

Ghar Parau Foundation

Awards Meeting (Round Two – Summer 2017)

Minutes

Purpose of meeting: Annual Awards

Date & time of meeting: 01st Oct 2017 11:00

Location: Hidden Earth 2017 (Churchill School, Mendips)

Invitees	Name	Responsibility	
Chairperson	Andy Eavis	Trustee & Chair	AE
	Nick Williams	Trustee	NW
	Dave Judson	Trustee	DJ
	Paul Ibberson	Trustee & Treasurer	PI
	Phil Rowsell	Secretary	PJR
	Rich Hudson (Year - 3)	Elected Member	RH
	Rebecca Lawson (Year - 2)	Elected Member	RL
	Mark Wright (Year - 1)	Elected Member	MW
	Vacant	Elected Member	
	Trevor Faulkner	BCRA Foreign sec	TF
	Robin Weare	BCA Treasurer	RW

Item No.	Description
1.	Matters (Raise any issues not covered by agenda and schedule them for discussion) None Raised
2.	Apologies for absence Paul Ibberson Trevor Faulkner Dave Judson
3.	Minutes of previous meeting The minutes of the 26th March 2017 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.
4.	Matters arising from the 26th March 2017 minutes. 5) Financial N° 101 (26-03-17): PI to arrange transfer of £45000 from Virgin account to Cambridge and

Counties.

PI transferred the £45000 to the Cambridge and Counties. **Action Closed.**

N° 102 (26-03-17): PI to arrange further investments of £4000 in NSB bonds.

PI invested £4000 into NSB bonds. **Action Closed.**

7) GPF Constitution and BCRA

N° 103 (26-03-17): NW to contact the Charity Commission and discuss the logistics of changing GPF to a full standalone charity. The results and proposed documentation for the next meeting with BCRA to be circulated to the GPF committee for comments.

N° 103 (01-10-17):. See Section 7

N° 104 (26-03-17): NW to incorporate TF comments into the working version of the new GPF Constitution.

N° 104 (01-10-17):. See Section 7

8) Tratman Award

Tratman committee's recommendation.

N° 105 (26-03-17): PJR to chase Chris Howes for the Tratman committee's recommendation.

Chris sent the Recommendation to the Committee, **Action Closed.**

Tratman Announcement and reporting requirements.

Suggested requirements that the Tratman committee should supply to the Ghar Parau committee, for both ratification and website purposes. After ratification by the Ghar Parau Committee at the annual Winter (March) meeting, the announcement will not be made until the closing ceremony of the Hidden Earth with a statue as the prize.

N° 106 (26-03-17) : PJR and AE to relay this information to Chris Howes and the Tratman Committee

N° 106 (26-03-17) a: The requirements were given to Chris and met with some resistance, despite the goal being to reduce work load for both parties.. Further discussion to bring Chris Howes around to the GPF requirements & needs are required. **On Going**

N° 106 (01-10-17) b: Chris agreed with the presentation timetable, and prices for a statue was agreed and the statue produced and given at Hidden Earth. N.B. The GPF committee need to agree that the statue is an ongoing event and agree a price that GPF are willing to pay each year. **On Going.**

10) Website

N° 100 : (30-10-2016): Website Archive - Katie Eavis has supplied Henry Patton with a table of Archive data and this will be incorporated into the website.

N° 100 : (26-03-2017): The process is still on going.

N° 100 : (01-10-2017): The process is still on going. Action combined into Action 107 -**Action Closed**

N° 107 : (26-03-2017):

