

Ghar Parau Foundation  
Awards Meeting (Round One March 2023)

Minutes

Purpose of meeting: Spring Awards

Date & time of meeting: 19th March 2023 : 10.30a.m.

Location: Zoom

Invitees	Name	Responsibility	
apologies for absence	Andy Eavis rotate 2023	Trustee & Chair	AE
Chairperson	Nick Williams rotate 2029	Trustee	NW
Treasurer	Paul Ibberson rotate 2025	Trustee & Treasurer	PI
apologies for absence	Elaine Oliver (Year-3)	Elected Member	EO
apologies for absence	Fleur Loveridge (Year - 2)	Elected Member	FL
apologies for absence	Chris Jones (Year -1)	Elected Member	CJ
	Phil Walker (Year - 4)	Elected Member	PW
	Rob Watson	BCRA rep	RW
Secretary	Howard Jones rotate 2027	BCA Treasurer & Ghar Parau Secretary & Trustee	HJ

1. Minutes of the last GPF meeting held 05/10/2022

The minutes were discussed and approved. No matters arising not otherwise on the agenda.

2. Trustee matters

It was noted we had apologies for absence from Andy Eavis, Elaine Oliver, Chris Jones and Fleur Loveridge. Lydia Leather resigned after the last meeting and the trustees

asked FL to fulfil the remainder of LL term to which she agreed. We currently have no other volunteers for the elected member's role.

Andy has resigned as Chairman and been replaced by Nick Williams for a 4 year term, approved by the committee. Andy will remain as a trustee.

3. Discussion regarding 2023 funding of applications and Finance report

PI introduced his finance report. We have received donations from P Villa and will reclaim gift aid in 2023. Bank base rate interest rate increases in 2022 impacted slightly and this will improve in 2023 and 2024.

Expeditions ring fenced in 2020 and 2021 have following status; Mulu and Nagaland trips occurred in 2022 and have reported back. Papua is still uncertain and we will no longer ring fence their previous award.

For distribution in 2023 it is assumed £4,000 BCA monies (£3,000 R1 and £1,000 R2) and £4,500 GPF, the latter to include Pitcher but not Timney and not Mulu. Papua ringfenced award from 2020 will be written back to the general fund as the trip is unlikely to occur and if it does it will reapply. So spring round monies to be distributed are £7,400 and £2,850 is held back till autumn 2023 round.

Mulu trips are funded via the Merdeka ring fenced monies, likewise Timney monies are ring fenced.

Updated accounts circulated. £5k donations received in the year. Net assets £212k invested in a number of places with increasing interest rates as bank base rate has risen steadily in the last 12 months.

Examiner for Trustee report and accounts has been Alastair Gott and Paul will ask him if he would do so again. Report needs to be submitted to Charity Commission by end October 2023. **Action PI.**

4. Consideration of Spring applications 2023

The Committee agreed the recommendations (totalling £7,400) which would be communicated to the expedition leaders, **Action PI/HJJ**. £2,850 carried forward to autumn 2023 applications.

Spring 2023 distribution result : £4,700 BCA, £1,950 GPF ( of which £400 is prior year ) and £1,000 Pitcher , £150 Timney, £1,500 Mulu.

5. Review of outstanding actions from previous meetings

See separate document.

6. Members update.

There has been no response to the request in the caving media for future volunteers to serve on GPF. **Action All**

7. MEF update

MEF had an application from the Peru team and GPF submitted their comments as requested. MEF have confirmed good support to the trip. MEF have also opened a discussion on carbon footprint which is on-going **Action HJJ**

8. BCRA/GPF symposium:

RW updated the committee on this matter, see action list.

9. Website and expedition database

NW introduced this topic. Website archive dates from 2007. NW has a database back to 1990. HJ has collected information from prior from Descent and Dr Waltham. **Action HJJ.**

10. Long term future of GPF

GPF held a 50th anniversary meal in February 2023 (thanks to HJ for organising) and that has stimulated discussion regarding the future of GPF. NW will produce a discussion document for autumn meeting. Longer term thoughts included conservation, leader development, science, local caving involvement etc. **Action NW**

11. Fund raising: not much has happened due to lack of HE in last few years. Xmas cards to be promoted to caving clubs **Action HJJ** Credit card add on **Action PI** Descent contact **Action RW**

12. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 26th September 2023 in person (Great Hucklow) and by Zoom. 19.30p.m. (Fall back the week after)

Meeting closed 13.00