

Skydive Chatteris Club Ltd  
Chatteris Airfield  
March  
PE15 0FB

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Skydive Chatteris Club Ltd held at 5.30pm on  
17 December 2016 at the Chatteris Airfield, Block Fen Drove, Wimblington, March, PE15 0FB**

**Persons Present**

Mike Rust (Chairman)  
Simon Chipp (Vice Chairman)  
Martin Crossley (Treasurer – non-executive)  
Graham Ablett (Secretary)  
Chris Beattie (Development Director)  
Tanya Burton (Social Secretary)  
Jon Payne (Deputy Social Secretary)  
Gary Small (Director)  
Peter Herrick (Member)

**Apologies**

Sophie Barnwell (Deputy Development Director)  
Kev Dynan (Director)

**Declarations of interest**

The Chairman asked if there were any declarations of interest. There were none.

The Chairman stated that at a Directors meeting earlier that afternoon the following positions had been accepted:

Mike Rust (Chairman)  
Simon Chipp (Vice Chairman)  
Martin Crossley (Treasurer – in a non-executive capacity)  
Graham Ablett (Secretary)  
Chris Beattie (Development Director)  
Sophie Barnwell (Deputy Development Director)  
Tanya Burton (Social Secretary)  
Jon Payne (Deputy Social Secretary)

**Minutes of the previous meeting**

Minutes of the previous meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> December 2015 had been circulated. Chris Beattie proposed that they be accepted as a true record. Seconded by Simon Chipp & carried unanimously by all those that had been present.

Peter Herrick was the only club member present who hadn't been at the Director's meeting held earlier that afternoon where all of the AGM matters had been discussed. The Chairman went over all of the matters raised and decisions made again.

## **Chairman's Report – 2016 Season**

Mike Rust said that a similar number of tandem students had been jumped as in previous years & that around 6,700 descents had been made by other members.

Eight new students had qualified during the year and the club also had one new tandem instructor, Gus Mera, as well as one new basic tandem instructor, Vlad Vatavu. Since the introduction of the Tracking Progression System earlier in the year we had qualified a number of tracking coaches and also issued a number of TR1 & TR2 stickers. There had been a number of successful FS 1 candidates as well as several FF1 stickers issued and at least one WS2.

The Instructors had decided that "student of the year" for 2016 was Rowan Salger. Since starting jumping Rowan had completed his AFF course, made over 80 descents, obtained his FS1 sticker and started to progress in freeflying & tracking.

The Chairman was disappointed to report that despite promising the club a FS roadshow the BPA had failed to organise the event. We had however organised a number of Big Way weekends utilising our own coach Chris Shaw. These events had been very well received even though poor weather had restricted jumping on occasions. There had also been a 3 way competition, BPA canopy formation & wingsuit roadshows, a small number of balloon jumps and plans for night jumps. Unfortunately a poor weather forecast had meant the night jumps were unable to go ahead on either nominated weekend. An Alter Ego canopy course had also been run but no jumps were made, again due to bad weather.

## **Treasurers Report**

The Chairman reported that the main item of note was that the club's long-running saga with HMRC had now finally been resolved in the clubs favour, the result being that the club could now benefit from a regular income. The Chairman also stated that approximately £25,000 had already been spent purchasing items for the club such wingsuits, rigs, and a club hot air balloon.

## **Flight Ticket Pricing (Regular Qualified Club Jumpers)**

The Chairman stated that at an earlier meeting the Directors had decided to retain the current loyalty flight ticket pricing structure for 2017:

First 50 flight tickets in any one season to be £20  
Next 25 flight tickets (jumps 51 to 75) to be £15  
Any flight tickets thereafter (jump 76 onwards) to be £12

## **Development Plans – 2017**

The Chairman said that plans for 2017 were already well in hand. Chris Shaw had been booked to organise four Big Way weekends in April, June, July & September. Another 3Way FS competition was also planned. Because of disappointment with the way the BPA events had been arranged (or not arranged) the club was planning to organise its own canopy formation & wingsuit coaching weekends. Night jumps were also planned for either February or more likely November.

The Chairman said that Balloon activities were also progressing and that whilst the club was grateful for the assistance rendered by a number of balloon pilots the number of jump slots available were likely to be limited until such time as we had our own qualified pilots and were more experienced in

dropping parachutists. Planning permission for balloon jumps outside of normal operating hours had now been obtained & plans to install a LPG cylinder on site were also progressing. In an effort to move things forward more quickly Martin Crossley, Geordie Best & Simon Chipp were planning a trip to Italy over the winter shut down to gain more ballooning experience & training. Simon had already spent a considerable amount of his own money towards gaining a balloon pilots licence and the club had therefore agreed to cover travel and accommodation costs for the trip as well as allow use of the club balloon for the trip including the cost of the LPG used for training. The Chairman said that the club was also planning to upgrade the video storage / debrief facilities in the upstairs packing area & clubhouse. This should prove to be of benefit to coaches, fun jumpers & load organisers. A budget of around £1,000 had been agreed & Graham had been asked to look into what systems would best suit the clubs requirements.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the club had decided to continue with the bursary scheme into 2017 and that applications would be invited early in the next season.

The feasibility of organising a "DZ tour" was also going to be looked at again as this was one of the more popular planned events that had so far failed to come to fruition. The plan would be to take off from Chatteris, jump into another centre, pack, take off and continue to the next destination. Other dropzones most likely to be visited were Sibson, Langar & possibly Hibaldstow before returning along the same route finishing with a jump into Chatteris. Graham & Simon had been asked to look into the possibility & cost of arranging the event.

Tanya had also been asked to arrange an event or celebration of some kind to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of parachuting at Chatteris on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

The Chairman said that the Club Directors had decided to let our liquor licence lapse as no alcohol had been sold in several years and the licence was costing some £300 per year to renew. It was felt that the money could be better spent on other things.

### **Any Other Business**

None

The next AGM was arranged for 5.30 pm on 16.12.2017. The date would be published on the club's website in due course together a copy of the minutes of this meeting.

The Chairman then closed the meeting.