THIRD COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTIETH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 14 November 2005, at 64 High Street, Linlithgow

Present: John Barrow, Paul Caban, Stephen Haley, Ben Hartman, Barry Owen

Apologies for absence were received from Brad Connor, Chris Godfree and Anthony Squire.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 12 September 2005 were approved.

2 Matters Arising

Paul was still to attend to the issue of mapping the grounds of Merchiston Castle School.

ACTION: Paul

Of non-renewers for 2005, Keith Dawson was still talking about going orienteering, although he was currently in plaster after a serious mountain-bike accident. Patricia Alston was still to be contacted, although it was appreciated that it was now a bit late for 2005 - however, attempts would be made to get the message across for 2006.

Brad had not managed to pursue his action item from the last Meeting, although he fully intended to do so, and at the latest "by the next meeting".

ACTION: Brad

Paul had obtained O-top prices, and these would be included in the next Newsletter. It wasn't clear if these were for Trimtex.

There was still a selection of sizes of T-shirts left, from small to large, but it wasn't known if there would be enough of the right size for Shaun, Stewart and Iain.

3 Chairman's Report

Paul reported that Ann had volunteered the use of the Haley house for the Club's Christmas Party on Saturday 10 December.

At the Junior Training session held in conjunction with the recent CATI at Mortonhall, maps had been given to the Juniors for free - the Club would finance this.

The suggestion to investigate hiring Woodlands in Kingussie for a possible Club Weekend in the Autumn of 2006, maybe on the weekend of the 11-Person Relay and a SOL, had not yet been followed up. (This would be the second weekend in September, the 8th-10th.)

ACTION: Paul

Paul had attended ESOC's 40th Birthday ceilidh on 12 November, as a representative of the Club. This item prompted some discussion of the next Burns Night celebration.

Efforts should be made to get a Club Running evening going.

4 Stephen

Stephen was concerned that he and Brad had not yet met up, and the preparation of the Club's Welcome Pack had not started. It was pointed out that the BOF website advertised large posters available for publicity purposes.

5 Secretary's Report

John mentioned that there had been an approach from Duncan Coombs of EUOC, asking for permission to use several of the Club's areas for their Night Training sessions being held on alternate Wednesdays. The areas included Dechmont Law, Archerfield, Mortonhall, Kings Buildings and Colinton Dell. The Meeting agreed to the use of these areas, with the proviso that access permissions be obtained properly. Paul pointed out that the first such session, at Hillend on 9 November, had been quite long and physically hard and that, if EUOC were to invite other Clubs' members along, it should be clarified what courses would be provided and their degree of difficulty. John would contact Duncan with details of whom to obtain permissions from, and commenting on Paul's point.

ACTION: John

John asked if the Club's tent had been repaired satisfactorily after the SOA Championships, and was assured that it had been.

John mentioned that he would need a cheque for £30 to pay for the Club's BOF subscription for 2006.

6 Treasurer's Report

Ben reported that all bills had now been paid for the SOA Championships weekend. It was expected that there would be an overall surplus of £2077. The responsibility for dispersal of this sum was the ESOA's, although the Club was free to make recommendations. For instance, in line with the 6-Days suggestion that some of the surplus from this year's Event might be retained for use towards Development, the ESOA might like to consider a similar suggestion.

There were still some bills to pay for the Night Champs/SOL6 Weekend.

The map of Norman's Law (shown at the Meeting) was considered quite acceptable, so it was agreed to pay for it.

It was still hoped that Lorna would obtain some sort of Club flag to fly on the Club tent. Paul would speak to her.

ACTION: Paul

It seemed to be the case that most organisations were now paying travelling expenses at a rate of 20p per mile (rather than 15p). It was agreed that the Club should follow suit.

An e-mail had been received from Scott Fraser, applying for a Club grant of up to £200 towards his expenses incurred in attending international events over the summer. The Meeting agreed to this request, provided he submitted an article for the Newsletter.

7 Newsletter

Barry reported that he was on track to produce a further issue in time for Christmas. Some material was already ready.

Paul suggested that, in the section on Results, some details of each event could be included. Barry agreed, with the proviso that he would need to depend on others if this was for events he had not actually attended.

It was suggested, and agreed, that a copy date of 30 November be set for this issue. John would provide a label set, as well as a paper copy of the up-to-date Address List.

ACTION: John

8 Events

8.1 11-Person Relay - 25 September

A team had taken part in this event, and it was really good for Club morale. It was suggested that next year's event be highlighted at the appropriate time.

8.2 SOA Night Champs/SOL 6 - 8/9 October

There had been a slight problem with various formats used for the Results, but otherwise the Weekend had gone well. The Controller had made some pleasant comments.

