

SKI CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN®

Minute of the Meeting of Council held in via Zoom on 27 July 2023 at 1700.

In attendance: Angus Maciver (Chair) (AM), Stu Bevan (SB), (Martin Jordan (MJ), Jean Lovett (JL), Elizabeth Morrison (Secretariat) (ELM), Evelyn McKinnie (EM), Walter Macharg (Treasurer) (WM), Trevor Campbell Davis (TCD), Chris Radford (CR)

Apologies: Anthony Harris (TH), Rick Krajewski (RK), James Gambrell (General Manager) (JG), Katy Ellis (Head of Holidays) (KE),

Observing: Jitendra Shetty (Finance) (JtS), Owen Chapman (OC)

AGENDA

1 Chairman's welcome and introductions

AM welcomed everyone to the online meeting. He mentioned that he wished to add several items under AOB (Planks, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, and the annual report timetable for the AGM).

He reported the Club had received substantial positive feedback following the 120th celebratory dinner. He also intimated that planning for a 120th dinner in the Fife Arms, Braemar, later in the year is currently underway.

2 Minutes of meeting held on 28 June 2023

Following discussion, Council agreed that there was confusion regarding the outcome of the previous Minute. Council therefore agreed that the Minute required amendment. Council requested that a revised Minute was brought back to Council at the next meeting for approval.

3 Matters arising and agreed actions from previous meeting

Please see the Action Tracker for more information.

Council agreed that action 220782 and action 221239 should be split.

Council discussed the place of Mountain Tracks within the Ski Club offer to members. As the current Mountain Tracks website is on older IT infrastructure, it is unlikely to be sustainable going forward in the longer term. Mountain Tracks currently covers its own staffing costs and has a small very loyal following, and highly effective relationships with local guides. Council agreed that the membership advisory group should review options and thereafter that JG should be asked to draft a paper for the FAC to make a recommendation to Council.

Action	Membership advisory group should review options for future of Mountain Tracks, thereafter JG to draft a paper for the FAC who should make a recommendation to Council.	JG	CR/WM	Nov-23
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4 Finance

Management Accounts to June 2023

WM reported the management accounts for the month of June 2023 to Council members.

The Club's total revenue for June 2023 was very slightly below budget. A change to accounting policy not to defer profit on platinum insurance means less deferred income brought forward. In addition, membership receipts were below budget.

Income and costs are reasonably in line with budget for this early stage of the year. However, there is a need to maintain a focus on member numbers, which are not at budget levels.

The cost of the highly successful 120th gala dinner event was incurred this month. This was allowed for in the budget contingency.

It was noted that considerable costs for the IT infrastructure programme are included in the 2023/24 budget.

The annual audit has completed, with no major issue or material changes to the reported pre-tax results. A provision for tax on investment income and gains has been made.

Following discussion at FAC and Council last month, it is proposed to proceed to instruct Rathbones to realise enough funds to repay the loan.

The Club have placed forward contracts for Euro and Swiss Francs.

In response to a query, WM noted that the FAC intended to give further thought to the investment portfolio and strategy, including for the longer term.

Annual Management Accounts 2022/2023

WM reported that following a routine end of year tidy up, the overall operating profit for 2022/2023 had improved since it was previously reported. He requested that Council delegated approval to AM and himself to finalise the annual management accounts. Council members were pleased to approve this.

WM noted that a statement of financial support from the SCGB to Ski Club Winter Arrangements was no longer required. Directors were asked to read the letters of representation and contact WM urgently with any comments.

Council noted the overall very positive annual audit report. Council also noted the relatively minor recommendations for improving the effectiveness of accounting and financial control systems further that were identified in the audit report. Some of these recommendations should be actioned as an outcome of the implementation of the new IT infrastructure system.

Council commended the improved quality of the finance reporting and management. This is reflected in the annual audit report which is significantly better than previous reports. Council offered thanks and congratulations to WM and the work of the Finance and Audit Committee.

5 IT Infrastructure Programme

SB provided an update on the IT infrastructure programme. Costs are within budget and so far, the programme is tracking to plan. Data is currently on track to be migrated as planned.

Likely changes to the insurance conditions may delay Go-live. SB noted the increased risks associated with delay and suggested additional staffing may be required on a temporary basis. Council agreed that the potential need to hire additional short-term contractors should be considered by the IT infrastructure programme steering group and scenarios developed for Council. Council noted their collective responsibility to act should it be required.

EM enquired if it was possible to view the new content on the website. SB agreed to arrange on a regular basis. He also noted that he would issue a plan for the sprints, and metrics on where the team are with populating the new website.

