

32nd AGM DSUK - 25th September 2010

The Snow Centre, St Albans Hill, Hemel Hempstead

Present: Lisa Hall (Chairman), Robbie Young (Vice Chair) Paul Masters (Treasurer)

Joe Broussard, Don Brind, Fiona Young (CEO), Sarah Bennett, Sophie Wood, Ruperta Melville, Nick McDonald Nethercott (Accounts), Dave Chugg, Steven West, Rachel Easton, Jane Stevens, Keira Young, Nicholas Hatherley, Dave Whitehead, Mike Todd, Danny Atkins, Rona McDade, Susan Hall, Tom Hall, Chris Sykes, Eileen Knowles, Frances Knowles, Amanda Morely, Online, John Currie (Secretary) John Saffell, Philip Hall

1. **Apologies** – Andrew Lockerbie, Jeremy Wood, Malcolm Davidson, Jo Lewis, Anthony Coulon, Stuart Walsworth, Calum Finlayson, Louise Chard, Jeff Hodgson, Jayne Dafforn, Emma Garner, Pamela Jones, Martin Brown, Steven Cairoli, John Bourne, Christopher Newman, Ann Lewis, Susan Gibson, Heidi Cox, S Mills, Sam Gosland, Brian Richardson, Kate Biggen, Willie McCleod, Adrian Carey, Carol Steinberg, Lorraine Dodd, James Whitley, Chris Jones, Ed Jones, Alison King, Penny Riches, Fred Hargreaves, Julia Blenkin, Spencer Prattam, Chris Nesbitt, N Peardon, Polly Walker, David Kingswood,, Tony Yankunas, Jan Williams, Alan Burchett, Lisa Cain, Tom Nicholson, Vanessa Willson, L Drumgold, A Fletcher, Neil Moore, K McNaughton, J Chestnutt, Robin Maidment, Felicity Duder
2. Minutes of 31st AGM – Proposed by Paul Masters seconded Danny Atkins
3. Matters arising from the those minutes – None

4. Report from Trustees

4.1 Chairman Report (The attached report prepared by Lisa Hall was read) There were no questions.

LH – At last year's AGM I reported that we were optimistic for the coming year, and our optimism was well founded. The price that staff had to pay was huge and credit must go to a fantastic team of people that have taken us to the next level. Thank you to everyone that stuck through the last 18 months.

Our objectives for the year were all achieved; you only have to look what is going on here at the Snow centre and in other centres around the country to see what a year it has been.

We have been establishing partnerships with other bodies like Crystal ski, which is a learning curve for all of us although very positive and we are forming relationships at other corporate levels, one of which is with our Management Development Programme, which is mutually beneficial

This year will continue to be a year of new links and foundations

4.2 Treasurers report (The attached report prepared by Paul Masters was read)

4.2.1 – Adoption of accounts 2008 – 2009

At last year's AGM the accounts weren't audited however we did have the discussion that we would have a thumping loss - £98K. The only highlight was we had reserves which didn't drive us under

LH – Adopts the accounts

SWest seconded

All in favour

4.2.2 – Report on Accounts 2009 -2010 – accounts are with auditors.

The main highlights are

- Total donation for 09/10 was £570K – ten years ago it was £125K

This figure included £207K of unrestricted income and £362K of restricted income which are fantastic figures

- Last year we spent £128K running the ski school network – ten years ago it didn't merit a line in the accounts
- Last year the team spent £210K, they received £215K. Four years ago; which was another Paralympic year we spent just £40K
- Last year we spent £95K on fundraising – ten years ago we spent £21K

For the growth and professionalism of the charity these are great comparisons. We will put the audited accounts onto the website as soon as they are available.

LH – Proposal – We need to submit the accounts before we have another AGM. I propose that the membership gives leave to allow the trustees to approve the accounts?

DB – seconds with no abstentions

4.2.3 – Appointment of auditors

PM - A thorough audit is very expensive and if we don't get a reduction for the next year we should research other auditors

Tom Hall – what do they charge?

PM about £6K – other charities with a £75K turnover pay £1500

LH – the Board Propose to put audit to tender

All in favour with no abstentions

JC – Are there specific Charity accountants?