	<p>A request for a page on the main website to highlight to the public the cash distribution for each round and Expedition, similar to that published in Descent.</p> <p>A problem was noted with the individual comments page where some data seemed to be possibly getting lost. A number of other minor faults and improvements were noted (including the archive) and will be discussed with Henry.</p> <p>N° 107 (26-03-2017): See Section 7</p> <p>Any other Business</p> <p>a) Mount Everest Foundation</p> <p>Incorporate process into the Website so that applicants know these new rules.</p> <p>N° 111 26-03-17: PJR to liaise with Henry Patton and ensure that the Mount Everest Application process is clearly explained on the website.</p> <p>N° 111 01-10-17 : PJR needs to furnish Henry Patton with the wordage to be put on the website, Logged in Action N° 107 as well. to ensure once wordage written incorporated on site. - On going (Priority)</p> <p>b) Induction of new Members.</p> <p>Suitable documentation should be produced to inform Committee members of their duties.</p> <p>N° 112 26-03-17 : PJR to produce some form of documentation that can be emailed to new rotating committee members.</p> <p>N° 112 01-10-17 : Still on going (Priority)</p> <p>c) Vote of thank to Anna</p> <p>N° 113 26-01-17: PJR to send a card to Anna expressing the committee's thanks GPF card expressing the Committee's thanks was sent :Action closed</p>
5.	<p>Financial Summary</p> <p>At R1, funds available were £1150 GPF (inc A Pitcher), £50 Tratman, £6100 BCA (£5000 2017 plus £1100 2016 retained). Awards made were £250 GPF, £450 AP, £4500 BCA, along with £700 China Caves added following application review.</p> <p>Thus, nominal funds for R2 2017 were £450 GPF plus £1600 BCA less £25 (original Tratman estimate increased from £50 to £75) i.e. £2025 total.</p> <p>However, due to several factors, the above allocation needs to be revisited. Firstly, 3 of the AP awards are no longer to be made (applicant or expedition not going) so £225 to possibly be written back to the available funds.</p> <p>On the flip side, the move to Cambridge and Counties to boost the interest income stream has the downside of delaying some of this increase until maturity of the bond which will be post 31/12/17. Coupled with the still pitiful interest returns available, this means that interest income forecast for the full year is only around the £475 level. Taking £250 GPF and £225 AP issued in R1, plus</p>

	<p>Tratman, we are already up to distributable income levels and I propose that the nominal £450 GPF and the non-issued £225 AP be retained in the fund until the period in which the interest income can be matched.</p> <p>Against this, BCA funding in 2016 was subject to the write back of £1450 unclaimed from prior years. This amount should be treated as distributable and I also propose that we utilise £1000 of this to make up the sum available for distribution for this round. I also propose that we continue the principle of retaining some BCA funding for cash flow purposes in the early part of the following year; to this end I would hold £600 of the current balance for Q1 2018.</p> <p>Thus, in total the funds for distribution at this meeting would be £2000, which will be sourced solely from BCA funding balances. Total awards for the full year would then be :-</p> <p>GPF £250 A Pitcher £225 BCA £6500 (5000+1100+1000-600) Tratman £75 Grand Total £7050</p> <p>(Note that this would entail reporting expenditure greater than income for 2017, but when considering 2016 and the overall position for the 2 years combined the net situation would be in line).</p> <p>Summary sheet attached - see Appendix.</p> <p>Meeting notes: The report was accepted and the committee was decided to not to allocate the £225 GPF money for next year in view of the known reduction of interest.</p>
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6.	Summer 2017 Round Two awards
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Expedition	Feedback
GPF2017b-001	Well established repeat expedition with a solid track record of exploration and documentation. The hydrological project sounds very interesting. It is a great shame that more younger members are not currently signed up as the experience they would gain would be invaluable (especially the water tracing techniques). Hopefully the leaders will recruit some younger members before the expeditions take place.
GPF2017b-002	Experienced expedition team working consistently over a period of time with good results and reporting. Different area already recce'd with established potential. Another project worthy of continued GPF support at a decent level. The application lacked a little detailed in places - for the majority of participants their experience has been written as "experienced expedition caver", no attachments etc to support the application, the detailed description ends mid sentence suggesting little time was spent on it. The committee hopes this will be addressed in subsequent applications.
GPF2017b-003	Interesting and well filled out application with a good science bases - driven by a PhD project. The cave map supplied is very very basic. Hopefully a more detailed original survey is available, as comparing new data against the one supplied will not give very scientific results - It would have been nice to see the 3D image of their first visit/scan. While a good science project in Ice caves, the project was only token support due to very small team and BCRA funding (which has been applied for) is thought more appropriate.
GPF2017b-004	A good application, good team (multi national team) with a varied age range but generally fairly young participants. Chris has organized a number of expeditions to this area and this one is a very interesting cave and may be the key to the system. Significant technical challenge in a remote location - the standout expedition of this round and has been funded accordingly.
GPF2017b-005	Expedition to a new area by a new group to GPF, but who are known to regularly go on expedition to Greece several times a year. An interesting project in a new and little-known location. The costs of getting to Kyrgyzstan are high and may have possibly warranted longer time in the field, It is however a recce and the committee will be very interested in seeing the results, and hopefully lead to a follow up expedition if initial results are positive.