Action	Consider wider implications of potential delays to IT infrastructure implementation	SB	WM	Sep-23
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6 Reps and Resorts

OC described progress with the possible French resorts (Les Arcs, Tignes Flaine, Meribel, Serre Chevalier and Val Thorens). He noted that Val Thorens themselves had suggested their participation, following Club discussions with Meribel. Each of the resorts appeared enthusiastic and supportive. Council requested that as a minimum an informal email exchange between the Ski Club and each of the resorts indicating their willingness to host a rep should be required.

TCD mentioned that he had been contacted by a rep offering to write an article for Ski + Board charting the history of the rep service. Council agreed that this was a very worthwhile and interesting offer to pursue. Council stressed that it would be important to avoid potential confusion between the historical service and the way the rep service is now structured and delivered.

AM introduced a file memo which noted the decision to extend reps to France, and which Council was pleased to formally approve. JL took an action to write-up a note of the meeting with Carnelutti. The provision of benefits to reps eg free ski hire requires further exploration and consideration.

Action	Ensure history of rep service is consistent with future repositioning of reps	OC	MJ/XX	Dec-23
Action	Write up note of meeting with Carnelutti for the file	JL	AM	Aug-23

7 Membership Update

In JG's absence, OC reported that conversations with Marsh re the insurance offer and changes are continuing. He noted that the Club can continue to sell Platinum insurance for another ten months or so. As other providers of insurance are facing similar challenges, there may be a gap in the market which the Club may be able to capitalise on and generate additional income.

OC provided an update to Council on the current position regarding membership, which is continuing to decrease. The pattern of joins is very positive, but there continue to be more losses. The impact on membership numbers from the Snowzone figures has now stopped. Some members who gained membership through the Snowzone offer have renewed their membership. OC noted that pre-pandemic September was traditionally the month in which membership numbers increase and it will be important to monitor the situation more closely then.

CR noted that the Club might expect a reduction in member numbers until the new announcements, (such as reps back in France, insurance personal liability changes, lift pass card etc) start to kick in and marketing increases.

Please see Appendix A for further details.

8 Holidays and Chalets

In the absence of KE and JG, AM provided a brief update on holidays.

Holidays now on sale as planned online and brochures posted. Team on track to take over 200 bookings in the first week and staff very positive about response. Council noted this was very pleasing.

9 ABTOT/ATOL Licences Update

JtS reported that applications for licences are ready to be signed once the end of year accounts are approved and signed.

10 Any other business

Planks

Council noted that an email had been issued about investing in Planks. Council agreed that the communication in the form used was not appropriate.

Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

AM highlighted that he had been quietly informed that the behaviour of a few reps was inappropriate. He said that he had asked JG and OC to increase the focus on equality, diversity and inclusion at the reps training sessions in October and remind all reps of the Code of Conduct. Council discussed that the Club did not have a “safe route” for complaints about reps to be raised, following discussion EM offered to take on a role as the Council nominated member for safeguarding and that we should ensure this is made public. The development of a policy would also assist.

Annual Report

AM reminded Council members of the timeline for the annual report and AGM. He asked that Council consider what skills gap might exist within Advisory Groups and Council. In particular, he highlighted the gap which had been created when AW resigned from Council. Council was asked to consider this further and suggest areas to AM.

11 Council moved to a Closed Session

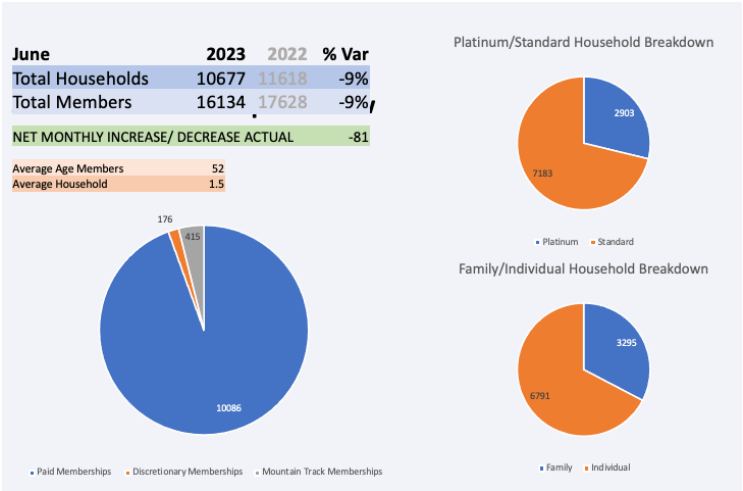
Council discussed and approved the proposed salary increases and bonuses.

Council noted that while the headcount had remained at the previous level, several contractors were now being employed. Council noted the need to monitor this.

There being no other business the Council meeting closed at 2010

Where the minutes contain commercially sensitive or personal information, the relevant extract will not be included in the published online record and will be marked as redacted.

Annex A



Join comparison analysis 2023/24