8.3 CompassSport Trophy Final - 16 October

A team had travelled to Burnley to take part in this event and, although it had been one person short from an ideal minimum composition, the event had been enjoyed by those who went. The Club finished last, out of 10 teams. FVO had won.

8.4 Autumn CATI event - 12 November

Paul reported that there had been a good turnout at this event, held the previous Saturday afternoon at Mortonhall. There had been approx. 20 Juniors and 30 Seniors. The ESOKids had used the event for their latest Training session, and they had not been charged for use of the maps.

8.5 Club Championships - 18 December

Ben's original choice of Dalkeith Park was not now available, so he suggested the use of Yellowcraig. ELO would be approached.

8.6 SOSOL - 26 February 2006

Graeme Ackland had agreed to Plan, and Brad would Organise. John had still to write to the landowners, but had managed to draft a letter which he would show to Paul after the Meeting.

ACTION: John

8.7 Spring CATIs

Paul would liaise with Janet Clark, with a view to having a couple of dates for the Club included in the Programme. It might be possible to use Calder Wood as a venue for one of them.

ACTION: Paul

8.8 CompassSport Trophy - 9 April 2006

Ben was not now keen on being involved with this event, and no-one else had volunteered to take it on. It was felt that the Club had been quite committed to events in the past few months, so a break would be good. Paul would liaise with the Fixtures Secretary.

8.9 SOL 2007

Apparently, there were still two dates uncommitted in this Series (4 March and 22 April). Owing to (a) oversight, and (b) non-attendance at a crucial meeting, the Club had not originally applied for a date in the Series. Paul, in his capacity as SOA Fixtures Secretary, would pencil the Club in, probably for the later date.

ACTION: Paul

9 Socials

The Club was still without a Social Secretary. It was recognised that there were really two requirements, one to coordinate activities for families with young children, and another for adults' "nights out". Fiona suggested that she would be able to contribute to the first, and felt that a lot could be done using e-mail.

10 ESOA

The Area's AGM had been held at The Steading on 25 October, and a largely unchanged Committee had been elected.

John had earlier described the Area Committee's attempts to recruit a Junior Development Officer for the Edinburgh area. These attempts had begun back in 1998, but until recently had borne no fruit despite a couple of hopeful signs. However, Becky Carlyle had recently come to Edinburgh, ostensibly to start a degree course at the University, but which she had withdrawn from quite an early stage. She had had some experience of coaching Juniors in the Oxford area, although she did this in a voluntary capacity. She had been in touch with people in the ESOA (mainly Janet Clark and Kirsteen Kershaw), and had come to a meeting with several of the ESOA Committee to discuss a possible Contract. An amended Contract had now been agreed and signed, and Becky was already making contacts with a view to starting work in a couple of Primary Schools this term.

The Area Committee would next meet on 22 November. Items for discussion would include the Spring 2006 CATI Series, as well as the remainder of the current SOSOL Series, and preliminary considerations for the 2006/07 SOSOL Series.

11 A.O.C.B.

An e-mail had been received from Donald Petrie, asking Clubs to try to decide on how the surplus (quite substantial) from the 2005 6-Day Event should be divided. So far, no decisions had been made on the apportionment for the Day 1 Clubs, although Paul pointed out that there had been significant help from several English clubs, including Norfolk OC, and that this club in particular should be offered a share of the day's surplus. INT will need to agree any share-out method with ELO, KFO and EUOC, and whether the involvement of specific major officials should be recognised in any method. The question of the retaining by the 6-Day Company of a portion of the overall surplus should also be addressed.

Barry asked if anyone would be interested in taking the NEOC Times archive off his hands. Paul would take it away, but an item should be included in the next Newsletter advertising its existence.

Paul mentioned that 2008 would be a busy year for the SOA Clubs, with the BOF Championships coming to Scotland, and the SOA Championships returning to the ESOA. (This latter item should be raised at the next ESOA Committee Meeting.)

Paul mentioned that he had seen a new smaller-hooped tent that ESOC had bought, which would be a lot lighter than the Club's older square tent. He would try to get some prices (with a view to getting one for Interløpers). In addition, we could probably do with some more odds and ends of equipment. Fiona mentioned a folding table and chairs, as used at the SOL, and it was known that Sheila Strain had something similar. Paul would investigate.

ACTION: Paul

It was mentioned that EUOC would be hosting the 2006 BUSA Relay Championships at Kinneil on 12 March.

Barry and Fiona were thanked for their hospitality.

The next Committee Meeting would be held at 25 Newmills Road, Balerno, on Monday 16 January 2006 at 7.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

John Barrow – 1 December 2005