GPF Grant Allocation Meeting: Summer 2017

Meeting date: 26-03-2017



Ref.	Exped Name	Country	Field Man Days (UK cavers)	Award/MD	Award/PP	Info	BCA	GPF (incl. AP)	China Caves	Other	Exped Total (no AP)	Alex P £75 allocated awarded (applied)	Grand Total	Comments
GPF2017b-001	Matienzo 2017	Spain	800 (20)	£0.50	£21.05		£6,100	£1,150	£700	£0			£7,950	
GPF2017b-002	SMCC Thailand 2018	Thailand	238 (14)	£1.26	£21.43		£4,500	£700	£700	£0		6	£5,900	
GPF2017b-003	Svalbard 2018 - Austre Broggerbreen	Svalbard and Jan Mayen	18 (3)	£5.56	£33.33		£400	£0	£0	£0			£400	
GPF2017b-004	Pena Colorado 2018	United Kingdom	230 (15)	£4.35	£142.86		£2,000	£450	£0	£0			£2,450	
GPF2017b-005	Kyrgyzstan 17	Kyrgyzstan	28 (4)	£7.14	£50.00		£0	£450	£0	£0			£2,000	
							£0	£450	£0	£0			£2,000	
							£0	£450	£0	£0			£450	

7	<p>GPF Constitution and BCRA</p> <p>BCRA divorce</p> <p>Nick indicated that he had contacted the Charity Commission and their reply was shown at the meeting (see Appendix). The summation was that it was possible to de-link the Ghar Parau Foundation from the BCRA, but a new charity application would have to be submitted. The separation of funds would be up to the trustees to agree and implement.</p> <p>A long and wandering discussion ensued about the "divorce" from BCRA. AE indicated that his possible long term plan would be that in the event of the BCA becoming a charity, that GPF would be a sub-charity/ member under the BCA. PJR indicated that this was no different from the current situation and GPF should pursue its desire to be a self governing charity in its own right. More discussion ensued and it was agreed that GPF should pursue its divorce and in the event of the BCA becoming a charity, then further discussions would take place. It was agreed that the separation needs to be planned well with a clear road map laying out the procedure and time scale, to ensure the BCRA Council's concerns are addressed. PJR, NW,PI and AE to address this.</p> <p>During the wandering discussion, RW indicated that the way that the GPF funds are invested is very low risk and a slightly more risky strategy would yield better returns. He also indicated that income generated by fund raising should be distributed rather than added to the capital. This would require a change to the constitution. The meeting suggested that RW and PI discuss this matter and report to the GPF committee in the Winter 2018 meeting.</p> <p>RW also indicated that he may be standing down as BCA treasurer in the near future. NW suggested that RW should be co-opted on to the committee while this financial review was conducted. The meeting agreed this.</p> <p>Nº 103 (01-10-17): NW approached the Charity commission who replied and reported back to the committee . Action closed</p> <p>Nº 114 (01-10-17): PJR, NW,PI and AE to generate a clear road map to Divorce and implement.</p> <p>Nº 115 (01-10-17): RW to contact Paul and discuss possible investment strategies, and report back at the next meeting.</p> <p>GPF Constitution</p> <p>This was not discussed at the meeting mainly due to the decision to ensure that the separation from BCRA was planned correctly. Work is ongoing and will be further amended as the process of BCRA separation is progressed.</p> <p>Action Nº 104 (26-03-17): NW incorporated TF comments into the working version of the new GPF Constitution. (Action: Completed and closed)</p>
8.	<p>Fund Raising</p> <p>Hidden Earth and RGS Raffle</p> <p>The committee was updated on the raffle plans, as noted in the minutes of two meetings of the Raffle sub committee (See Appendix - Hidden Earth and RGS Raffle 10th Sept 17 and 22nd Sept 17). It had</p>

