



UNITED KINGDOM AIRSOFT PLAYERS UNION

UKAPU AGM MINUTES

January 12th 2019

Attendees: See separate sheet

Apologies: Tim Haines, Jon Hill, Anthony Harrod-Jackson, Ryan Solly, Rowlie Rowlands, Steven Morely, Daniel Shears, Leigh Batson, Sam Ireland, Martin Squirrel

Minutes of previous AGM: David Weston briefly ran over these and all agreed they were correct.

Reports

Chairman's Report: David gave a brief speech highlighting his second year of being the chairman. It was explained that despite being a quiet year, UKAPU has been working in the background to help its members. He had also explained his intentions for the next year for example, normalising kinetic energy limits in Northern Ireland. Thanks was also given to the wonderful hosts (Grange Live Gaming) and ordinary/full members of UKAPU – as their continuing support of UKAPU is what keeps the organisation alive.

Registrar's Report: David reported to the AGM that the membership numbers have taken a fair dip – this is due to actions that were taken in the wake of legislation that was modified with the assent of the Data Protection Act 2018, in addition to other principles codified within the General Data Protection Regulations.

E-mails were sent out to a sizeable proportion of the membership, of which we were unsure of whether or not they were current members due to the length of time since they last interacted with UKAPU – of which a fair amount of then ex-members re-signed up.

Year	Membership
2018	2265
2017	2682

Treasurer's Report: Accounts were circulated and briefly ran through. Balance is currently healthy with no unexpected outgoings.

Election of Officers

All of the positions were uncontested and voting was unanimous.

Chairman - David Weston
 Vice-Chair - Tim Haines
 Press Officer - Jon Hill
 Registrar - Anthony Harrod-Jackson
 Secretary - Ryan Solly
 Treasurer - James Williams

Regional Representatives:

Scotland - Robbie Hutchison
 East England - Rowlie Rowlands
 North England - Steven Morely
 South West - Daniel Shears
 South East - Graham Hoffman
 Midlands - Leigh Batson
 Wales - Vacant
 Northern Ireland - Vacant
 Student - James Clarke

Co-opt additional positions and sub committees

Benefits	- Andy Peet
EAA Representative	- Tim Haines
Consultant	- Matt Furey-King
Sam Ireland	- No official position

EAA Report

As Matt Furey-King has taken over as the new European Airsoft Association chair he made a brief report on its status. Currently things are very quiet and his aim is to grow the EAA as a whole improving the membership base, democratic standards of potential members and the EAA website.

Use of Facebook

Graham Hoffman gave a brief outline of how current Facebook rules are killing off airsoft groups at an ever-increasing rate and predicts that airsoft's time on this and similar platforms is limited. James Clarke echoed this feeling with his experience from running groups for the Cardiff Uni Society.

Discussion was had if UKAPU should resurrect its forum despite it being relatively old style tech for now.

UKAPU Membership and correspondence

Graham made the point that as a free to join organisation the membership numbers should never drop, albeit in this case new GDPR rules were to blame.

Points have been raised previously that we should have more contact with the membership and it was generally agreed that this would be very beneficial.

Matt Furey-King did explain how we had a newsletter but lack of submissions and a seeming general lack of interest caused it to tail off and its something that would be well worth redoing.

Lack of visibility from union reps

The crux of this discussion was essentially should the reps be subsidised for getting to sites. Both sides of the issue were raised and we certainly agreed that we didn't want to be seen to have the reps just getting free airsoft.

Proposal passed Management committee to discuss reasonable expenses for regional reps

It was also discussed that we should create a more formal guide for what a rep might do both in person and online to communicate with their areas better.

Lack of Perceived Benefits

Andy Peet had raised this issue before and came in person to talk about it, but to see what tangible benefits could be offered to the membership and not just the obvious discounts. MFK is to speak to Andy about previous efforts after he agreed to take the bull by the horns and take on the benefits role himself.

Action Matt Furey-King to speak to Andy Peet about previous benefits action

Airsoft Legal Guidance

MFK was apologetic for not having finished this but is still working on a document to try and encompass all current laws, interpretations and ramifications affecting airsoft in the UK.

Members Event

Some talk was made about this, maybe to include other airsoft style, practical shooting, speedsoft etc. Robbie H talked about regionalised patches and events.

Professional Legal Guidance

DW talked about the idea of paying for an expert to produce a document laying out testing methods and guidance on how various RIF types would conform to the PCA. Discussion on both sides was had on what would be a large expenditure and a proposal was made.

Proposal passed That an expenditure of money for professional guidance on PCA RIF testing is worthwhile.

Date of the next AGM

Due to continued issues with the date being so close the Christmas, New Year and also student exams the AGM date will likely be pushed back a month or two.

Therefore the date for the next AGM will likely be late March 2020, subject to confirmation.