

Minutes of the Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Northern Kite Group
held on 18th. January 2009 at The St Thomas's Church Hall, Moorside Oldham

Trophy Winners

There were No entries for either of the Best Kite competitions

Open Altitude Sprint (Beacon Park) Neil Edwards sent to him in his absence

Ladies altitude Sprint (Beacon Park) Mary Jones Presented by John Welborn

Present

Ron Ogden (Honorary President), John Welborn (Secretary), Mary Jones
(Treasurer), Dazzz Daryl Smith (Editor) Karen George (Honorary Auditor),

Dave Bleasdale , Josie Bretherton, John Braidwood,
Paul and Hilary Catchpole, Bernard Crick, Ken Cain, Dave Green
Frank & Jennifer Hardman, Richard and Kath Hewitt, Dave Holt, Sally Humpage,
Fiona & Aled Lewis, Peter & June Lightfoot , Kevin Mullarkey, Elsie Ogden,
Geoff and Ann Othick Jim & Vanessa Potts, Stephen Ransom, Colin Savage,
Fred Senior, Dave Stead, Jim & Carol Simpson, Raymond & Sheila Smith,
Simon & Julia Tebbutt, Marie Welborn, Margaret & Gene Watson, Gwen Williams,
Brian Williamson

(This is the list of members who signed in. The 44 present met the quorum required to conduct business. Members who are under 18 are not counted in the determination of the quorum)

Apologies

Enid Knowles (Chairman of the Group), Harry and Pat Allick, Rodney Burrows,
Chrissy and Nigel Bailey, Joe and Flo Barnes, Beryl Black, Ken Bretherton ,
Dennis Chappell, David Gibbons, Rodger Dawson, Neil Edwards,
Dennis and Pat Emslie, Keith Proctor and Lorna Carpenter ,
Phil and Lynn Howden, Peter Fisher, Selwyn and Joan Forster, Rod Jones,
Mike Lewis, Peggy Lever, Ian Parkes, Dorothy Ransom, Denis and Janet Riley
Dave and Elaine Shakespeare, , Jock and Peter Walker, Mark Welborn and Zoe Lee,
Vince and Cheryl Wilson, Gwil & Lena Williams

Chairing the AGM

In the absence of Enid Knowles the Group Chairman the members appointed John Welborn (Group Secretary) to Chair the meeting.

proposed Dazzz Smith **Seconded** Margeret Watson that John Welborn
(Secretary) be appointed to Chair the Annual General Meeting.
passed unanimously

John made a statement to the meeting on behalf of Enid . Taking account of her health problems Enid wished it to be known that she was prepared to stand for re election as Chairman or to stand down this time depending on the members wishes. Everyone present wished her to stand again for re election.

Report of the Committee

John outlined the years' activities and how successful the Festivals had been despite the bad weather , especially Beacon Park

John asked **Jim Potts** to report on the Harewood Events for 2009

The Festival is on for 30th.& 31st. May 2009 with camping on the North Lawn from Friday. The NKG will receive £200 donation for attending this event.

Jim Potts reported on his discussions with St Helens's about Kite events at their Festival on 4th. and 5th July 2009 . The positive points are that camping is available on site a donation of £200 to funds and a variety of other activities are taking place, also. the Council were very keen to have kiteflying at the festival.

A site visit made it clear that the flying areas had trees everywhere and considerable care and strict time tabling would be needed by the flyers . Invitations to attend would need to be restricted mainly to NKG members.

Members were asked whether the Club should accept the invitation despite the obvious problems with the flying sites.

It was agreed that the Club should support it this year and decide what to do next year based on the experience this time.

Jim Potts reported that he was now obtaining tickets direct for Woodvale on 1st and 2nd August and full details would be published in the Magazine .

Dave Holt reported that dates for his Festivals were not yet decided

Note A few days after the meeting the Morecambe Festival date was decided as 19th. July 2009.

It was noted that the Wirral and Beacon Park dates clashed again but after approaching both Councils it was not possible to change either of the dates.

Editor's Report

Dazz gave a short report and apologised for absence of one magazine. He stated he would issue a small magazine after the AGM and a spring issue in April. He thanked all those who contributed articles and photos over the year.

Treasurers Report / Annual Accounts

Mary reviewed the accounts. The healthy state of the finances was due to the donations received by the Club . Reserves are very healthy and are needed to keep the club sustained.

The full audited accounts version was available for inspection at the meeting.

The accounts had been audited by Karen George

The reserves had increased again despite spending more money during the year. The AGM lunch 2008 was offered free ; toilets had to be hired at Otterspool for Light Up the Sky (due to Pub closure for refurbishment) and half the Beacon Park auction proceeds were given to Light Up the Sky fund for Children in Need,

Proposed:- Dave Stead

Seconded:- Margeret Watson

The Accounts for 2008 be adopted.

