

## Adaptive Snowsports Milton Keynes

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at 2pm on 11th September 2016 in the Aspen Suite, Snozone, Central Milton Keynes

**Present:** Judy Ekins (Chair), Angus MacKay (Slope Organiser), Jan Jones (Secretary), Jill Kennedy, Nina MacKay (Reception Admin), Steve Challen (Group Recruitment) Andy Wright (Equipment officer), Patrick Challen, Joshua Murphy

**Apologies:** Albert Antona (Treasurer), Hugh Crisham (Deputy Slope Organiser), Jeff Newall (Fundraiser), Jo Newall - skier representative, John Chandler (Snowboarding Rep), Andy King (Lift Operator), Peter Thorpe

1. **Minutes** of the 2015 AGM were read and agreed as a correct record : proposed by Angus seconded by Hugh and all agreed.

- **2. Matters arising** not covered elsewhere in the minutes

The independently organised trips went ahead.

- Joshua Murphy now leads the Milton Keynes Snozone adaptive ski school, responsible both for lessons and promotion of the Snozone Adaptive product at MK, reporting to Stephen Jordan head of the Snowsports School.

- A lot of the business cards have been given out particularly at a disabled event in MK but not much response and only about 20 left. Action Andy Wright to purchase another 100.

- Judy has acquired her DBS check, - she is also an approved DBS checker but needs refresher training.

### 3. Chairs Report - (Judy Ekins)

All seems to be going smoothly and thanks to Angus for organising everything.

It would be useful to know what DSUK are planning in their negotiations with Snozone, especially re-equipment. Reply from Angus – Snozone, via Joshua are having discussions with the landlord re using the original space at the top of the slope. Discussions are slow.

When people get to their recreational standard DSUK Ski School can refer them to ASMK.

Steve outlined the usual referral process to Josh. Josh said the numbers for their lessons are approx 30 per month rising to 60 peak-season. They are mostly local with addition of those training for Special Olympics. He's done a lot of marketing to build their numbers.

They have a bi-ski and some standup outriggers due to be delivered any day and have a mono ski planned for next year. Judy queried whether these outriggers can be hired like other ski equipment for recreational skiing as well as lessons.

Steve proposed and Jill seconded that Chair's report be accepted - all agreed.

### 4. Treasurer's report - (Albert Antona)

The DSUK financial year is for 13 months to 30th September 2016. Albert has most financial records and should be able to get the accounts finished fairly quickly. He's missing SnoZone's invoice for August and a few invoices from 'A M Self Storage'. – Reply Angus the AM Self Storage invoices are now available. The Snozone invoices have been requested 13/9.

Petty Cash balance after August's session was £104.33. Current account balance is £1,687.16 and the balance on the Business Reserve account is £4,214.49. Total £6005.98

Angus will provide missing invoices and explained some peculiarities with the admin and invoicing. Action: Jan to check with Albert re the accounting year and whether we should move our AGM date so that we have the prepared accounts.

Angus proposed and Andy W. seconded that Treasurer's report be accepted - all agreed.

### 5. Equipment officer report - (Andy Wright)

The equipment is mostly OK but a couple of Bi-unique skis need a bit more repair. DSUK nationally maybe ordering . Andy will check if they are ready to go ahead as we could order replacements together.

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Angus bought another Bi-unique to the store from Hemel which also has a ski for repair. The Revolution mono-ski needs a replacement ski binding, due to breakages at Hemel. There is a pair of donated fixed height outriggers need changing to be adjustable. We don't need to buy replacements for mono-ski yet, as may be able to get donated replacement skis. Judy has one which can be used if required in the meantime. Josh was asked to spread the word if anyone has race ski/skis to donate. Josh and Angus are in ongoing negotiations with Snozone re storage.

Discussed whether we should buy 1 or 2 sets of Bi-unique skis (each \$550 plus carriage) as their condition is not currently reliable and at risk of failing. Taking into account exchange rate, import duty (should be exempt as adaptive) and carriage the cost is approximately £400

**Proposal:** To buy 1 pair of adult skis and 1 pair of juniors.

Judy proposed, Andy seconded and all agreed.

**Action:** Andy to talk with Peter re sourcing Mono skis from DSUK, and to contact Steve and Rachel at DSUK in case they are due to order anything or have anything to spare. Check with them also re carriage if anyone is going to the USA.

**Action:** Angus to give Andy broken Biunique ski and Mono to repair

Angus proposed, Steve seconded and all approved the Equipment Officer's report.

**6. Slope organisers report** (Angus MacKay) with

**New enquiries + volunteers update** (Steve Challen)

Angus tabled and talked through his Report. A strong volunteer with appropriate qualifications and strength for tethering a large skier, remains a priority. Numbers are stabilising but not increasing, but Snozone's use generally also seems to be down.

Jill said that those doing BASI training who already have Alpine level 2 no longer need to do shadowing hours which removes that source of volunteers.

