



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GLOBAL OGB ASSOCIATION (GO)

Sub-Committee Meeting

Held on Saturday 28 March 2020 at 11.30 am (IST)

PRESENT : **Management GO Team**

Anirban Bhattacharyya – Chair	- Mumbai, India	- 11.30 am
Thuten Kesang - Member	- New Zealand	- 7.00 pm
George Borthwick - Member	- New Zealand	- 7.00 pm
Alfred Khan - Member	- Kolkota, India	- 11.30 am
Pauline Singh - Member	- Delhi, India	- 11.30 am
Tenzing Norzang – Member	- Minneapolis USA	- 1.00 am
Vanda Campbell – Member	- Scotland UK	- 6.00 am
Sushil Marda - Treasurer	- Siliguri, India	- 11.30 am
Danny Khawas – Member	- Delhi, India	- 11.30 am
Kenny Hammond – Patron	- Scotland	- 6.00 am
Dawn Van Steensel – Minute Secretary	- Australia	- 5.00 pm

A quorum was present, and the meeting commenced at 11.35 IST.

ITEM NO. 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The GO Management Team noted and received the Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 7 March 2020.

ITEM NO. 3 Matters Arising

Item No. 3 The Committee reviewed the Matters Arising report. A number of Items were Closed as finalised. Refer update on attached report - **Appendix A**

ITEM NO. 4 & 5 FINANCIALS

Alfie tabled a detailed spreadsheet of the Financials of GO as at March 2020. The Accounts included funds received from the UK – from the Kolkota OGBs Association Accounts, and additional funds received during the Project in December 2019/January 2020. The spreadsheet clearly identified the total funds utilized for each of the 4 Projects i.e. Elliott, Bene, new Thorburn and additional water tanks and minor misc. costs.

Alfie advised that he has been consulting with Kenny and they have reconciled the Accounts in regards to funds held in India.

The Committee thanked Alfie for diligently consolidating the Accounts.

Write-off of Funds

The funds raised by GO during the 2019 May Fair was collected in coupons. At the end of the Fair the coupons totaling Rs11,000 were given to Col Gogoi on the understanding that he would refund the value of Rs.11,000 in cash to GO.

To date these funds have not been recouped and it is unlikely that the funds will be recovered from the School via Col. Gogai, at this late stage.

It was, therefore, noted, that these funds have since been written-off GOs books.



New GO Treasurer

Sushil advised that he was not able to continue in the role of Treasurer and nominated Alfie Khan to take over the role.

It was unanimously agreed that Alfie Khan would take over the role of Treasurer from Sushil Marda. However, Sushil would continue to support Alfie.

GO Bank Account

- As discussed at the 7 March 2020 meeting – the funds in India are currently not consolidated into a single account and are being held by several Members of the GO Committee e.g. Danny Khawas, Pauline Singh, Sushil Marda and Alfie Khan.
- At that meeting it was further agreed that GO not continue to use the Kolkota OGBs Associations Account to manage the GO funds.
- Following discussion, the Committee was keen to go down the path of establishing an independent Account for GO. The process is long and slow. However, Danny advised that it would be possible for GO to apply for an NGO status and thereby, be eligible to operate a Charitable Trust Account in GOs name.
- In the interim, Danny offered for the GO funds to be deposited and held in the Northern OGBs Charitable Account. At this time – GO agreed not to use the Northern OGBs Account but to pursue the application for a NGO and Charitable Trust fund account.

ACTION

- 1 ***Anirban/Pauline/Danny to commence the process for establishing a NGO/Charitable Trust Account.***
- 2 ***Alfie to contact Anthony and/or Nanette Gomes to get a final Bank Statement of the GO funds deposited in to the Kolkota OGBs Account.***
- 3 ***Anirban to write to Anthony and Nanette and thank them for the use of the Kolkota OGBs Account to date.***

ITEM NO. 6 GO COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Committee reviewed the status of a number of non-active Members on the GO Committee :

Denki Lhamu

The Committee recognized that Denki Lhamu has had minimum participation on the GO Committee, but the Committee was keen for her to remain on the Committee, as a representative from Bhutan. To contact Denki and encourage her to attend GO meetings and to contribute to its management.

Sharon Foning

At this time Sharon is still unable to be a full-member of the Committee but is still interested in working with GO on projects etc. in Kalimpong. Status remains unchanged.



Robert Street

Anirban advised that he has had communication from Robert that he is unable to commit to GO and has asked that his appointment be rescinded. Robert's resignation was noted.

