



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

### Sub-Committee Meeting

Held on Saturday 7 March 2020 at 11.30 am (IST)

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**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	– 12 midnight
Vanda Fraser – Member	- Scotland UK	- 6.00 am
Dawn Van Steensel – Minute Secretary	- Australia	- 5.00 pm

**Apology :**     Sushil Marda - Treasurer                     - Siliguri, India  
                  Danny Khawas – Member                 - ?? India  
                  Kenny Hammond – Patron                   - Scotland

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

#### ITEM NO. 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The GO Management Team noted the Minutes of the sub-Committee meeting held on 23 November 2019.

#### ITEM NO. 3 Matters Arising

**Item No. 3**     The Committee did not review the Matters Arising report.  
                  Refer update on attached report - **Appendix A**

#### ITEM NO. 4 & 5 2019-2020 PROJECT UPDATE

A copy of a comprehensive report on the Winter 2019-20 Project covering repair and renovation work undertaken on Elliott/Bene/new Thorburn Cottages during the period 6 January to 8 February 2020 was circulated to the Committee for information.

Pauline, Vanda and Alfie gave a verbal update on the successes, problems, roadblocks, critics, assistance experienced during the project period and also outlined a number of solutions, practices and improvements, for future projects.

The Project Team was keen to record that with the exception of the water shortage, the accommodation at new Thorburn was a 100% improvement to what has been provided to the Team, in the past. **Note** – by the end of the project period a suitable water storage tank was installed, by GO, at the Cottage – which improved the situation.

The Committee was empathetic with the difficulties confronted by the Project Team during this period and thanked them for their perseverance and endurance in completing the Project on time and within budget.



### **Suggestions to consider for Future Projects :**

- If possible, to share the responsibility, there be a couple of Project Leaders (PL) for the different projects e.g. for each Cottage/building.
- Each PL would be responsible for budget, job allocations, material supply and reporting from beginning to end of each phase of the project.
- Volunteers to continue to take on the small repair work e.g. painting, cleaning and redecorations etc.
- Proposed using local labour for all other work e.g. masons/tilers/carpenters
- Labour and material to be ordered and available, in advance of project commencing
- Recommended only taking on 2 Projects at a time. A third project was very demanding on the limited number of Volunteers available.

### **Proposal for Future Projects**

- Winter 2020-21 - Assam and Heathland

### **For discussion with the BOM**

The Committee recognized the dire need for other capital works improvements across the campus and to discuss options with the BOM :

- Need to replace the electrical infrastructure in the cottages. The electrical system is old and extremely faulty and considered a major safety hazard.
- To take steps to resolve the water shortage situation in the cottages – a constant predicament that could be cost effectively resolved.

## **ITEM NO. 6.0 NEWSLETTER**

Thuten tabled the draft Newsletter for consideration by the Committee.

Newsletter will be emailed to all GO Members by week ending 14 March 2020.

The Committee thanked Thuten for producing the Newsletter.

## **ITEM NO. 7.0 FINANCIALS**

The financials and Project expenditure to be tabled at the next meeting.

### **GO Account**

Alfie advised that all GO funds totaling Rs.187,462 has been withdrawn from the DGH OGB Kolkata Account.

It was further recommended that GO not continue to use this Account for future funds and alternative arrangement to be expedited.

As GO currently does not have a dedicated Account – GO funds are being held by Danny Khawas, Pauline Singh and Alfie Khan. This was not ideal.

It was noted for GO to be able to open a Bank Account in India – we first need to apply to be a recognised N.G.O. This subject was broached when GO was first founded in 2015. It was considered that now was an opportune time to readdress this issue.

**ACTION** Anirban/Pauline/Danny to commence the process for applying as an NGO



## ITEM NO. 8.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 2020 Bike Ride

Tenzing has prepared a webpage advertising the Bike Ride. Details can be found via the following

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

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

Tenzing highlighted :

- To make the Ride viable – a minimum of 15 riders are required.
- To date he has 12 confirmed Riders
- The goal is for each Rider to raise US\$1500 each
- Individual costs per Rider is approx.. US\$1200 in addition to their own travel to India/Bhutan
- In the past the funds raised from these Rides has been exclusively for the sponsorship of children by the UK Committee. This year the funds will be shared 50:50 between the UK sponsorship and GO projects.

In view of the current bans on travel due to the Covid-19 virus, it was possible the Ride would need to be cancelled. In the interim, Tenzing is proceeding with the arrangements, as planned

### **NEXT MEETING**

GO Management Team : Saturday 21 March 2020

There being no further matters, the meeting closed at 1.40 pm IST