**EGM - Proposed Dissolution of BEG**

**Argus Centre, Selkirk, 25.03.19 7.30pm**

**Reasons:**

1. Lack of volunteers to run the organisation – actively campaigned for 6 months with no take up whatsoever and we are now down to 5 committee members. Over time the number of committee members dwindle leaving us in a scenario to recruit once again.
2. The workload is too great for a small committee of volunteers. Many of the existing organisations with similar objectives are larger, employing individuals to carry out the behind the scenes work for expeditions. There is a reason why we are the only group in the UK currently operating in this manner and that is because the workload required is simply impossible.
3. When proposed dissolution was announced some people did offer to help but no one who could commit fully and long term. We are therefore confident this scenario would arise again.
4. Competition from schools offering similar experiences without the time commitments and again with full-time employed individuals organising these trips.
5. Liability – unfortunately the world we live in now means that someone is always accountable for any unexpected events that occur, this is a lot of pressure for a small, volunteer run organisation and a huge burden to bear for those responsible – committee is liable financially and criminally.
6. Insurance costs – insurance to cover expeditions has increased significantly in comparison to previous years.
7. Malawi Trip cancellation – the Malawi expedition was cancelled due to no take up by leaders. We feel this is mainly due to the time commitments required and the responsibility involved - too much work and enthusiasm wavers.
8. Continuous pattern – this may be the most important point. Having read back the minutes from the crisis meeting on the 22nd of August 2017 it appears that in the 18 months or so since then, nothing much has changed. Of the 12 individuals who volunteered to be on the committee there are 5 left. Our fear is that is going to continue to happen and we will be hosting further “crisis meetings” in years to come.

When people hear that there is a possibility of the organisation folding, they step up and offer to commit, which is probably a heart leading the head scenario. Everyone here has passion, fondness and a level of commitment to the organisation which means we will be sad and disappointed to see an end. But I must ask you to use your head and view this as a conclusion the work of a highly successful organisation which has changed the lives of many Borderers and helped numerous communities all over the World. We can take pride in what has been achieved in the name of The Borders Exploration Group. We can look back on some 30 years of International and European Expeditions and the opportunities and experiences provided to the participants. We can remember the wide and varied list of projects undertaken, countries visited, communities supported, and friends made in the places we went to.

**Vote:**

Each present member will now be allowed one vote as to whether or not they would like to proceed with the dissolution of the organisation. A final decision will be based on a 2/3s majority of those present.

I agree to the formal dissolution of The Borders Exploration Group:

Vote (X) in one box only.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes |  |
| No |  |

Based on an agreed dissolution of the organisation:

**Assets Remaining**

As stated in the constitution assets remaining after satisfaction of debts and liabilities shall be transferred to some other charity with similar objectives. The benefiting charities shall be decided by the current members of BEG.

The current committee have come up with some initial suggestions.

**Kit**

* Donating kit to similar organisations will be a much simpler process than selling.
* We propose on the 27th of April inviting similar organisations; Fresh Start, Scouts and Guides, Duke of Edinburgh to come to West Morrison on a first come first served basis to have a look at the kit and take what they would get use of.
* First Aid items - we would like to donate St Francis hospital via Nancy’s connections at the BGH.
* Any left-over kitchen utensils we would like to donate to local community halls that BEG has had use of over the years.
* Archives – we are hoping to donate to the heritage hub in Hawick or museum
* Website – this will have to be removed

**Monies**

* Members who have paid their membership will be reimbursed.
* Reminder to those with direct debits to cancel.

The current committee have come up with 5 organisations they would like to see be the immediate beneficiaries:

* **Hazel’s Footprints –** [**www.hazelsfootprints.org**](http://www.hazelsfootprints.org)

Mission:

To advance education for the public benefit by the provision of financial assistance to people embarking on a period of voluntary work oversees.

To promote the charitable purposes of Otjikondo Village School Foundation, Namibia, through the provision of an annual donation.

To relieve poverty and advance education elsewhere in the world by the provision of occasional grants to educational establishments in impoverished countries.

* **Vine Trust –** [**www.vinetrust.org**](http://www.vinetrust.org)

Mission:

Vine Trust is an international development charity which enables volunteers to provide medical, home-building and care support to communities living in severe poverty in Tanzania and Peru. We aim to empower communities; connecting enthusiastic volunteers with in-country partners and local people to create significant, sustainable development for vulnerable children and families.

* **Mary’s Meals –** [**www.marysmeals.org.uk**](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk)

Mission:

To provide a daily meal, in a place of education, for children in the world’s poorest communities.

To provide relief for those suffering, in any part of the world, as a result of humanitarian crises or poverty; to help people escape poverty; and to provide care for orphaned, abandoned and vulnerable children.

To raise awareness in the UK and worldwide of poverty issues through education.

* **St Francis’ Hospital -** [**www.supportstfrancishospital.org/**](http://www.supportstfrancishospital.org/)

Close connections with the Borders General Hospital

* **Nan Lyle Academy Kenya**
* Any left over funds we would like to donate to the local Scouts and Guides association.