

# MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING



**Meeting Title** OutdoorLads Board Meeting July 2019  
**Location:** LGBT Foundation, 5 Richmond Street, Manchester, M1 3HF  
**Date and Time** Thursday July 11<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 5:30pm

## Attendees

Peter Walter (chair)  
Matt Tennant (vice-chair)  
Brett Monaghan (treasurer)  
Steven Allan  
A Neil Sharp  
Danny Mckeown  
Jonathan Moore  
A Dan Barcroft  
A Danny Ballantyne  
Jimmy Brash  
Liam Russell (staff)  
Tashi Acton (staff)  
Yvonne Goldsmith-Rybka (staff)

## 19/35 Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Neil Sharp, Dan Barcroft, and Danny Ballantyne due to prior commitments.

## 19/36 Approval of previous minutes

Both minutes of the previous board meeting in April 2019 and the teleconference in June 2019 were approved for publishing on the website.

## 19/37 Office Board Report

Peter Walter feels too much information is currently been given on the board report for social media, member, leader and income numbers: he suggested formatting in the future only contain the current monthly figure for each category stating by how much the figure is up/down on the previous month, and with a figure for the same month in the previous year for comparison.

LR

Social media figures continue to grow across all channels.  
Newsletter engagement continues to perform well with 14.8% of members clicking through to the link.

OutdoorLads front page Boyz article gained a good audience.

Big Spring Camp 2019 is showing a healthy profit.

Generally event bookings are good with few events really struggling.

### **19/38 Finance**

Peter Walter wishes to change the financial terminology used to give clarity to the accounts information. Brett Monaghan is concerned we are not building up reserves for the next website and so not currently futureproofing the organisation. We are spending more money than we are making and on track to lose £17,000 in the coming financial year.

BM feels he has taken the role of treasurer as far as he can and stood down as treasurer. He confirmed his intention to step down by the AGM as a trustee.

The trustees accepted this decision and will look for a new treasurer with the relevant experience.

In the meantime, both BM and Jonathan Moore suggested all trustees come up with ideas for raising money and reducing expenses.

**All**

Peter Walter also wants Beever and Struthers to validate the VAT analysis that was completed, and assess if we would be in a better position financially to move forward the charities exemption from all physically related activities.

Matt Tennant is to progress with opening the new bank account.

**MT**

### **19/39 Annual General Meeting**

Peter Walter suggested we follow the standard format of previous AGMs: highlighting our values, the success of events, presentation of volunteer awards, with Matt addressing member surveys and Neil current leaders. The membership price rise needs addressing and our current constitution (see 19/41 and 19/43)

We should use the meeting as a marketing platform to allow Danny McKeown-Henshall to promote our bar and offer its services for outside events.

**DM-  
H**

We should also provide a suggestion box for attending members. This year we need a better external mic for the sound quality of the live stream.

### **19/40 Environment**

Danny McKeown-Henshall wanted to raise the point that climate and the environment are now such an important issue in our everyday lives, that the organisation should also contribute and commit to setting targets: To review are transport to and from events (BIG events especially) – carsharing/ public transport/ coaches; phasing out single-use plastics and straws at all events; encouraging members to bring their own re-usable bottles; recycling both at events and in the office.

#### **19/41 Membership Price Rise Review**

Although this was a difficult decision it was agreed it was the right decision for the future of the charity. The biggest issue with the implementation was communication; and it was agreed this would be addressed more considerably in the future.

It was also raised by JM and BM that we had neglected to raise the PAYG prices in line with the full membership and concession prices – these will be raised on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019, along with the value of the introductory new member vouchers. The PAYG day event price will be £12.50.

**PW**  
**JM**  
**LR**

#### **19/42 Event Cancellations**

JM wanted to enlighten the board on the current extent of event churn (booking but cancelling in the lead up to the event) and event non-attendance (just not showing up at the event), highlighting the need for the now implemented new refund policy.

**JM**

There are serial offenders that bulk-book and will be approached; and we will review the figures again at the end of the year after six months of the new refund policy being in place.

In the meantime all staff and trustees to adhere fully with the refund policy with no exceptions/ grey areas - especially from the first point of contact.

#### **19/43 Constitution**

Matt Tennant has edited changes to the current constitution that needs completing by the AGM.

**MT**

It was agreed that we are not changing the charitable objectives; members can be removed as a result of any breach of conduct: trustees can continue to stand every 3 years but the position of the chair will be limited to two terms of three years; there will be a maximum of 12 trustees (9-10 full member trustees and 2-3 lay non-member trustees); that any trustee can demand a secret ballot to remove any trustee not contributing to the group:

#### **19/44 Ongoing Complaints**

Peter Walter brought up that there have been ongoing complaints and that all trustees and staff need to understand, and stand by our clear set of rules and policies. There is a complaints policy in place should any member wish to raise any concerns.

#### **19/45 Any Other Business**

DMH suggested we look at mental health first aid training for leaders and staff.

Staff were asked to leave for staff updates.

**The meeting closed at 9pm**