PM – there are and the one we have in Inverness is one of those, however we don't appear to have received any help from them. We can put out to tender across the country

5. CEO report (The attached report prepared by Fiona Young was read)

The staff put in a remarkable effort. We lost a key member of staff. Amy King left and it was identified that we needed to split Amy's roles. Ruperta was taken on as Grants and Trusts writer and Sarah Bennett was taken on as our events fundraiser with Sophie in a joint role as Local Groups co-ordinator. It has been great that they have achieved what they have achieved.

Huge thanks to Rachel for developing the ski schools across the country. With Dave at Castleford and Manchester, Keira in the Central Belt and Nick at Hemel and with two new centres opening next month in Tamworth and Milton Keynes we have all the indoor centres covered

Two other members of the team are here – Dave Chugg is administrator and team manager for the BDST. Jane Stevens, coach for the team. Between them they achieved 5 medals in the world cup circuit

Huge thank you to the team for last year!

6. 2011 subscriptions

Our membership fee has not been increased for many years and we are asking your permission to propose to agree subscription increase for 2010/11.

LH – We have to agree this now as the next AGM is too late for the start of the membership next year

JB – What's included in the fee – what do we get for our money?

FY – Membership benefits are being researched as we speak and we hope to have a good selection of benefits to offer our members. There are the obvious yearbook and activity brochures and our quarterly newsletters and most importantly third party liability

JB – Could that be included in the proposal? We need a clear package that can be put forward

DB – we have a figure in mind – what would be the upper limit? Up to £40 for example

PM – Up to £40 – happy to work within the constraints

AM – Where does the money go? Does it go back to the local group?

PM – yes it does through salaries and insurance

AM – if it will be increased can it go up more to put into equipment

FY – if you need equipment we can ask Roo to write to anyone that you identify as a possibility

JB – Can that go into the proposal package also?

LH

- Proposal that any increase can be capped at £40
- Wish to review the real look at subscriptions – and the benefits for being a member and produce as an easily understandable leaflet
- Local groups would like us to anticipate what they would like to receive money for and get support from our team to get help with that

All agreed – no abstentions

7. Fundraising Report (The attached report prepared by Sarah Bennett was read)

To maximize our funds we need to extend our events calendar and buy more places on organised events. We also need to promote our events and we will do this tirelessly. We need everyone to help us promote events through any avenue. We are in a really positive place with events
We've seen a massive increase in general donations.

We have designed new leaflets with a call to action saying 'we want you to do this and you can do it this way'

AM – is there anything that we can out on the radio

KY – It's very expensive to do. Local voluntary radio is the only way to do it free

FY – Our Twitter and Facebook are updated weekly

FY – Our collaboration with Crystal raised £27K this year that has all been re-invested to help to run the programme this year. We have delivered collecting tins, leaflets and pull up banners to Crystal which will be en route to overseas resorts for the start of the season.

CS – Merchandising – people always ask for things to purchase but there is no payment facility online

FY – We did look into this and it is very expensive for paypal, however that is not to say it will not be available in the future.

SB – Knowing there is a demand for merchandise it will be something we go back to, however at present we don't have the funds to outlay.

7.1 Appraisal of present state & forward look

(The attached report prepared by Ruperta Melville was read)

8. Election of new committee members

There are two ways to become a trustee, to be appointed and to be elected by the membership.

Jeremy Wood was resigning as a Trustee. Jeremy has been the performance director of the BDST for several years now and we wanted a proper hand over so Jeremy has agreed to be appointed for a year while we look for a replacement

We have had no legal background on the board for over a year. Chris Sykes has been appointed for two years in this role

LH – I (Lisa Hall) was appointed 5 years ago and I have been re-appointed by the board

Robbie Young was appointed 5 years ago and has been re-appointed by the board

I report that Don Brind is resigning as a trustee, although staying as an observer.

The nominations by the membership are for Mike Todd and Andrew Lockerbie. Mike Todd is asked to leave the room.

MT – leaves

There are 52 nominees by proxy for both Andrew and Mike

All in favour of Mike Todd being elected as Trustee – unanimous – 52 plus show of hands in room 25

All in favour of Andrew Lockerbie being elected as Trustee – unanimous – 52 plus show of hands in room 25

AOB – Peter Flanagan passed away 11th September after 8yrs of Parkinsons. He was a member of BSCD, Uphill and DSUK. He retired at 55 and devoted his life to sports for the disabled. A very sad loss

JB – Also John Meyer died suddenly. He represented DSSS for many years and will be greatly missed

DB Record thanks of the leadership to Fi, Lisa, Paul, Robbie and others.

Meeting adjourned at 14.40