**Minutes of MDOC Committee Meeting 8th December 2014**

**Present:** Dave McCann (Chairman), Tony Wagg (Secretary), John Britton, Trevor Hindle, Carolyn Hindle,Pete Lomas, Kath Speak, Eddie Speak, Margaret Gregory, Andrew Gregory, Steve Dempsey, Sue Birkinshaw.

**Apologies:** Julie Brook.

**1. Minutes of Last Meeting:**  Accepted.

**2. Matters Arising/Actions:**

(a) Minibus. The club minibus is old, unreliable and it appeared at the last committee meeting that it would no longer be of use to the NW Junior Squad. However Vicky Thornton now reports that the bus will be of value to the squad. In the coming year there will be 4 members from MDOC and 2 from DEE, and the bus is used by the whole squad for local transport during the weekends. She was in favour of ‘upgrading’ (in effect replacing) the minibus. Dave Mawdsley remained sceptical unless usage increased. Based on its value to the squad the committee supported in principle a plan to replace the minibus. **Action Steve Dempsey: To research the market for a replacement vehicle.**

(b) Committee meeting venue. The last meeting discussed the option to move to High Lane village hall. This was slightly less convenient to get to for some people and the Five Ways Hotel (Hazel Grove) was suggested as an alternative. **Action Dave McCann to investigate.** Meanwhile the January meeting will remainat Ladybrook.

(c) Helpers for WOC 2015. An initial appeal for helpers produced a small response. The Club expects about 25-30 to eventually ‘volunteer’, based on previous Scottish 6 participation.

**3. Treasurer’s Report:** The treasurer presented written accounts for November showing a profit for the month (but large month to month fluctuations are expected) and a cash balance of £28.4k. There followed a discussion as to how to reward those helping at major events. A retrospective reward for the Lakes 5 was difficult. Dave McCann and Steve Dempsey will propose a plan for helpers at the JK and possibly WOC 2015.

**4. NWOA:** A full account for the Lakes 5 Day will be circulated soon. The share of proceeds to individual clubs is based on a complex formula accounting for ownership of area, lead role etc. The committee agreed that MDOC should support the continuation of the Lakes 5 and the use of a paid officer, preferably supported by a volunteer co-ordinator similar to the arrangement for the Scottish 6 Day.

An unconditional grant of £1k will be made to each club with a similar amount available provided the previous grant has been spent and reported, and a specific project is proposed for the future.

BOF is asking for a £450 upfront fee from members of the Talent Squad, to add to Sport England funding. It has been suggested that NWOA might pay this.

Grant to GMOA. The NW treasurer stated that GMOA will not receive a NW grant but Dave McCann reported that no such decision is in the NW CDM minutes. Dave has an action to report (to NWOA) the function of GMOA.

**5. Future Events**: (a) JK Sprint. It is possible that more aluminium stakes are required for the JK sprint. John Britton and Dave Rosen will discuss.

(b) City of Manchester 2016. Castlefield is not available as a base due to another (as yet unknown) event. Margaret Gregory will check whether this event will have a wider influence.

(c) Offerton Sprint (July 2016). John Britton reported that this will consist of two halves, each of a suitable length. In addition he suggested the idea of a sprint relay in the afternoon of day 1, as a fun event involving mixed and Ad Hoc teams. This will depend upon the availability of the community centre.

(d) Alderley Park. Mike Greenwood has suggested this as a new area. It contains parkland, a mere, buildings and a car park. He will investigate further, along with Dave McCann.

(e) World Masters 2020. A UK bid for 2018 has been rejected. Nick Barrable (a reigning WM champion) suggested MDOC might promote a 2020 bid for NW England. Bigland and Graythwaite both offer suitable terrain and arena possibilities. Such events make money and the date could be chosen avoid high bracken. Dave McCann will try to gain NWOA support, using his customary diplomatic skills!

(f) Countryside Score Series. Andy Thornton is reluctant to continue as co-ordinator, given work commitments. The committee supports the continuation of these popular events. Andrew Gregory suggested that Mike Greenwood might be willing to take over.

(g) Spring Saturday Series. Clare Griffin (co-ordinator) reported 4 of 8 officials have been recruited. Sue reported that, at Heaton Park, predominant use of the permanent course will save a large fee. Similar savings may be possible at Macc Forest. She will try to involve John Williams, an experienced orienteer new to the Club.

**6. AOB:**

(a) A PE teacher at Hazel Grove High School wishes to add orienteering to their curriculum and has sought our help. Dan Riley is in contact with the school and has a map that needs updating. Dave McCann will talk to Dan.

(b) MDOC-DEE challenge. Alderley Park was suggested as a venue. Mike Greenwood might be willing to map it. The event date is fairly flexible.

(c) Waterproof map paper. Steve Lang has proposed that NWOA takes over the financial and administrative task of the bulk ordering of map paper. If NWOA rejects this MDOC will consider adding an admin surcharge. Establishing the needs of individual clubs is a problem.

(d) YHA membership. In view of the rising cost and small use, it was agreed that this should not be renewed.

(g )Lyme Park. It was noted that a new fence to control cattle has been erected.

(h) Lyme Park Permanent Course. The whole existing course will be removed and be replaced by a new one, accompanied by an updated map, to be completed within 2015. GMOA has advertised a post of project manager. Volunteers will be needed to help plant the new posts. The official course re-opening can form part of our 50th anniversary celebrations.

(i) Route Gadget. There are now a few geo-referenced maps that can be added to route gadget. Routes can be added from a GPS tracker. A demonstration meeting will be held in January and MDOC and SELOC members will be encouraged to add their routes.

(j) Street League events are increasing in popularity and SYO are planning to stage one.

(k) COLA course. A meeting between Steve (our treasurer) and Mike Hamilton (BOF) will be held to resolve our long standing dispute (see lots of previous minutes!!)

**7. Date of next Meeting:** 12th January 2015, Ladybrook Hotel .