Minutes MDOC Committee Meeting 10th June 2019

Present: Marie Roberts (Chair), Ian Gilliver, Trevor Hindle, Eddie Speak, Kath Speak, Sue Birkinshaw, Rae Lomas, Pete Lomas, Peter Ross

1. **Apologies**. Alan Ogden, Dave McCann, Sam Drinkwater, Julie Brook, Tony Wagg

2. **Minutes of the last meeting**. Agreed following a change to item 4 (Event Operations): course 7 at the Birchwood event was for the -12year olds not the -16 year olds.

3. **Matters arising**

MDOC had agreed to pay for the Fallibroome coach to take the competitors to the Yvette Baker Trophy final. However Alain Kyd is to charge £10 per pupil and £25 per parent which reduces MDOC’s exposure considerably. Action: Sue to liaise.

UKUL to be asked if they will relax the requirement for a course for the -12 year olds in the light of the low competitor numbers. Action: Trevor

Carried forward. Lyme to be questioned over their plans for summer O activities. Action: Pete Lomas

4. **Finance**

Typo. In June £220 was received via the Adlington event - not Alderley Edge.

Request. The Income and expenditure account has six columns, of which the first three are clearly labelled as referring to the period 1 Sep to 31 May. Columns four to six are not labelled. It would be helpful if they were. Action: Alan

Query. Has the proposed new bank account been set up? Action: Marie to ask Alan.

MDOC Insurance. Many thanks to Richard Evans for his report concerning the MDOC insurance policy. It has been received and noted.

5. **Event Operations**

Macclesfield Schools event at Fallibroome. Well done to Julie for the carrying out the labour-intensive effort required to create the event which was attended by 400 children.

Torkington Park Sprint. The sprint double header was a success despite the constraints within which it had to be planned and organised. The event made good use of a small area.

Lyme 2. Well attended by the Cubs and Scouts with good liaison beforehand. The Cubs had to be accompanied by an adult and went round the course in groups of six.

Chorlton Virtual. Good family fun, but some smartphones are not as good as others. A system to register the goings and comings of lone runners is required for the next time.

6. **Event Planning**

Bleathwaite. Andrew Gregory has produced a proposal for a 2 day event in 2021. It consists of a middle distance on Day 1 using part of the area and a Classic the following day using all the area. No date has been set. A co-ordinator is required. Sue is prepared to assist. Planners are required too.

Northern Championships Weekend 2020. MDOC is running the Championship on the Sunday. Trevor Roberts has agreed to be the Treasurer and Fabian4 contact. Dan and Karen Parker will plan the event. An organiser - or a team - is required.

Autumn Series. Chris Rostron will co-ordinate.

Schools Championship. The Heaton Park map is currently being updated by George Crawford-Smith. Eddie liaising.

Stockport Urban. Stockport MBC are expected to let this take place as planned on the 10th November. As it is Remembrance Day there are some (non-onerous) constraints to maintain respect for the occasion. The Stockport map is being updated and extended by Eddie. Agreed: a fee of £1,000

Alderley Edge. The map is currently being revised by Eddie. (No fee involved)

South Park Macclesfield. Going ahead as planned on the 13th July.

Strategy. The Events Planning Group previously circulated a Strategy paper to the Committee for comment. Action: Ian Gilliver to publish revised paper to the Committee.

7. **Mapping and Printing**

New maps. There are number of areas that have the potential to support urban events. Examples are Congleton, Knutsford, Wythenshawe, and Altrincham. The Committee would like the Mapping group to produce a plan to identify such areas and a process whereby they can be mapped. The committee agreed a provisional budget of £10,000 over three years. Action: Mapping group.

8. **Marketing**. No discussion.

9. **Performance**

John Kewley is prepared to provide TD5 training on specific dates - to be decided - in areas likely to be some distance away. i.e Grin Low Woods in Buxton or Anglesey. He is also prepared to provide other types of Orienteering training such as for CONDES. Action: Trevor to liaise.

Britain will be represented at the World Trail-O Championships by John Kewley. The Committee are pleased to provide a grant of £100 toward his expenses as a goodwill gesture. Action: Alan please note.

10. **NWOA**. No discussion.

11. **Lyme Incident**

The Committee discussed a paper, written by Cecilia, following the incident at Lyme whereby a girl got lost but eventually returned safely - albeit very late.

The discussion covered three main areas: what could have been done to prevent the girl from becoming seriously lost, and what could have been done better to get her back once it was clear she was lost, and what the club should do if a similar situation arises.

It was considered that courses should remain as advertised. I.e. TD3 courses should remain as TD3 and follow TD3 protocols. However the Committee thought that it would be helpful if the adult(s) assessing the competency of the children fully understand their responsibility - possibly through the use of check-sheet. Action: Rae to speak to Alain Kyd to seek clarification of roles and responsibilities.

It was decided that there is case for whistle checks to be made at similar events in the future, but the decision to do so is to be deferred until the matter has been considered more fully.

There was a similar but inconclusive debate about watches.

The girl got lost at a part of the course that was near the edge of the map, making it relatively easy for her to run off it. i.e. a minor error had a major consequence. This risk is possibly something to consider when planning junior courses in the future.

The decision to bring back the kites before the girl was found was questioned. There was pressure to vacate the park by 8.00pm but kites can also be considered as navigational aids and as such could/should have remained in place.

Equally the boxes could have been recovered, and interrogated in order to discover her movements. It didn’t happen.

We should discuss a later exit with Lyme at future events and obtain mobile contact with the ranger.

Action: Rae to discuss these and other points with Cecilia to see if MDOC’s procedures should be changed.

12 Next Meeting. 22nd July. Ladybrook Hotel. 7.30pm