



MINUTES FOR THE AUK BOARD MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
on 6 April 2022 STARTING AT 0900.

PRESENT:

Chris Crossland (**CC**) (Chairman)
Graeme Provan (**GP**)
Caroline Fenton (**CF**)
Nigel Armstrong (**NA**)
Andy Yates (**AY**)
John Ward (**JW**)
Ian Hennessey (**IH**)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Kevin Lake (**KL**)
Paul Haxell
Martin Greig

APOLOGIES

Daniel Smith (**DS**)

1. Opening

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Minutes of previous meetings

Board Meeting - 10 January 2022

Approved.

AY brought up the continued late publication of board minutes. It was agreed that GP should produce not only a summary of the main points for the wider membership but also a list of action points for the board.

4. Matters arising from minutes of previous meetings

4.1 Director vacancies

GP reported on interest in both positions. Both candidates had been invited to and were attending the meeting.

4.2 Peter Tandy Award

GP reported on the correspondence he had been having with Mike Warren.

4.3 Event measurement

IH will talk to regional delegates. He was not in favour of Google Maps By Walking but it was a difficult issue to resolve as there did not appear to be a perfect measuring tool available for use.. With BP events with no AAA, delegates would normally take a view.

4.4 New Organiser's Handbook

Action Point - AY will produce a word version of the current PDF to allow IH to amend it.

4.5 AUK Logo

Aukweb has been updated to the new logo.

AY noted Force GB no longer appeared to be selling AUK jerseys.

Action Point - AY to look at alternative providers - Martin Greig had dealt with Le Col on a similar project and may be able to assist.

CF stated AUK should have regard to the provenance of any clothing.

4.6 Disciplinary Policy

AY had produced a helpful flowchart which showed the process from start to finish. IH felt if a member was suspended, it would be better to achieve it by removing validation. That way, organisers would not have to police entrants to their events.

AY queried if there was a set point at which the informal process would stop - he suggested either on the agreement of all parties or at the point it was clearly impossible to resolve a matter informally.

Action Point: GP to tidy up existing draft prior to publishing it on the forum and website for comment. The draft should be there for at least a month prior to approval.

5. Business

5.1 Annual Awards

Helpers - Mr and Mrs Wigley for their long-standing assistance with Peak Audax events.

Services to AUK - posthumously to Damon Peacock for his services in promoting audax through his films and other work and his general support for events.

Organiser Award - Mike Wigley for running his large portfolio of calendar and permanent events and his encouragement to other organisers.

Female Merit - Ann Young for consistency over a number of seasons

Male Merit - Steve Poulton for perseverance.

Action Point: GP to advise Awards Secretary and Event Services Director

5.2 AGM - Financial Mandate

CC noted the sums had not been increased from the previous year despite inflationary pressures. NA felt it would be appropriate to increase the amounts at the next AGM.

It was resolved to approve the financial mandate.

5.3 Meeting venue

AY noted he had never attended a physical board meeting.

CF wondered if it was appropriate to reduce the number of physical, all day meetings in favour of more frequent evening teleconferences.

It was agreed the July meeting should be held via Zoom with a review at that meeting.

Action Point: GP to enquire about cancellation policy for IBIS.

5.4 Ukraine - Russia/Belarus

CC drew attention to his notes and the details of various pieces of correspondence with and from other national associations and ACP.

He noted that as it was an LEL year, the national origins of riders was particularly important.

Some concern was expressed about rider and volunteer safety at LEL.

CC asked the board for its view on participation in AUK events and more particularly LEL by Russian or Belarusian nationals.

The view was expressed that it was important for awareness that we take action and particularly in light of the latest news reports from Ukraine and the apparent propaganda from Russia.

It was felt it was insufficient to ask riders not to wear affiliated clothing or to allow people to ride without validation.

GP contacted the organisers of LEL to ascertain the current position with Ukrainian, Russian and Belarusian entrants. At that time there were no uncancelled Russian and only one uncancelled Belarusian entry.

It was resolved that no Russian or Belarusian nationals ordinarily resident in Russia or Belarus should take part in any AUK events until further notice.

5.5 Director Applications

It was agreed to arrange teleconference meetings to talk to both candidates and, if so agreed, appoint them to the board.

