

Minutes MDOC Committee Meeting 11th July 2022

Attendees: Eddie Speak (Chair), Tony Wagg (Sec), Peter Cull (Treasurer), Alison Fryer, Kath Speak, Trevor Hindle, Graham Heap, Pete Hayes, Julie Brook, Sue Birkinshaw.

Apologies: Paul Watson, Catriona Beynon, Simon Freytag, Dom Wathey, Alain Kyd, Pete and Rae Lomas.

1. Minutes of Last meeting: Accepted.

2. Matters Arising and Actions:

(a) Pete Hayes has spoken to Alain Kyd to see whether pupils might write about recent relays.

(b) Tony Wagg replied to John Kewley concerning club funding for those representing Britain at the World Trail O Champs, in accordance with section 4 of the June minutes.

(c) Tony Wagg has emailed members warning that those running at the Lakes 5 are likely to be 'invited' to help on one or more days. Derek Allison (overall co-ordinator) and Eddie have agreed the tasks we will perform as part of central services.

3. Junior Issues: Nothing to report, other than trail O grants as below.

4. Finance: The Treasurer reported a deficit of about £1400 for the year to date. £1970 has been received from Fabian 4 as the balance from our urban weekend and £870 has been paid for mapping costs for the Manchester event. A written account for the year to the end of June was circulated just after the meeting.

Grants to our juniors for the World trail O. Dominic has submitted a claim. Ben has informed us of his likely total expenses. Eddie agreed to contact him to clarify what other funding he might receive (eg from NWOA) and to offer an urgent loan if necessary, in advance of a grant. **Action ES.**

5. Reports:

5.1 Event Operation/Planning:

(a) Summer evening events. Alderley is the last remaining event (12th July) and had attracted 110 entries with a day to go. Nick Taylor, the planner, has commented that the work involved had been far greater than he had anticipated, and hence we might consider simplifying our summer events, such as with fewer courses. Sue replied that the 3 or 4 summer events were our only regular major events with a full set of colour coded courses so we should maintain the extra effort. The events have also formed part of the DEE league table, attracting a significant entry from them.

(b) Controllers. Our list of controllers is diminishing. Three have retired (top side of 80!) and three more have been inactive for many years. We have recently gained Jim Trueman, and Marie and Clare Griffin are about to follow.

(c) Lakes 5 Day Events. Tony Wagg will shortly circulate a rota of helpers. Enquiries will be staffed by 2 people, one from MDOC and one from the day organising club to sort day specific issues. On-line entries will be open till 10pm the preceding night and there will be no allocated start times for colour-coded courses. There will be punching starts. Helpers will be allocated start times but need not stick to them if they are incompatible with their job assignment. Results will be posted on boards during the events.

(d) Autumn Series. Some officials are in place but more are needed.

(e) Future urban and associated events. In 2023 plans include Stockport and Lyme in May and Birchwood in the Autumn. Eddie will update the Stockport map. In 2024 a Manchester weekend could include Castlefield and Miles Platting.

(g) We will host the heat of the Yvette Baker Trophy in 2023,

5.2. Marketing: Hanno Rostron has agreed to take over as Facebook administrator from Nick Taylor. Matthew Snarr runs our Twitter activities.

5.3 Membership: Poppy Heap has renewed her membership. DEE are planning to hold a first aid course to which stray members of MDOC might be invited. The date is yet to be fixed.

6. Schools: Pete Hayes is working with the following new schools:-

Hazel Grove High School, Hursthead Infants School, Cheadle Hulme and Whitworth Community High School, Rochdale.

Dee have announced that they are not doing the very popular School's League this winter. This is a major blow to schools in this region, especially Fallibroome Juniors who thoroughly enjoyed the challenge it provided. Pete will work over the summer to try to see what we could offer.

Matthew Lynas (a club member) has requested a map of the Macclesfield leisure centre to use with young athletes he is coaching.

7. Performance and training: Pete Hayes has completed his final assessment as a level 2 coach but is not yet formally certified.

8. GMOA: There have been lots of POC maps requested by scouts, guides and company groups.

9. AOB:

(a) The Tameside Duck Trail. Ian Gilliver reports that a POC is to be launched on July 12th at Sunny Bank Vale in Cheshire, based on work by Ian and a PE teacher at Greenside Primary School. It is essentially a White course with 17 control posts, containing plaques designed by local children, showing ducks but also QR codes linked to GMOA and MDOC websites. Finance has been provided by Tameside and Friends of Sunny Bank Vale. Ian's reward is cake with the Mayor. Warning - too much cake can be bad for you!

(b) Access to Macclesfield Forest and possibly other United Utilities land. In recent years access for orienteering has been severely limited by environmental issues (birds, pollution, safety etc). Sue and Ian G have met forest officials to negotiate the possibility of an event for about 100 people. Watch this space.

(c) Training would-be event officials. Paul Watson organised a Zoom session on 30th June to explain the tasks involved in planning, organising and controlling events.

10. Next Meeting: The next committee meeting will be held on Monday 12th September 2022 at 7.30pm at the Griffin in Cheadle.