	<p>originally been planned to combine the Hidden Earth and the RGS Golden Age of Caving events into one official raffle. However it was decided at the 22nd Sept 17 meeting, that GPF were not 100% ready to print official tickets- the promoters licence still not being issued and prizes etc were still vague, so it was decided to split the raffle and do the usual cloakroom Scurion raffle at Hidden Earth and the official raffle/prize draw at the Royal Geographical Society once GPF was fully prepared. (Once the tickets were printed, they could not be changed) . PJR to organise the Hidden Earth Scurion raffle and sales team.</p> <p>Hidden Earth Raffle</p> <p>At the meeting PJR indicated that the Hidden Earth Scurion raffle was progressing well with good sales at the prices agreed. Maxine Bateman and Kate Humphries were doing a sterling job of helping selling raffle tickets.</p> <p>Post-meeting note:- The raffle raised £946, plus a donation of £100 from PJR giving a total of £1046 attributed to the Hidden Earth Scurion 2017 Raffle. GPF Card sales also amounted to £293.82.</p> <p>RGS raffle</p> <p>PJR had originally suggested that a great head line prize would be a trip to Son Doong, Vietnam, GPF having helped this expedition in the past. PI was investigating. AE suggested that a Mulu National park trip might be better and that he would underwrite it. PJR and AE would approach airlines. PJR had secured a VIP trip to Wookey Hole for a family of 4, including adventure caving (provided the winners fitted the Wookey client criteria), and NW had secured a pair of tickets for the Go-Below adventure in Cwymorthin mine. Other prizes were being sourced. A discussion was held about the price of the ticket and with such a good headline prize it was felt that £5 per ticket would be acceptable.</p> <p>N° 115 (01-10-17):.The RGS raffle sub committee (PJR,NW,PI & AE) to continue to organise the raffle.</p> <p>Other Fund Raising</p> <p>Berger Book</p> <p>Mark Wright indicated that an Ebook of the Berger book was shortly going live on the Berger book website and that some of the proceeds would go to the Ghar Parau Foundation.</p> <p>Halliwell's</p> <p>Ric and Pat Halliwell had given a cheque for £30 for GPF card sales at the previous GG winch meet. PJR thanked them in person for their help.</p> <p>The bunkhouse, cafe and bar.</p> <p>Latimers cafe (The bunkhouse, cafe and bar), Clapham, North Yorkshire had sold a further £17.50 worth of cards but were now stopping selling any merchandise.</p> <p>N° 116 (01-10-17):. PJR to send a card expressing GPF thanks for their help. Sent 04-10-17 GPF card sent. Action closed.</p>
9.	<p>Website</p> <p>PJR indicated that the application and committee comment processes worked without problems. The meeting page also worked well with the new split screen (seeing the application itself and the committee members comments). The application management system is now live and is working well (both the Treasurer and Secretary) without problems, an application withdraw/cancel process is now being tested and will soon be the final part of the application management system.</p> <p>This should now give time to improve the main public site. This list of website improvements and</p>

	<p>bugs is work in progress.</p> <p>N° 107 26-03-17 : PJR and Henry Patton to discuss the issues raised and implement if regarded worthwhile, as well as other noted improvements.</p> <p>N° 107 01-10-17 : The committee comment error has been corrected. A formal list of improvement and request has been generated to keep track of suggested improvements and bugs. It has been prioritised, will be reviewed regularly and Henry will undertake the agreed actions when time permits - On Going (See Appendix)</p>
10.	<p>Members - discussion of elected member replacement.</p> <p>A fourth elected member needs to be found. PJR suggested that Rob Middleton or Mike Bottomley might be good candidates, both being expedition active.</p> <p>Action</p> <p>N° 110: RH to talk to Mike Bottomley and AE to talk to Rob Middleton to see if their are interested in serving a term on the committee, and report back to the committee. RH talked to Mike and he was interested. PJR talked to Rob Middleton and he was also interested. Committee need to make a discision.</p>
12.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>None</p>
13	<p>Date of next meetings</p> <p>Winter meeting: Sunday 25th March 2018 :10:30 - Great Hucklow</p>