Passed unanimously

Future Direction of the Club

Association with Dave Holt Festivals & Kite Collective

It was pointed out that the Club receives a donation if sufficient members attend the events. Dates yet to be decided

Festivals 2009

Beacon Park Festival –6th/7th. June

Chester Festival – 19 / 20th. September 2009 (this has been confirmed recently)

. They are organised by Local Councils with our guidance.

Wakefield Festival 27th. September 2009 Heath Common (organised by Faceless) it was cancelled last year but is to go ahead in 2009

Alan Poxon had asked that we bring the **Bolton Abbey Festival** on 3rd/ 4th October 2009 to members attention .

A discussion took place about the A1 Blooms Festival this year at Driffield on 4th.and 5th. May. In the past the Club has treated this as just another Festival and provided public liability insurance for members attending it.

Flying sites for Fly ins

The Club pays Wakefield Council a fee of £32 for a licence to fly at Pontefract Racecourse.

A discussion took place about fly ins and other commitments

There was a discussion about having more twin flying sites to cut down on travelling Currently the Christmas dinner fly ins and the OSOW fly ins have twin sites.

It felt that the reduction in travelling should be considered against the possibility of fragmenting the Club activities.

More flying sites should be sought on the eastern side of the Pennines. John pointed out that the majority of the membership lived around the area of Liverpool, Leeds and Manchester

It was proposed that we have November and February added to October and December as twin location fly ins.

Proposed Gwen Williams **Seconded** by Dave Green
carried by overwhelming majority

The venue for the fly in on 15 November 2009 was discussed and different views were expressed about New Brighton or Beacon Park therefore a vote was taken as follows

Beacon Park	20
New Brighton	10

Therefore Beacon Park was chosen as the venue for the November fly in.

A discussion was held on the venue for the next AGM . Newton Heath is unlikely to be available again . The St Thomas's Church Hall Moorside Oldham was considered to be suitable unless a venue with better parking could be found.

Club Fly In List 2008 - 2009

2009

- 18th. Jan AGM Moorside Oldham
- 15th Feb New Brighton and Pontefract
- 15th. Mar Roundhay
- 19th April Crosby
- 17th. May Pontefract
- 30th / 31st. May Harewood Festival
- 6th/7th June Beacon Park Festival
- 21st. June Fleetwood
- 12th. July Ainsdale
- 19th July Morecambe Festival (date only known after AGM)
- 15th/ 16th.August Bolton le Sands two day fly in
- 19th. / 20th. Sept Chester Festival
- 27th. Sept Wakefield Kite Festival
- 4th October Taylor Park, St Helens
- 11th.Oct OSOW Otterspool and Pontefract
- Light Up The Sky (date to be Confirmed) possibly 18th. October
- 15th Nov Beacon Park plus another site to be decided
- 13th. Dec Xmas Fly-in Stainland & Otterspool -

2010

- 17th Jan AGM provisionally Moorside Oldham
- 21st Feb New Brighton and Pontefract
- 15 / 22nd. Mar Roundhay

The acceptance of the list was

Proposed by:- Mary Jones **Seconded by:-** Jim Potts

Passed with an overwhelming majority

Public Liability Insurance

The Zurich Public Liability insurance Policy for a member to fly anywhere in the UK on their own has been set up with around 81 members taking part.

It was stressed that it is important that members respond quickly to the Secretary when asked to renew the insurance otherwise the insurance policy could be lost.

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 implementation

John gave an update as follows

Start date is now October 2009 and the ISA taking barring decisions from 20th January 2009

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 defines a child as a person under 18

Guidance on implementation is due in Spring 2009

A one off fee for registration is now set at £64 and umbrella group administration fees will be additional to this. Voluntary group members are free but still pay an administration . fee to the umbrella body. Enid 's contact can do it very cheaply.

Note a "volunteer" on changing to a paid job will pay the full fee retrospectively.

The committee is asking again for enabling powers from the AGM to make rules when the guidance is published .

Such rules to be ratified or otherwise at the next AGM or a Special General Meeting .

Proposed Dave Stead **Seconded** Josie Bretherton **that**

The committee be given special powers to change the Club rules as they believe necessary to comply with the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 .

The changes made under these powers will only continue until the next AGM, or a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, where the rules will be ratified, amended or withdrawn. If necessary legal advice will be sought.

Passed by an overwhelming majority

Safety

Height Limits and Rules of Air

John Welborn made the following reminders to members

General rule maximum height 60 metres

5km from an airport maximum height 30 metres Otterspool is less than 5km from an Airport

It should be noted that these rules apply to kites no matter what sizes or weights they are.

Height Clearance Permission to fly above 60 metres

John Welborn reported on correspondence with CAA

Height Clearance Permission does not create restricted air space.

Aircraft can cross the site below the height clearance limit provided they maintain safe separation above any kites flying **at the time**. (this means 500 feet separation)

The NOTAM is only a warning to pilots about kite flying and they have a legal responsibility to check them.

This has been confirmed in writing by the CAA.

Jim Potts suggested an item is included in the magazine and in the pack for new members.

It should be noted that the **Height Clearance Permission** does not allow kites to enter cloud and requires there to be good visibility.

It is the responsibility of **both** the pilot and the kite flyer to prevent an incident.

We need to keep a good look out for aircraft and should report what we consider to be unsafe actions by pilots .

Risk Assessment

The following Risk Assessment has been used for those Councils and others that ask for it and is based on the principle that simplest is best . (*one supplied by the Sunderland Festival 2008 organisers was used as a model*)

Northern Kite Group

Kite Flying is regulated by the Air Navigation Order 2005 and the Civil Aviation Authority

Extract from NKG Constitution

Section 9 Safety

*9.1 All members should act courteously and responsibly when flying.(If in any doubt as to what safe flying constitutes refer to the Flying Safety Officer)
Members should take special note of the following*

9.1.1 do not fly higher than 60 metres, unless covered by CAA permission

9.1.2 do not fly within the traffic zone of an airfield higher than 30metres

9.1.3 do not fly near overhead power lines

9.1.4 do not fly in thundery weather

Risk Assessment

What might go wrong	level of risk	What can we do to prevent it
<i>Someone might get hit by a kite</i>	<i>low</i>	<i>Be aware of where the kite may land</i>
<i>Someone might get a friction burn</i>	<i>low</i>	<i>Be aware of where the kite lines may drop if the wind drops suddenly</i>
<i>Someone may trip on an anchor peg</i>	<i>low</i>	<i>Mark ground anchors with coloured tape</i>
<i>Someone may trip on a kite line</i>	<i>low</i>	<i>Be aware of the kite lines of other flyers when moving around</i>
<i>Someone may get injured from ground anchors dragging</i>	<i>low</i>	<i>Ensure ground anchors are adequate for the size of kite and the wind conditions</i>
<i>Someone may get injured from a kite breaking free of its line</i>	<i>low</i>	<i>Make sure kites are secured to line of correct breaking strength for the kite and the wind conditions</i>

Any Other Business from members

Museum of Science and Industry Manchester (MOSI)

Dave Green

The NKG have been asked to provide a stand for the Dreams of Flight exhibition 14th. February 2009 to 22nd. February 2009

Dave Green is organising volunteers to attend each day . Tickets lunch and travelling expenses will be provided by MOSI and the NKG will receive a donation.

Frequency of Magazine issues Dave Green

A discussion was started on the frequency of the Magazine publication , currently it is quarterly but lack of articles together with other problems reduced it to three this year. A suggestion to restrict publication to two per year was discussed and also having three issues per year . Four per year was considered to be untenable in the future. The Magazine is still the main method of contact for many members especially those who do not have email and Internet access.

It was proposed to have three issues per year of the magazine

Proposed Dave Green

Seconded Steve Ransom

Passed by a majority

Kite Workshops

The group had received a request for NKG Members to facilitate a kite workshop at Todber Caravan Park near Gargrave.

The group is getting an increasing number of requests of this sort therefore Dazzz asked for names of members interested in undertaking events of this type in order that a co-ordinated approach could be taken.

Best Kite Competition

There were no entries this year and Members were asked if they wished this competition to continue .

There was some uncertainty as to the actual rules for the competition, it was agreed that members should be encouraged to enter the competition. The committee should clarify the rules and publish them in the next magazine.

Vote of Thanks

It was explained to members that the Club's website existed because of the work of Peter Bindon Webmaster and because of Malcolm Pitcher's generosity in hosting it free on his own server.

Malcolm is retiring and emigrating and therefore website has been moved to a commercial server.

It was proposed that the committee arrange for a small gift be given to Malcolm Pitcher

Formal Votes of Thanks were given
to Peter Bindon Webmaster,
to Malcolm Pitcher Website hosting,

and also to Karen George Honorary Auditor .
The members voted unanimously in favour.

Ron Ogden asked the Chairman of the meeting to let everyone know that he has
resigned as Honorary President .

Item 7. Election of Officers

Chairman offered to be re elected
Treasurer and Editor offered to be re elected
The Secretary resigned

It was proposed that Dave Bleasdale be elected Secretary
Proposed Brian Williamson **Seconded** – Gwen Williams

Passed unanimously

It was proposed that the rest of existing officers

Chairman Enid Knowles
Treasurer Mary Jones
Editor Daryl Smith
be re elected en bloc

Proposed Brian Williamson **Seconded** – Gwen Williams
Passed unanimously

Karen George was elected Honorary Auditor
Proposed Brian Williamson **Seconded** – Gwen Williams
Passed unanimously

It was proposed that the Existing Bankers HSBC be re appointed and that that any two
of the appointed officers be empowered to sign cheques
Proposed Mary Jones Seconded Daryl Smith
passed unanimously

The officers are as follows

Chairman Enid Knowles
Treasurer Mary Jones
Secretary Dave Bleasdale
Editor Daryl Smith (Dazzz)
Honorary Auditor Karen George

A presentation of a camp table with adjustable legs was made to the retiring Secretary

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman