

Ghar Parau Foundation

Notes of meeting held at Hidden Earth, 12:00, Sunday 27 October 2008.

Present: Andy Eavis, Nick Williams, David Judson, Phil Rowsell, Paul Ibberson, Eddie Waters, Paul Mann, Allan Richardson, Dave Cooke

Apologies for absence: Roo Walters, Wookey

Money:

PI presented updated accounts. He identified that there was a combined budget of £4125 for distribution at this meeting.

DC confirmed that there would be a further 1000 donation coming from Hidden Earth 2007. It was agreed that this would be added to the fund capital. DC also stated that he was proposing a budget to BCA which included £5000 for GPF in 2009.

Jason Mallinson has returned the £900 grant he had received for diving in Spain since he had been prevented from going on the trip on multiple occasions by different factors. However, it was understood that he expected to return to the objective in 2009, so it was agreed that we would retain the money and then return it to him, possibly augmented by additional funds, if he made an application in 2009.

We were informed by PR and EW that the proposed trip to Thailand was not now going to take place.

Following discussions, it was agreed that the following grants be awarded:

China: £1200

Castleguard: £1000

Vietnam: £1500

Austria: £200

Applications/website

There was some discussion about the presentation quality of the applications and it was generally agreed that the web interface, for various reasons, does not permit an expedition to provide a neat and well ordered presentation which means that it's much more difficult to get an impression of their level of organisational competence. There is also a problem with the system accepting attachments. PR agreed to have discussions with Wookey about this. [In subsequent discussions with Wookey, it transpires that the web software will only accept attachments up to 248kb, and Wookey has already tried to fix this. He will have another go.]

Committee members

NW admitted that he had failed to have a meaningful dialogue with Hilary Greaves to see if she was prepared to be an elected member. PR said he would deal with this. [Subsequent to the meeting, PR confirmed that he had spoken to Hilary and she is happy to stand.]

Fundraising

NW has had a suggestion from Jonathan Sims to raise funds by having some Christmas card packs printed for sale at Hidden Earth. Unfortunately, due to other commitments, he had not been able to organise this in time for this year but it was agreed that this was a good idea and DC confirmed that he did not see that the HE team would have a problem with it. AJE and PR agreed to co-ordinate the collection of some suitable photographs, and NW will liaise with Jonathan for having the cards printed in China.

PR also said he would do more about trying to provide will packs to increase the likelihood of legacy donations.

AJE agreed to put some effort into advertising and promoting the GPF as a worth cause for donations.

PR said he would do another talk at CHECC this year

DC said he would confirm that there is still information about GPF in the BCA handbook.

Next meeting

To be held on Sunday 15 February 2009 in Great Hucklow. AJE confirmed that he will not be present since he will be in Mulu.

Notes by NW, 3 Oct 2008