**Minutes of MDOC Committee Meeting 12th September 2016**

**Present:** Steve Dempsey(Acting Chairman), Dave McCann, Tony Wagg (Secretary), , Sue Birkinshaw, Kath Speak, Julie Brook, Trevor Hindle, Pete Lomas, David Wathey, Clare Griffin, Andrew Gregory, John Britton.

**Apologies:** Alan Ogden, Eddie Speak, Pete Ross.

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

**2. Matters Arising/Actions:**

(a) Document storage. Dave McCann has set up folders. Material needs to be entered.

(b) Peter Palmer Relay 2016. We failed to enter a joint team with DEE as they had already entered their own team. Rules relating to joint teams are complex. Pete Hayes has been keen for Fallibroome pupils to participate but if this is to happen next year a team needs to be organised immediately after Easter.

**3. Treasurer’s Report:** There has been little recent activity. Finances remain healthy.

**4. Future Events:**

(a) Autumn Series. Two further organisers may be required. Longford Park requires us not to cross sports pitches. Wythenshawe Park has failed to respond to requests for formal permission but informally we are told there will be no difficulty. The cafe is available for registration. There are widespread proposals for usage fees. Stockport (Bramhall and Woodbank) are planning £30 for junior only events and £60 if adults are also involved. Longford wants £48. Hence entry fees may need to be increased. The Treasurer will make a proposal, taking account of any BOF levy increases ( to be debated late October). **Action SD .**

(b) Spring Series. Chris Rostron reports that most events are set up.

(c) Teggs Nose will be the venue for a NW Night League event.

(d) Birchwood Urban. Progressing well. Leaflets are required, ideally to go in the newsletter on September 14th.

(e) Twin Peaks 2017. We still await permission. Torver Back Common seems to involve multiple and in some instances unknown landowners. The Priestly Centre has some concern that we could upset someone in a way that could prejudice their activities. At Bleathwaite the farmers have given permission but the land ownership is uncertain. Margaret Gregory has contacts from previous events and has offered to help. Alison Doyle has queried what First Aid cover is needed for a level B event. We may need to buy in cover.

(f) Goyt 2018. Clare Griffin is a member of the Peak District National Park Authority Local Access Forum and volunteered to press our request for permission at their forthcoming meeting.

(g) Watergrove. Ian Gilliver is pursuing parking options with the windfarm owners, with the view to a possible level B event.

(h) Urban Events. The consensus view was that in 2017 we should stage an event using existing maps of either Macclesfield or Stockport, with a newly mapped area such as Urmston or Irlam offered as an Urban League venue for 2018.

**5. Safety and First Aid:** A safety course has been arranged for October 17th and is fully booked. All but one future event officials are now covered and he can be designated as an assistant to a qualified planner.

Trevor Hindle highlighted the point that current courses did not give sufficient attention to the needs of urban events. This is a general problem for BOF rather than a deficiency of any particular course. A First Aid course will be arranged for an Autumn Saturday, to be provided by Stuart McNeil.

O-Safe. BOF has required all clubs to include in their constitution new wording regarding the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. The committee recognises the importance of this issue but felt it inappropriate to include paragraphs 1-3 of the BOF text in the constitution ( para 2 is a single sentence of more than 90 words length! It becomes clearer after the fifth reading). A more succinct text, capturing the spirit and principles of these paragraphs is proposed as follows:

The Club is committed to the adoption and practical implementation of the British Orienteering safeguarding policy and procedures. All members, representatives and agents of the Club are required to recognise and uphold the principles and responsibilities identified within the British Orienteering code of ethics and conduct when representing the Club in any capacity.

**6. AGM:** This will take place on Thursday October 13th at the Ladybrook Hotel in Bramhall. A free hotpot will be provided to those who have informed Pete Lomas in advance. The meeting will consider two amendments to the constitution. The first is the addition of the last paragraph of section 5 above. The second proposal is to update communication methods, removing the need to send letters to all members on some issues.

In paragraphs 8, 12 and 13 it is proposed to remove the words ‘in writing’ and to substitute ‘via the email address that the member has given to the Club’.

Following the main business of the meeting there will be a discussion of views on what the club should be doing and on the proposal to increase BOF levies and fees. Two options are given on the BOF website and these will be debated at the BOF delegate meeting on October 29th. The committee will form a view at its next meeting on October 10th.

**7. Coaching:** Coaching sessions could be run prior to our Saturday events on October 1st and 15th, subject to demand. We need to publicise these options via the website and newsletter.

**8. AOB:**

(a) Club Championship. A number of ideas were proposed. These included using just the John O Goats (Lyme) Event plus a handicap system. John Britton was reluctant to scrap completely the current formula for choosing a winner. An ‘only win once rule’? Members were invited to submit proposals for discussion at the next Committee Meeting and suitable options would then be presented at the AGM.

(b) MDOC/DEE Challenge Event. This has yet to happen and it is our turn to organise it Dave McCann agreed to consult Mike Greenwood about revising plans for using Alderley Park. **Action DMcC.**

(c) SI box safety. Current gripple methods present problems. One box was twisted off and some SI dibbers are hard to register. SI now market metal plates which can be securely attached to the box and the plate then grippled. It was agreed that ‘we’ should investigate this option – how many do we need times £8?

(d) OCAD. Trevor expressed concern that the Birchwood map has been supplied in OCAD 9 and this cannot be modified using OCAD 8. There followed an involved discussion as to what versions were held by the Club and on what basis, and what each could and could not do. It was suggested that a map in version N could be saved to version N-1, with the loss of certain features. It was agreed that Trevor and Steve in collaboration with Eddie (not present) should review our requirements. **Action (TH, SD, ES).**

(e) Victoria Baths Sportacular. Cecelia Fenerty organised our stall. Overall attendance was disappointing but 20 people expressed interest in orienteering and will receive emails. Cecelia considered a future event worth supporting at a time of the year when fewer people are on holiday.

(f) Publicity Banner. David Wathey demonstrated our new large banner which can be easily adapted to publicise our next event. It can be displayed at local events such as the Saturday series etc. This met with approval.

**9. Date of next Meeting:** 10th October 2016, at the Ladybrook Hotel.