Garth Mitchell

Due to restrictions on internet and Skype connections in Dubai – Garth has been prevented from connecting with the GO Team. To contact Garth and ascertain what the future expectation is.

Bernard Trench

Anirban advised that he has been in discussions with Bernard Trench and proposed that he be invited to join the GO Committee – to fill the vacancy created by Robert Street.

ACTION

Anirban to write to:

- Bernard Trench and invite him to join the Committee.
- Garth – to clarify the status of his role on the Committee
- Denki – to email Denki to invite her to participate more fully with GO

OGB David Reid

Noted that GO has not made contact with David Reid following his appointment on the BOM.

Anirban was encouraged to write to David and welcome him and give him an update on the management of GO. It was also hoped that David would be a good conduit between GO and the BOM.

2020 Election

The term of 5 Committee members (Sushil/Thuten/Garth/Denki/Dawn) expires in September 2020.

Dawn advised that she would not be re-nominating, once her term expires. Sushil and Thuten agreed to continue on the Committee. To follow-up with Garth and Denki.

Taking into account the above decision, the Committee currently is comprised of, as follows:

- Anirban Bhattacharya - Chair
- Alfie Khan - Treasurer
- Dawn Van Steensel - Secretary (expires Sept 2020)
- Thuten Kesang
- George Borthwick
- Sushil Marda
- Pauline Singh
- Vanda Frasier
- Tenzing Norsang
- Denki Lhamu
- Garth Mitchell

It was noted that the GO Constitution allows for 15 Members on the Committee. Therefore, at least 4 vacancies exist. All OGBs and ex-staff are eligible to be nominate for a position on the Committee.



It was agreed that an Election Notice – inviting express of interest (EOI) be advertised on the GO website – social media – and via email directly.

If the number of EOIs received exceeds the number of vacancies then an Election will need to be held. Both the Election, if required, and the appointment of new Members will be confirmed in September 2020.

A Draft copy of the Notice was tabled for information,

ACTION

Dawn to forward the final copy of the Notice, when finalised, to :

- Ken to load on the GO Website
- Anirban – to advertise on social media
- Thuten – to email to all GO Members.

ITEM NO. 6.0 2020 BIKE RIDE

Link : <http://bikefordgh.wixsite.com/bikefordgh>

Ride scheduled from Thimphu Bhutan to DGH (approx.. 250 kms distance) from 18th to 22nd September 2020 at the start of the Birthday celebrations.

However, as Bhutan has closed its borders during Covid-19 and it was unknown when the bans would be lifted – it was recommended that an alternative route be identified. As Kolkota/Kalimpong and Kathmandu/Kalimpong are tried and tested routes – these routes could be considered.

Tenzing advised that the Riders are still keen to embark on this ride. He would make a final decision by end of May 2020.

ITEM NO. 7 Future Project – 2020/21

Roof Painting – School Campus

7.1

Sushil was asked to get the measurements of the School Campus building, roofs. This would give an indication of the quantity of paint required. Noted that Toran Pradhan has donated funds towards this project.

7.2 **Assam and Heathland** – identified for Winter of 2020/21

7.3 **Aging Infrastructure**

The Committee discussed the very dilapidated condition of the cottages roofs, the aging plumbing and electrical infrastructure. It was agreed that the electrical wiring in the Cottages are a safety hazard.

Having, it was agreed that the infrastructure and capital costs of DGH is the responsibility of the BOM and the DGH Management. GO was not in a position to take on capital works on the campus.

ITEM NO. 8.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

2020 Calendars

Sushil to send a quantity of 2020 Calendars to Danny.



2021 Calendars

To commence the production of the 2021 Calendars. Noted that some new pictures would be added to the calendar but most of the 2020 pictures would be utilized again.

Discussion with the Chair – Gillian Hart

Anirban confirmed that he has emailed Gillian seeking a time to meet with her prior to the Birthday celebrations in September 2020. All things being equal – the meeting will be held either in Kolkota or Kalimpong.

Requested the meeting include Neil Monteiro, Col. Gogoi and Pravin Pradhan – i.e. the Heads of the DGH Management.

Cottage Parents

The Committee has received interest from a number of retired OGBs who would like to do some 'volunteer' work in DGH in the capacity of houseparents or administration.

To add this to the list of issues to discuss with Gillian Hart (Chair BOM)

NEXT MEETING

GO Management Team : Saturday 25 April 2020

Apology in Advance - Alfie Khan

There being no further matters, the meeting closed at 1.50 pm IST