

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING



Meeting Title OutdoorLads Board Meeting
Location: Online
Date and Time Monday 2nd March 7.30pm

Attendees

Joe Bailey (Chair)

Steven Fayers

Gavin Blackman

Laurence Quirk

Liam Russell (Staff/ Company Secretary)

Yvonne Goldsmith-Rybka (YGR) (Staff)

15/26 Welcome & Apologies for Absence

Joe Bailey opened the meeting at 7.34pm and apologies were accepted from Stu Innes, Daniel Lyons & Dan Byrnes who were unable to attend.

16/26 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were none.

17/26 Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from February 2026 were approved.

18/26 Office Report

Liam Russell reported sales of all programmed events are generally very positive, BIG Spring Camp already has over 200 signed up, and the 20th anniversary AGM weekend in September is now live and selling well.

Leaders weekends have gone well and a feedback form will be sent out.

Foundation Update: there has been an increasing number of requests from more members this year.

Members signing up for annual direct debits have been healthy this year so far (over 40 in February) possibly incentivised by 'refer a friend' scheme

and the option to now pay quarterly. Also fewer ADDACS (cancellation of direct debits) have been reported.

Social media numbers are showing a gradual steady upward trend with more cross posting on TikTok reaching a younger demographic which is positive.

LR raised the issue of the membership price which has not been increased since 2019, and then only once 10 years before that. Although ODL is currently showing a small profit this is being re-invested – so in line with rising costs and inflation feel this should be addressed at the next meeting.

19/26 Finance Update

YGR reported P&Ls show a small 10k profit by close January with only two more months in this financial year remaining. Our accountants (Beever & Struthers) have now completed the paperwork for Corporation Tax exemption which need completing every five years – the Trustees approved for this to be signed and sent to HMRC.

20/26 Policies Review

There has been a small change to the Cultural & Heritage Handbook which was approved. All Policies are now in one place in the Board/Staff shared folders (the linked PDFs show those currently published on the website.) The Board to make sure all policies are kept up to date and co-signed by Joe, and policies will be signed to individuals to review at the next meeting.

21/26 Overnight Leader Recruitment

Adjourned for next meeting as Daniel Lyons absent.

22/26 Strategic Planning

Adjourned for next meeting as Daniel Lyons absent.

23/26 Project Growing Together

The Leader Award System has gone live this year – to get data from Dan Byrnes for next meeting.

Gavin Blackman reported some progress in underserved areas working with some leaders going further afield to cater to them. This has been most pronounced in Lincolnshire, and there is also a leader proposing to do more events in Kent. This is a small step in the right direction with more areas on the map covered.

24/26 Website Update

LR and Dan Byrnes have spent time with Adaptive and will meet with them on Wednesday to see the first draft of the user experience report with suggestions for what the website may look like in the future. LR to ask for a breakdown of the costs for the suggested revisions in order to decide which of them we want doing.

A report on double bookings is about to be made live which will enable staff to identify double bookings and e-mail those making them. If they haven't cancelled themselves off a double booking inside a week, staff will choose one booking to retain and they will be cancelled from others.

There is also a new reporting module about to be made available. This will provide better and more reliable reports to be built to monitor various aspects of the organisation. As part of this, VAT reports will be able to be run to make the quarterly VAT reports easier to produce.

25/26 Confirmation Board Meeting Dates

The following dates were agreed:

Monday 27th April 7.30pm Online

Monday 15th June 7.30pm Online

Monday 14th September 7.30pm Online

The Meeting closed at 20.19