Action Point: GP to arrange.

5.6 Management Accounts

NA reported that income was up by £23k year on year. This reflected corresponding increases in membership and event participation.

Expenses were rising in proportion to event participation and there had also been an increase in IT spending which reflected an increase in external developer usage. Nevertheless AUK was £48 in profit for the year to date.

AUK's balance sheet showed net assets of £237,855

NA felt AUK had very healthy reserves and he remained optimistic about the current year.

IH confirmed he now had control of the dropbox payment.

5.7 IT Report

KL joined the meeting.

He reported it would no longer be practicable to support Aukweb by the end of the year.

The event entry pages have all now been built into audax.uk and were being tested prior to full roll out. This would be a major step in the project as it audax.uk will now be writing data to Aukweb, rather than just being a front page. It was a very careful process and Francis Cooke was checking what was being written into Aukweb.

The next step is to ensure that organisers are aware of the changes.

KL would like to form an organiser group to guide development of the organiser pages and avoid unnecessary cost or delay. He asked for names. IH suggested a combination of regional delegates and organisers with very few events who would have less interaction with the system.

Action Point: IH to introduce KL to the regional delegates.

The developers were looking at records management - ie the transfer of old data from Aukweb to audax.uk. This would be a fairly invisible process. At the same time, a certain amount of data cleansing could be undertaken to remove duplications etc.

KL reported that, based on usage data, over 50% of visits to the website were via mobile devices. It was important to consider the user experience for mobile users. Martin Greig said that, in his experience, websites could lose up to 50% of traffic where the mobile user experience was sub-optimal.

Development continues to be a mix of in house and professional input. KL believes that is the best course at present. His aim was to establish one system before going to the market for the next phase. The current dual system was incredibly complex to unravel. At that stage he could look at the market in terms of both ongoing support and the continued development of functionality.

CF reported the DIY process for the purchases of brevets was now ready but waiting for the implementation of Stripe. KL believed that once that process and the event entry pages are in place, it will remove a major part of the linkage between the two systems. There will need to be some consultation with the DIY organisers. JW stated he had been holding back invoices while he waited for Stripe.

KL noted there was no actual delay with implementing Stripe. CF has prepared a document for the DIY organisers which sets out the process and just needs to be circulated to them.

6. Reports

6.1 Chair

CC reported DS had now spoken to organiser of the 2019 Easter Arrow who has said he will look for the brevet cards.

Action Point: CC to respond to members and update the forum accordingly.

CC queried the wording around validation for the Bristol Glasgow Bristol event which required GPS validation which was outside the LRM rules. IH clarified the organiser had been told he could use it but not require it but suggested there may have been an element of misunderstanding which had been resolved. The organiser had then amended his website.

Action Point: IH to update wording on event pages.

CF noted there may be a wider issue around organisers using external event pages.

6.2 General Secretary

GP was asked about the Annual Reunion. He reported that the Reunion Delegates could explore a late October meeting but it was more likely they would concentrate on spring 2023.

6.3 Finance Director

NA is now working on the budget forecast into 2023. He wondered how much confidence AUK had about that period in terms of numbers.

CC felt the figures around membership and events suggested continuing growth and that this should continue with 2023 being a PBP year.

NA will base the budget on more normal times.

CC asked about subscription fees. NA felt it may be appropriate to review these before the next renewal.

6.4 Calendar Events Secretary

N/A

6.5 Permanent Events Secretary

JW noted the IT transition to audax.uk will be a major event which will inevitably create some issues and delay some payments.

He was reviewing the number of grey brevet cards as he was concerned about overstocking for non-standard distances.

6.6 Events Services

N/A

6.7 Membership

CF reported that membership numbers were once again at their highest ever level.

There are now only 250 members without an email address in their records.

The acceptance of terms and conditions was now live and no adverse responses had been received to date.

Membership promotions were now available based on setting off a temporary membership charge against part of the joining fee.

Action Point: CF to let Regional Delegates and IH know about discount codes.

6.8 Communications

CF asked about responsibility for advertising in Arrivee. It was agreed this was down to Ged Lennox.

7. Meeting Dates

Board Meeting 6 July 2022
Board Meeting 5 October 2022

8. Any other business

None

9. Closure

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 15.45

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Chair

..... 2022