

Ghar Parau Foundation

Meeting at Hidden Earth – 27 September 2009

Present :

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| D Judson | N Williams |
| D Cooke | A Richardson |
| P Rowsell | H Greaves |
| Wookey | E Waters |
| P Ibberson | |

Apologies : A Eavis R Walters

Previous Minutes : None available – to be reviewed in February 2010.

Finances :

PI gave an overview of the current situation, along with details of the projected position at the year end. Options for distribution at this meeting and the next were discussed as per previously circulated papers.

It was decided that of the £1600 B.C.A. funding in hand, £1000 would be carried forward to Q1 2010 and £600 allocated in the current round.

It was decided that the £300 China Caves funding currently held would be allocated in this round.

Additionally, it was confirmed that previous awards made but not yet claimed/cashed would be written back into the fund as follows :-

Jordan Madaba (2007-2/2) - £375 (main award plus retention not claimed)

Houping 2008 (2007-2/4) - £75 (retention not claimed)

SMCC Iceland 2007 (2007-1/4) - £50 (uncashed retention cheque)

Yunnan Sanba 2007 (2007-1/5) - £50 (uncashed retention cheque)

It was agreed that the retention of £50 for Houping 2008 (2008-1/8) would be written back to the fund if feedback was not received by 31/12/09. (Note : PI has already chased this previously and does not intend to chase it again. The ball is in HMCES's court if they choose to claim the funds).

The funds available for distribution from GPF's own income is forecast to be approx £830 for the year. Of this, £400 was allocated in Round 1 and £50 is outstanding for the Tratman award, leaving cash of £380. However, adding back the unclaimed adjustments above totalling £550 allows for a total possible distribution of £930 without reducing the Accumulated Fund. This was rounded down to £900 to allow for any possible shortfall on the forecast interest income.

Thus the total available for distribution to expeditions was determined as £600 plus £300 plus £900. It was also noted that AE had undertaken to "top up" the CCP funding to a reasonable level as determined by the committee for the Huanjiang expedition.

Expedition Awards :

YUCPC Montenegro, being a summer 2010 expedition, was deferred to February.

Cave Now was viewed as a new and interesting venture with significant commitment from the participants and was awarded £800.

Vietnam and Huanjiang were both viewed as important ongoing expeditions worthy of continued support. Each was awarded £500.

Thailand Nan Province was viewed as worthy of support, but at a lower level given the relative scale and costs of the expedition. An award of £200 was allocated.

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| Actions : | Letters to confirm awards to be circulated | RW |
| | Award funds less retentions to be issued | PI |
| | Top up funds (£200) from China Caves to be issued | AE |
| | Appropriate adjusting entries to be made in Accounts | PI |

Mount Everest Foundation :

Two applications were made – Vietnam and Thailand. Of these, it was felt that only Vietnam should be put forward, particularly on the strength of the “Largest Cave in the World” possibilities.

Action : **RW**

Tratman Award :

The award to Descent decided at the February meeting was to be presented at the Hidden Earth closing ceremony.

Fundraising & Publicity :

Various avenues for improving the income stream to the fund were briefly discussed.

The possibility of preparing and selling Xmas cards had not been followed up and this was to be done before the next meeting.

Action : **PR**

The feasibility of a lecture tour under the GPF banner was to be considered by all before the next meeting, at which point volunteers would be required to “make it happen” if it is in fact do-able.

Action : **ALL**

The stand at Hidden Earth had not happened. Ed volunteered to take this on for next year and also to consider a similar thing at the forthcoming Cavers Fair on Mendip. It was noted that other members of the committee may need to make time available to facilitate this.

Action : **EW/ALL**

Following on from raising the issue at the opening ceremony, Phil agreed to pursue options on will packs and also to further discuss possible new logos for GPF publicity purposes.

Action : **PR**

A.O.B. :

Wookey requested that somebody kick him around Xmas time. Action : **ALL**

NW raised the question of whether or not a new elected member would be required in February. Memories suggested that PR's term was the next up but not until 2011. [On checking my updated copy of DJ's previous list, it would appear that elected members joined as follows : Wookey (re-elected 2006); Phil (2007); Ed (2008); Hilary (2009)]. A formal agenda item should consider the situation in February.

Action : **RW**

Next Meeting :

Sunday 21st February 2010. Venue – Hucklow unless otherwise advised.