FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTIETH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 16 January 2006, at 25 Newmills Road, Balerno

Present: John Barrow, Paul Caban, Brad Connor, Stephen Haley, Chris Godfree, Ben Hartman, Barry Owen

Apologies for absence were received from Anthony Squire.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 14 November 2005 were approved.

2 Matters Arising

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

ACTION: Paul

Brad had not been able to undertake his action item from the last but one Meeting, but would now arrange a meeting with Stephen to try to agree on the content of a Welcome Pack.

ACTION: Brad

Paul would speak to Keith Dawson about his membership renewal. We would wait with bated breath to see if Patricia Alston would join as an SOA member for 2006.

Paul had obtained O-top prices, and these had been included in the recent Newsletter.

He had also enquired of the University as to the possibility of hiring Woodlands at Kingussie for a Club Weekend on 8-10 September. However, the University was not taking bookings this far in advance, which made one suspect that they possibly had ideas for disposal of the property. It was agreed to hang fire for a while so see if a booking could be made later in the Spring.

A series of monthly Running Nights had begun on 9 January, to continue on every second Monday of each month. Unfortunately, Paul had not been back in circulation in time to issue an e-mail advertising the event.

Fiona had e-mailed Club members describing plans for a Burns Night, and soliciting offers to host it. Unfortunately, so far she had had only one reply (in the negative).

Paul reported that Lorna had found a website advertising banners and poles which looked quite suitable. A 5-metre flexible pole would cost £22, and a 4-metre coloured flag would be about £80. The Committee were encouraged to look at the website and comment - Paul would circulate the web address.

Scott Fraser was given £200 towards his expenses in attending international events during 2005. However, so far he had yet to submit an article for the Newsletter.

It was reported that a collapsible folding table had been bought. Stephen mentioned that his family also possessed one, which could probably be borrowed for Club events.

3 Chairman's Report

Paul had nothing further to add, other than matters which would naturally come up under other Agenda items.

4 Secretary's Report

John mentioned the article published in Score regarding possible alterations in the organisation of the next 6-Day event. and there followed some discussion. It was agreed that any responses should come from individuals, and that no formal Club response would be needed.

He had received a batch of certificates for the 2005 SOL Series, and would arrange to distribute them. He had informed Barry by e-mail, for inclusion of the list in the Newsletter.

TAY (in the person of Dave Prentice) had approached the Club with a view to extending the map of Glenearn & Berryknowe. More discussion ensued under Mapping.

It was agreed that the Club should enter the CompassSport Trophy for 2006 - the deadline was 20 January.

ACTION: John

5 Treasurer's Report

Ben reported that a final cheque for the SOA Championships proceeds had been given to Janet Clark, the ESOA Treasurer. He pointed out that, consequently, the Club's bank balance was now quite a bit lower. Hence, he would appreciate INT's share of the profit fairly soon.

Most bills had now been paid for the Night Champs/SOL6 Weekend. However, John had had a letter from BOF, reminding the Club that the BOF levy had not yet been paid for the Night Championships. Ben would arrange to settle the account.

There was some discussion on the method to derive a reasonably fair proportion of the profit for both the SOA Championships and for the Club's day at the 2005 6-Day Event. There had been suggestions that some of the money should be retained by the 6-Day Company for Development, and this suggestion was echoed in relation to how the ESOA should disperse the SOA Championships proceeds.

There was some urgency to agree on the method for the 6-Day profit, since the Company was meeting on 23 January to decide on a final distribution. It was agreed to consult the other Day 1 Clubs (and to keep in mind that Norfolk O.C.'s contribution should be recognised).

ACTION: John

The question of dispersal of the SOA Championships profit would be discussed at the forthcoming ESOA Meeting. Similarly, agreement should be sought with all the organising Clubs on a fair distribution.

John asked if he could have a cheque for £52 to BOF for two new members. In addition, the ESOA had asked for the usual £5 contribution towards the SOSOL coordination, as well as a sum of £50 for the area's Junior Squad. Ben would attend to the latter when he had managed to obtain a new cheque-book.

6 Stephen

Stephen and Brad had still to meet up to discuss the composition of the Club's Welcome Pack. It was felt that each Pack should not cost more than £2.50-£3.00, and it was agreed that the Club would pay these costs.

Stephen would bring his own Welcome Pack to the Club's CATI on 28 January.

There was some discussion on the form of support that the Club could offer its Juniors. The most tangible would be in the form of finance, such as paying for entry fees to events like the Scottish Schools, the Jamie Stevenson Trophy and the Inter-Regionals. It might be possible to organise transport as well, although the question of adult drivers needing to obtain a Disclosure might complicate the issue.

7 Newsletter

Barry would send out an e-mail, advertising the Closing Date for submissions for the next issue of the Newsletter. It was agreed that this be 28 February, with the intention to publish the issue in early March. It was also agreed that an up-to-date copy of the Club Address List be distributed with this issue.

Barry agreed to give Paul some spare copies of the recent issue for the Club's CATI on 28 January. Barry thanked all contributors, particularly Paul.

It was mentioned that the expanded nature of the Results reporting was a welcome feature of the Christmas issue.

8 Events

8.1 Club Championships - 18 December

Paul offered thanks to Ben for his efforts in staging this event. Ben was a little disappointed at the turn-out.

8.2 ELO Festive Frolic

Stephen mentioned how much he had enjoyed this event, and wondered if the Club could arrange similar events in the future. This was agreed in principle, but it was recognised that the organisational load was likely to be a bit higher.

8.3 SOSOL - 26 February 2006

Arrangements for this event were proceeding. John had heard from landowners representing 3 of the 4 main parts of the area, all positive. Norma Coutts had agreed to control the event.

Following discussion between the SOA Fixtures Secretary and the Competitions Convener, it had been agreed to incorporate the Scottish Round of the CompassSport Trophy into the event. Brad was directed to the BOF website to obtain the Rules for the Round. It was agreed that the Club would pay the entry fees for Club members.

8.4 Spring CATIs

Paul was organising an event on 28 January at Dalkeith Park. Ken would be staging a further event in early April, in Holyrood Park. Paul was hoping to arrange another in the grounds of Kings Buildings during May. He mentioned that a person within the University had been identified for liaison purposes.

8.5 2006 Street-Os

Paul would try to identify the usual suspects to put on these events. Ben would be happy to organise one based on his house, provided someone could be found to prepare a map of the area.

ACTION: Paul

8.6 SOSOL 2006/07

Paul had not yet been able to select dates for this Series. However, it was agreed that the Club should be looking for a date before Christmas 2006, because of its commitments in the first half of 2007. There was speculation that Archerfield could be the venue, although there was also our new map of Calder Wood available. Parking for the latter area would need to be carefully considered.

8.7 SOL 2007

It was pointed out that it would soon be time to be looking for an Organiser and a Planner for this event, scheduled for 22 April 2007. An area would also need to be identified, and it was suggested that somewhere nearer the Central Belt would be nice, if not further south.

More generally, several Club members were involved in other events in the near future. Colin Eades would be controlling the 2006 SOA Relays, while Dave Godfree was planning the BUSA Relays at Kinneil. In addition, Andy Kitchin was rumoured to be planning the BUSA Individual, probably at South Achray. Ben was somewhat concerned that reasonably commercial entry fees should be charged for the BUSA Relays.

9 Mapping

It was mentioned that, following an ESOC initiative, a quote had been obtained for mapping the Riccarton site, and that Interløpers had been invited to contribute to this venture. Ben had agreed the details of the quote.

As mentioned earlier, TAY had been in touch with a proposal to extend the map of Glenearn & Berryknowe to the north-west. The appropriate landowners had agreed to this suggestion. It was also mentioned that the wooded area on the existing map would need re-mapping. The suggestion was that TAY would be given free use of the map, but that Interløpers would retain copyright.

Graeme was planning to extend the Blackford Hill map by including the recently filled-in quarry area above the Council depot. ESOC had agreed to this, and would provide free use of the area for Interløpers.

Paul had spoken to ELO about Newhailes, in the Musselburgh/Newcraighall area. ELO had prepared their own map of the area, but there was some feeling that it would benefit from a professionally prepared map. However, the area would probably only be suitable for local events, so this might not be such an important issue.

10 Equipment

As reported earlier, a blue folding table had been purchased.

It was pointed out that some more chainable mini-kites were needed (even though Stephen had found one in the Buckstone area). It was suggested that a longer wire would be a good idea. There were sufficient padlocks and kites available. Chris would help out with this. (These units were only of use for Street-Os and some local events.)

11 ESOA

The Area Committee would next meet on 7 February. It was hoped that there would be a report on the activities of the JDO, Becky Carlyle, which could be communicated to the next Club Committee Meeting.

It was mentioned that the EUOC "Fight with the Night" series was continuing, with approx. 15-20 participants each night.

12 A.O.C.B.

There was no further business to discuss.

Ben and Heather were thanked for their hospitality.

The next Committee Meeting would be held at 50 Buckstone Road on Monday 27 March at 7.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.49pm. John Barrow – 20 January 2006