**Minutes of MDOC Committee Meeting 11th March 2019**

**Present:** Marie Roberts (Chair), Sue Birkinshaw, Trevor Hindle, Tony Wagg (Secretary), Kath Speak, Pete Ross, Julie Brook, Ian Gilliver, Pete Lomas.

**Apologies:** Alan Ogden, Dave McCann, Sam Drinkwater, Eddie Speak.

**1. Minutes of Last Meeting:**  Accepted.

**2. Matters Arising/Actions:** OCAD licences have been purchased as agreed. A megaphone is yet to be purchased. **Action continues ES.** Trevor has drafted a survey of coaching requirements which he will now circulate to club members. **Action TH.** Sue will add a note to the organiser’s notes advertising the existence and abode of the start clock. **Action SB.**

**3. Finance:** The Treasurer submitted a written report showing a healthy profit for the year and clarified that ‘management expenses’ totalling £896 were individually itemised as BOF and NWOA affiliation fees. The committee authorised payments to Chris Smithard for mapping and to Marie for expenses. Stores rent will be paid. A payment to SI, probably for SIAC hire, is subject to **clarification between Alan and Eddie.**

BOF insurance. Ian raised concern about the Chief Execs re-interpretation of insurance cover for non-members. The CEO seems to believe that clubs could be held liable if a non-member, who has participated in more than 3 events, causes damage to a 3rd party. Until now we have understood that the responsibility lies with the individual rather than the club. This would cause problems for registration and record keeping, particularly at street league and countryside score events. Dave McCann has been asked to write to BOF on behalf of NW clubs proposing Day Membership as a solution. Some precedent exists.

**4. Event Operation:**

(a) Summer evening events are to be registered as Local Events, which do not have to have a controller – useful as they seem to be a dying breed.

(b) Permissions. Goyt - The Forestry Commission is happy but the users committee has not responded. Macclesfield Forest – negotiation with United Utilities continues on a labyrinthine path. Hence neither is resolved.

(c) Birchwood. We are able to hire SIACs from Quantock at reasonable cost, to re-hire to participants. Marie will discuss publicity with Sam, including Facebook. **Action MR/SD.**

(d) Yvette Baker Relay. Alan Kyd at Fallibroome has expressed a possible interest in entering a team. The Committee agreed the Club will pay the entry fee if this happens.

**5. Event Planning:**

(a) Fixtures Structure. The Working Group met and proposed: (i) local events catering for both schools and established adult members (4/5 in both Autumn and Spring), (ii) street league and countryside score events based on a pub and aimed at adults (ideally 8 and 4 respectively), (iii) Summer evening and Sunday events (4 and 3), (iv) Metro and virtual (smart phone based) events. (v) National urban (1 pa). Issues unresolved include availability of areas, relays, fixture gaps in April, August and September, and regional urban events. Tony Wagg commented that we are likely to have great difficulty in finding enough planners and organisers to run an ambitious programme. Ian will update notes of the working group meeting and circulate them. Sue suggested one Saturday morning event could use a permanent course plus a coaching session or a virtual course.

(b) Northern Champs 2020 will have Mr and Mrs Parker (alias Dan and Karen) as planners and Trevor Roberts as provisional organiser, though he may wish to subcontract responsibility for some operations. Twin Peaks 2021 may be a two day event at Bleathwaite.

**6. Mapping and Printing:**

(a) Errwood. Richard Parkin has quoted £850 to re-map 3 of the 4 sectors of the existing map. Sue was authorised to contact him expressing our approval. The 4th sector was originally designated out of bounds but could be mapped in the future.

(b) Alderley. Some re-mapping is required by early June. Ian agreed to report the extent of the required work within a week. **Action IG.**

**7. Marketing:** A Working Group meeting reviewed current practice. We should aim to standardise publicity for a given class of event. A further meeting will debate ‘who, what, when’. A NW report on the use of Facebook is expected.

**8. Membership:** A new membership directory will be distributed in mid-March. As Vicky and Heather are moving north we need a new welfare officer and junior talent scout. The First Aid course has been cancelled. A number of our existing qualifiers do not ‘expire’ till the autumn.

**9. Performance/Coaching:** Trevor will distribute the coaching survey to Club members by the end of the month. **Action TH.** It may be possible to join SYO for some coaching activities.

**10. NWOA:** Sue and Marie attended a recent club delegate meeting and reported:

Chris Rostron was thanked for organising the NW night league.

The NW urban league prize will be presented at Birchwood.

The Region has been asked to stage the British Champs in 2021. This is ahead of our turn but they appeal in desperation.

SELOC will hold the British Sprint relay at Skelmersdale in June 2020 but will need help in planning and organising.

A survey concerning the future of the Lakes 5 Day and other possible major events in the NW has been circulated. Committee members are encouraged to reply to Marie within a week. She will correlate comments and send them to Dave McCann. **Action Committee.**

The notes accompanying the survey claimed a 2/3 reduction in membership within the region since the 1990’s. This caused surprise and Dave McCann was asked (in his absence) if he knew where the figure came from.

**11. Date of next Meeting:** 8th April2019, at the Ladybrook Hotel.