Training is ad-hoc as required or ASMK subsidises cost for training undertaken by a Helper.

DSUK HQ wanted stats re helpers and users to support funding applications. Nothing reported back on funding outcomes yet. Number of Helpers and Users were split into age ranges, and frequency of attendance. 33 Helpers - Age ranges: 2@ under 13yrs, 5@14-25 and 33@ over 26. Sessions Attended: 26@1-4, 9@ 5-8 and 5@9-12

New enquiries - 8 referred to DSUK and 2 came back to session, 5 direct for recreational session as not applicable for lessons, of which 2 are attending.

11 Helper enquiries with 4 attending.

(Full details in Dropbox)

Now Steve has Josh's contact details he will follow up with him regularly re referrals.

Judy proposed, Steve seconded and all approved the Slope Organiser's report

## **7. Further updates and reports:**

### **- Deputy Slope Organiser - (Hugh Crisham)**

As Deputy Slope Organiser I have not been called upon this year as Angus has not been away on a club night. My only concern about the role is that in Angus's absence for any reason, my current car is inadequate for the transport of ski equipment between MK and the lock-up. We need to have a contingency for this and I have raised the issue with Angus. 3 offers of potential vehicles. Need to load before 2pm when they close and Hugh would need to meet them there to do the loading. Primary Jo, secondary Renata and Andy W. I am happy to continue in this role for a further year.

### **- DBS and Temporary membership** (Jill Kennedy )

1) Temporary membership checks are carried out periodically. Found 1 person in April who hadn't applied but should have, but he has now moved away. If we think it is an issue the list Steve has done could be mailed to DSUK to ask for confirmation of their membership. Nina has seen most people's membership cards. Not currently considered an issue.

2) DBS checks: Risk assessment flowchart received which showed some need DBS and some the barred list check. Jill saw Steve West at Glenmore Lodge and he promised to send some DBS forms (not yet arrived) and he said he would add Jill as a checker but she still needs her own DBS done and training first. Local welfare officer details and laminated poster done for displaying but they need updating now. Well done Jill and ASMK as are probably ahead of most groups with this.

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**Action:** Jill to follow up with Steve West re DBS

**Action:** Jill to email Angus with information she needs from those who have been DBS checked and he will circulate.

#### - **Fundraising update** (Jeff Newall)

Jo has set up the ASMK local group Facebook page - at least 10 joined so far.

Submitted 3 funding applications to Santander re cost of storage but all declined.

Various other small bits of fundraising

Steve had checked a potential funding stream but it had expired

Jo reiterated that as skier rep she is happy for skiers to contact her.

Agreed focus moving forward to be funding for 2 x £400+ for Bi-unique skis.

#### - **Instructor Reps update** - nothing to update

### **8. Election of officers and exec**

All existing committee members present agreed to stand for re-election.

Re-election of exec members and committee proposed en-bloc by Angus, seconded by Andy W. and all agreed.

The Committee for 2016/17 therefore are:

Steve Challen - Group recruitment

Jill Kennedy - DBS administration, Local Group Welfare Officer

Albert Antona - Treasurer

Andy King - Lift Operator

Andy Wright - Equipment Officer

Angus MacKay - Slope Organiser

Hugh Crisham - Deputy Slope Organiser

Judy Ekins - Chair

Jan Jones - Secretary

Jeff Newall - fund raiser

Jo Newall - skier representative

Snowboarding rep: John Chandler

### **9. Future of ASMK –**

To continue as a recreational resource and have extended life as the smaller group we are. If Jeff can raise funds that will help us survive. Steve is doing a good job in going out and promoting us and we need to continue to grow the links with Josh.

If no skiers are turned away during year due to lack of helpers, that would be the ideal.

Discussed situation re lessons. We can give further improvement lessons during recreational sessions but cannot instruct from base level except in exceptional circumstances. The aim is to have provision for everyone, excluding the financial aspect.

Steve to check with Josh re any events they could double up on for promotion. **Action** Steve to contact Josh to further clarify the handover process and maintain regular contact with him to follow up re referrals.

Hemel Ski Centre adaptive group are struggling a bit as their slope costs are being increased.

The Slope's reasoning is that for a potentially busy session the group are reducing their available capacity. Was suggested the group could charge every person (including helpers) and require skiers who don't turn up to still pay. They will be checking numbers and figures and monitoring. We are more fortunate in our position with Snozone.

Angus is using a pack of rice which is dried out periodically in the oven to keep equipment dry.

### **10. AOB**

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## **10. AOB**

**Andy W:** Visited Landgraaf Ski Slope - ferry from Dover then 3 hour drive. He asked at Hemel if anyone would be interested in a weekend trip there costing about £200+ and is also asking ASMK skiers. **Action:** Andy to send the information to Angus for distribution.

**Action:** Angus to ask Josh to book a room for the next meetings and AGM – Reply e-mail sent 13/9.