**Minutes of MDOC Committee Meeting 9th April 2018**

**Present:** Eddie Speak (Chairman), Kath Speak, Marie Roberts, Sue Birkinshaw, David Wathey, Trevor Hindle, Tony Wagg (Secretary), Julie Brook, Ian Gilliver, Andrew Gregory, Pete Lomas, Pete Ross.

**Apologies:**, Alan Ogden, Clare Griffin, Dave McCann.

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

**2. Matters Arising/Actions:**

(a)Eddie to discuss with Alan options for future accounts. **Action continues ES.**

(b) Nestle/McCain free run scheme. Sue has updated the summer 2018 organisers notes. A non BOF member with a voucher is allowed a free run if accompanied by any paying punter. The entry slip must bear a large F to ensure that we do not pay a BOF levy on the free run.

**3. Treasurer’s Report:**  No report received this month. Pete Lomas has contacted the church treasurer responsible for our stores arrangement. Although we owe 3 years rent the church is happy to settle for a payment of £500 to bring us up to date. This deal our committee approved with enthusiasm. Our tenancy has benefits to them in addition to an income. Pete has their account details which he will pass to Alan. **Action PL.**

**4. Recent Events**

(a) Macclesfield Urban. Feedback was generally positive, with two minor complaints. Good co-operation was received from the school and local authority, and 180 seniors and 10 juniors took part. A map update is required (some gaps not visible) and un-fenced lawns suffered trespass. The committee thanked Trevors R and H for their efforts as organiser and planner.

(b) Farleton Knot (SROC event). This event was postponed from November and clashed with Macclesfield. We were concerned that this seemed to have happened without consultation and our entry might suffer. Eddie emailed Jean Payne (NW fixtures sec) and Dave McCann (NW chairman and of other fame). They were unaware of the problem. However SROC explained more. They received unexpected permission to use the area during a limited time slot. They asked Jean Payne for permission to upgrade the event (to regional from local) and she agreed on the basis that it would not affect other events. In the end we lost perhaps 10 entries from people based nearer to Farleton. NW fixtures sec has no say in local events. Independently SELOC has appealed for more informal collaboration between clubs for local events. This already happens between DEE and ourselves for the summer series.

**5. Future Events:**

(a) Eurocity Race in November 2018. YHA Castlefield has withdrawn its offer to provide a base as its fire safety license does not cover the required number of people in the building. Alternatives include the Castlefield Hotel or the railway arches. Ian Cooper has agreed to control, Eddie to plan and Liz Hamer-Davies assisted by Andrew Gregory has offered to organise. At Offerton , Paul Watson will plan, Trevor Roberts will organise but we need a grade B urban controller as yet. Sue appealed for suggestions.

(b) Summer Evening Series. During the meeting Ian Gilliver agreed to control Brereton and David Wathey to plan Alderley. Hence all officials are appointed except controllers for Lyme and Alderley. Eddie agreed to investigate how best to satisfy electrical safety requirements for Lyme. **Action ES**

(c) Bowden Duke of Edinburgh Award Group. Sue agreed in discussion with their representative that next year we would provide brief coaching prior to one of our Saturday morning spring events, after which they could venture forth on a yellow or orange course.

(d) Volunteers are sought for the following challenging activities: organiser/planner for John o’ Goats Jan 2019, co-ordinator for MDOC volunteers for the Lakes 5 Day 2018. Marie has already offered to plan the British Schools Score Champs at Heaton Park in 2019.

(e) Twin Peaks 2019. The Forestry Commission has yet to reply to our request to use Errwood.

(f) Rusland has been declared unavailable for the British Middle Distance Champs in 2020. Hence the current plan is that we stage the Northern Champs (long distance) at High Dam on the Sunday and LOC hold the Middle Distance (British) on the Saturday at a neighbouring venue such as Haverthwaite or Summerhouse Knott. Careful co-ordination will then be required! Permissions are required for High Dam and Pete Lomas offered to advise, given his previous contacts and experience.

**6. AOB:**

(a) Dogs. Sue queried whether we could enforce a ‘no dogs’ rule on areas open to the public? The conclusion was that this was governed by the landowner’s permission. Hence dogs are allowed under close control unless the landowner stipulated otherwise.

(b) Stakes-the latest hot news. Conflicting views from DEE. John Embury placed 60 controls on light weight stakes in 5 hours and highly recommends them but Jean Payne found them brittle and prone to breakage. Labels on control boxes alone were used at Macclesfield and the long distance day at the JK with no complaints.

(c) Junior volunteer of the year award. This went to Matt Fellbaum, from the very famous orienteering family. Our congratulations go to Matt and his father’s crisis management consultancy.

(d) Maprun. Pete Ross described an app for smartphones (I have heard of these but not sure what they are!) which can be downloaded free. He has set up 6 local courses covering GMOA parks and 2 street league areas where users can try a 75 minute score event via their phones. Details and a required PIN are available from Pete. You receive a beep at the start position and this is repeated if/when you arrive at subsequent ‘control’ sites. You can download to find your splits and position in relation to other competitors. The upside is you can phone a friend when lost. A limitation is that satellites cannot see under trees so the system only works in essentially open areas.

**7. Date of next Meeting:** 14th May 2018, at the Ladybrook Hotel.