses. Fundraising without a community project is harder but usually has an emphasis on something you work for eg. a car boot sale rather than sponsored events. • Bronwen suggested that BEG revisits destinations as it might encourage venturers to come back as leaders. This was agreed to be a good idea. • Four possibilities exist for 2015 and Jim will send an email to all members and friends asking for opinions and intimations of support. The options are: Austria, Barra, Hungary and Boots Across Scotland. <p>2016 Expeditions – firm/likely proposals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will definitely be one destination proposed at the AGM. • Other suggestions are welcome – it would be good to have more options. • Difficulty of finding doctors for the bigger expeditions. Bronwen suggesting sending out a recruitment email more often so that it is always on people’s radar. 	Jim
10	<p>Newsletter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim to send something about DoE for the December issue. • Ross to be asked to write a summary of the Ben Nevis walk. • Other items for inclusion are: Malawi presentation date. Vietnam reunion. Mention of the Tower Trophy. Destinations being sought for 2016. Upcoming events – winter weekend and Christmas meal. • Newsletter to come out this week. 	Jim Ross
11	<p>Any Other Competent Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The website needs improved and kept up to date. It’s probably the first thing people look at when they hear about BEG. • “Events” or “members events”? There was some discussion about whether the events are for members and people who attend should become a member. It was generally felt that the events are good for getting more people interested in BEG and so should be open to everyone, certainly at the moment until a bigger base of members is built up. • PVG checks. It was mentioned that these take a long time to come back and need to be done as soon as leaders are selected for the next expedition. 	Ruth/Jim
	<p>Date of Next Meeting AGM on Monday 17 November 2014, 7.30pm at the Argus Centre, Selkirk</p> <p>Future Meeting Dates (all Mondays) 17 November (AGM)</p>	

Future agenda items: