

Minutes of the 8th Annual General Meeting of the Northern Kite Group

Held on 16th January 2011 at The St Thomas's Church Hall Moorside, Oldham

Present

Gwen Williams (Chairman), Dave Bleasdale (Secretary), Mary Jones (Treasurer), Daryl Smith (Editor)

Stuart Baldwin, Frank & Jennifer Hardman, Peter & June Lightfoot, Josie Bretherton, Sally Humpage, Colin Savage, Mike Lewis, Selwyn Forster, Bernard Crick, Dave Green, Dave Holt, Keith Proctor, Jim & Vanessa Potts, Marina & Graham Lockwood, Edward Pugh, Flo & Joe Barnes.

This is the list of members signed in. The 25 present did not meet the quorum required to conduct business (members under 18 are not counted in the determination of the quorum). At this point the Chairman had to refer to point 12.1 of the group's constitution which states that:

If a General Meeting does not have a quorum at the start of the meeting, the Chairman of the meeting must put the following motion to those present: "The number of members present shall be the quorum." The meeting shall be deemed to have a quorum if three quarters of the members present vote in favour of the motion.

If the motion is not passed, the Chairman must adjourn the meeting for no more than twenty eight days, to a time and place to be advised to members by the Secretary. At least seven days notice of the meeting shall be given.

The business of the General meeting shall then be conducted by those present who will be deemed to be the quorum.

All members present voted in favour of the above motion & the meeting continued.

Apologies

Jock & Peter Walker, Paul Jennings, Rodger Dawson, Peggy Leaver, Ray Smith, Beryl Black, Brian Williamson, Kevin Mullarkey, John Braidwood, Nigel Beard, Peter & Josh Heayns, Paul & Jackie Batstone, Tony & Marie Dane, Alan Bloom, John & Gina Bellis, John & Marie Welborn, Craig Harby.

Previous Minutes

Copies of minutes from the previous AGM were circulated around the room & they were accepted as a true & accurate record.

Chairman's Report

Gwen gave a brief report of the groups activities over the past 12 months, the past year had been one of mixed fortunes, with the sad loss of two members: Enid Knowles & Oran Barnes many members attended the funerals. Both will be sadly missed.

Members had attended many events around the country throughout the year, with our own events at Beacon & Chester being well attended despite Beacon clashing with the Morecambe event. Auctions were held at Beacon & Light up the Sky with some of the proceeds being donated to Children in Need. There was a small auction at Chester with the kites donated from Silloth Kite Festival with all the proceeds being donated to cancer care & MacMillan Nurses in memory of Gene Watson.

Treasurers Report / Annual Accounts

Mary reviewed the accounts. Over the past 12 months the group had operated at a slight deficit, Mary explained that this was down to a number of reasons; Taylor Park cancelled due to bad weather, income was down from Beacon & donations had been made after the loss of two members. Offsetting this slightly was the reduced magazine costs. Overall the group is still in quite a healthy financial state & we finished the year with roughly the same balance as the start of the year. Membership Numbers were practically the same as last year.

The full audited accounts version was available for inspection at the meeting. The accounts had been audited by Karen George.

Proposed: Frank Hardman **Seconded:** Dave Holt
"The accounts for 2010 be adopted"
Passed: Unanimously

Editors Report

Dazzz reported that there had been very little input from the members towards the magazine over the past 12 months & this had resulted in a short Newsletter & not the A5 style newsletter. Dazzz felt the newsletter could not continue in its current format & we may have to change the way the newsletter is produced. Dazzz said he would be stepping down as Editor after producing it for the past 6 years the past 2 years had been a struggle due to the lack of contributions from the group.

Dazzz was thanked for his excellent work on the magazine over the last 6 years.

Club Fly In List for 2011 – 2012

2011

20 th February	New Brighton / Pontefract
20 th March	Roundhay / Beacon
17 th April	Crosby
21 st /22 nd May	Harewood
18 th /19 th June	Beacon Park Festival
17 th July	Ainsdale
21 st August	Fleetwood
17 th /18 th September	Chester Kite Festival (to be confirmed)
9 th October	Otterspool / Pontefract – One Sky One World
22 nd October	Otterspool - Light Up The Sky
20 th November	Roundhay / Beacon
11 th December	Stainland / Otterspool – Xmas Fly in

2012

15 th January	AGM – Oldham
19 th February	New Brighton / Pontefract
18 th March	Roundhay / Beacon

The acceptance of the list was

Proposed: Mary Jones **Seconded:** Jim Potts
Passed: Unanimously

Updates from Jim Potts & Dave Holt

Jim gave a brief update on this years events, first off we have Driffield which will be similar to last year but there will be a reduced camping fee for kite fliers who are members of a kite club. Then there is a new event at Millom in Cumbria where there will be a full kite display with commentary, camping adjacent to the flying site & free access to the rugby club facilities. Harewood will be the same as previous years. Woodvale same again as previous years, but Jim did stress that it was one pass per application & that a condition of getting this pass was that you did contribute to the kite display.

Dave Holt reported that he had been less active over the previous 12 months due to health issues. Wirral will be similar format to last year but Dave did say that the budget for the event would be tight. Dave informed the members that Morecambe would be going ahead again this year and encouraged NKG members to attend because if sufficient numbers turned up there would be a donation to the group. Confirmation hadn't yet been received that the Moss Bank Park was going ahead.

Change to Constitution + Code of Conduct.

The secretary explained that if we wished to camp on site at the new Millom event later this year we would have to apply for a "Camping & Touring Caravan Exemption Certificate. This is something the owners of the land (Millom Rugby Club) insist we have & without it would be unable to camp on site.

The application form states that the organisation applying for the certificate must contain the following statement in their constitution:

"Interest in land may be acquired by purchase, lease or licence for the purpose of holding rallies or meetings as permitted by legislation or by Local Planning Authorities or for any other club activities."

The organisation making the application must also include a copy of their code of conduct, for assistance a model code of conduct is provided with the application. As the NKG does not currently have one the secretary suggested that the model supplied be used & reference made to it in the constitution. Once written the code of conduct would be made available to all members.

The committee were satisfied that the changes to the constitution & the addition of the Code of Conduct would be in the best interests of the group.

It was proposed that the following be added to the constitution:

"Interest in land may be acquired by purchase, lease or licence for the purpose of holding rallies or meetings as permitted by legislation or by Local Planning Authorities or for any other club activities."

And that a code of conduct is written using the model supplied by Natural England & that reference is made to it in the constitution.

Proposed: Dave Bleasdale
Passed: Unanimously

Seconded: Jim Potts

Public Liability Insurance

The Zurich Public Liability Insurance for Individuals had been taken up by 74 members in 2010. The renewal date for the policy is July 2011 the members were asked to respond quickly when the renewal notice was sent out.

Height Limits & Rules

General Rule	Maximum height 60 meters
5km from an Airport	Maximum height 30 meters (otterspool is less than 5km)

Any Other Business from Members.

Festival Funding

Gwen said she thought that some of the festivals this year may struggle due to lack of funding but as yet was not aware of any that had been cancelled. Gwen urged members to support local kite festivals.

Weekend Fly-in

Bernard Crick asked if there was a possibility of having a weekend fly-in during the summer, like previous years at Bolton-le-Sands. Members were asked that if they had any suggestions of a possible location if they could make some enquires about suitability, availability & costs for camping & pass this information on to the committee.

NKG Library

Gwen has been temporary librarian for the past few months & asked if any member wished to take over the position. There were no offers. A note will be put out to all the membership asking for a volunteer to take over the library. If no one comes forward the library will be closed & the library items auctioned or returned to person who donated them.

Election of Officers

Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer offered to be re elected
The Editor resigned

No one stood for position of Editor

It was proposed that the rest of the existing officers:

Chairman	Gwen Williams
Secretary	Dave Bleasdale
Treasurer	Mary Jones

Be re elected en bloc

Passed: Unanimously

As no one had stood for the position of editor Dazzz kindly offered to keep the newsletter ticking over until a permanent Editor came forward. Dazzz proposed that the newsletter became e-mail based to make the job easier, but members who did not have internet access would still have a copy posted to them.

That Dazzz be elected Editor producing an e-mail based newsletter

Proposed: Jim Potts **Seconded:** Selwyn Forester

Passed: Unanimously

At this point Mary Jones gave notice to the membership that she would ideally like to stand down as treasurer next year.

Kite Building Competition

The results for the Mary & Jack Cunningham Kite Building Cup were:

First: Jennifer & Frank Hardman

Second: Selwyn Forester

Third Flo & Joe Barnes.

The kite for next year can be any style & size but it must have a "HAPPY" theme.

Altitude Cup Presentation

Open Altitude Sprint Winner: Peter Fisher

Ladies Altitude Sprint Winner: Mary Jones.

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman.