

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING



Meeting Title OutdoorLads Board Meeting April 2019
Location: LGBT Foundation 5 Richmond Street, Manchester, M1 3HF
Date and Time 6pm Thursday April 11th 2019

Attendees

Peter Walter (chair)
Matt Tennant (vice-chair)
Brett Monaghan (treasurer)
Steven Allen
Neil Sharp
Danny Mckeown
Jonathan Moore
Dan Barcroft
Danny Ballantyne

Liam Russell (staff)
Tashi Acton (staff)
Yvonne Goldsmith-Rybka (staff)

19/17 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Jimmy Brash, due to prior work commitments.

19/18 Approval of previous minutes

Minutes of the previous teleconference on 25th February 2019 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Actions from the previous meeting are covered by the agenda for this meeting.

Yvonne, Tashi and Jon Moore have now checked the website and direct debit spreadsheet to ensure all members are paying appropriately.

Liam and Brett are working on a move to Yorkshire Bank and are working through the process of moving across from CAF bank.

19/19 Election of Co-opted Board Member

The new staff manager role has been offered to Jimmy Brash, who would become a co-opted board member. Following discussion, Jimmy Brash was elected as a Co-opted Board Member.

19/20 Board Report

Peter congratulated Tashi and the team for the most recent social media figures, and press and marketing engagement/ visibility with Boyz Magazine, BBC Countryfile, Campaign for National Parks, Chewing the Cud, and Gaydio.

As a result of the data cleaning process membership numbers are down but this is now a more accurate reflection of actual members.

Liam has achieved the target for event capacity for 2019-20 with a higher number of events achieved. Most events are selling well, a notable exception being Summer in the French Alps where we may need to cancel and cut our losses. Liam to enquire if we can push back the event and carry the deposit over.

LR

Big Spring Camp is especially selling well with paid events now gone live.

Two agency chefs will be running the kitchen and Liam will liase with Danny and Steven to make sure the bar, food and catering is well organised with better quality ingredients and a more tightly stocked bar with fewer (but well-chosen) products. Cleaners will also be employed this year.

The office move has been successful and the team are now settled in their new office.

Yvonne has finished a VAT analysis of the last two financial years: the results of which are that we believe we would benefit from being exempt for VAT on all areas relating to physical activity. Once Brett is happy with the findings we will approach John Toon to write to HMRC on our behalf and request the changes, which may be backdated for four years.

BM

19/21 Year End Profit & Loss and 2019 Forecast

Brett discussed the figures for 2019 and going into the new financial year we are still showing a healthy £130,000 balance across our savings and current bank accounts.

Forecasts show a loss of £39,361.18 for the year ending March 2019 (before year end accounts have been completed) with a forecasted loss of £17,867.03 for the coming financial year ending March 2020.

19/22 Membership Price Rise

A paper had been tabled proposing a membership price increase.

There hasn't been a price increase since 2012, since when the headline membership rate has been £55.

Trustees discussed the implications of a price increase in some detail, including the impact upon members, membership numbers, and the financial viability of the organisation. Also considered was a revision to the first year direct debit offer.

MT

Trustees unaminiously agreed to increase the price to £65 for full members, with a 20% discount for the first year for those signing up to an

annual direct debit (£52), and with an 80% discount to concession members (£13.) Corresponding prices to be applied for 6 and 3 month fixed term memberships.

The analysis in the board paper also showed that the £49.02 frozen membership price is no longer sustainable. Trustees agreed to withdraw this offer at the same time, but to contact the individuals concerned separately to explain the issue.

Peter Walter suggested the membership price now be reviewed every April in line with inflation. Following robust discussion, Trustee agreed that the membership price now be reviewed annually, and a decision taken as to if the price should increase in line with inflation with effect from 1st June each year.

Trustees agreed that the increase be effective from 1st June 2019.

Jonathan Moore volunteered to put together the communication plan for informing members.

JM

Yvonne to work with Steven Allan on integrating the direct debit payments in Xero for this June date also - in order to fully automate the system over the next year (month by month) and reduce any manual error that has historically occurred with the increasing numbers on the spreadsheets.

**YG
SA**

19/23] Changes to Constitution

Matt Tennant raised constitutional recommendations to discuss and approve with the main points as follows:

- Trustees agreed to allow the provision of remote attendance at the AGM so long as membership status can be verified and that they are able to participate in any voting.

- trustees agreed there should be a set number of board positions (12) to include up to 3 external (non-member) positions.

- Trustees discussed tenure of trustees and 'Executive' roles with a proposal of a maximum 2 terms of 3 years (6 years maximum) with the provision for the board to extend by 1 year by consent. Some trustees were in opposition of this point.

Matt to form a further draft of recommendations with the working group, to be brought to the next Board meeting for approval, ahead of being voted on at the AGM in September.

MT

19/24 Additional BIG event spend

Trustees had received a board paper from Danny McKeown-Henshall requesting further funding for the replacement and upgrade of BIG event equipment.

No increase was awarded on this occasion.

Peter Walter proposed the previously budgeted £2,000 sum for the financial year 2019/20 would remain in place, additional funds could not be approved until after BIG Spring Camp when budgets can be re-looked at. Trustees agreed with this proposal.

19/25 Outside Event Bar

All trustees had received a board paper prior to the meeting from Danny outlining plans to use the OutdoorLads bar infrastructure at private events for the purpose of raising money for the charity.

All were in agreement that they are happy to support this as the revenue from extra events can only be welcomed.

19/26 Any Other Business

Spring Camp Contract – Liam updated on the new BIG Spring Camp contract that has been negotiated with Llanrwst Rugby Club covering 2020 – 2022, with a 2% increase year on year. Trustees approved the new contract and gave permission for this to be entered into.

The Meeting closed at 9pm