

Minutes of the Board Meeting of Walking on Air

held on 2nd February 2026 by Google Meet

Attendees:

Dave Tuttle Chairman, Director.
Peter Clayton Director, Treasurer.
Derek Storey Director.
Clare Johnston Director.
Bernie Pompilis Director.
Wendy Carmen Director.
Andrew Gordon Director, Secretary.

Apologies:

Maria Duncan. Director.
Jim Cook Director.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting, held on 8th December 2025.

Clare reported a correction to the last meetings minutes clarifying the role of basic instructors. Wendy briefly described that these changes included that BI's should not teach, or make entries into student pilot's logbooks, and only provide air ex flights.

Derek Storey approved the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by the Treasurer.

3. Matters arising:

- a) Treasurer will review the proposed £5k increase in the savings deposit in April 2026 when one of the existing bonds is renewed. **Action: -Treasurer.**
- b) Treasurer reported that he has received from Wendy and Bernie the extra info now required by Companies House.
- c) Treasurer agreed to contact Gary Donachie re WA1 move to workshop for repair work to batteries and Flarm. **Action: - Treasurer.**
- d) Derek to write the procedure to remove and refit the seat pan, and the removal and refitting of hand controls, to provide guidance to those willing to perform this task and who will authorise members to carry out this function is still to be confirmed with Davie Coats. **Action: -Derek Storey.**
- e) Clare informed the meeting that the PVG clearance programme is up to date with potentially 3 more WoA members to be PVG cleared having recently agreed to volunteer for WoA. **Action: - Clare Johnston.**
- f) Treasurer and Clare to complete review of the Articles of Association to ensure the up-to-date version is in use and lodged with Companies House and OSCR. **Action: - Treasurer & Clare.**
- g) Derek reported that he is preparing the 2026 rota. The restart date was agreed as Friday 6th March 2026 but will be reviewed. **Action: -Derek Storey.**
- h) The meeting agreed to fit the "Canopy Flasher" beacons to WA1 if the SGU fit this system to SGU aircraft. The board also recognised that the existing FLARM unit in WA1 may need upgrading to ensure the beacons work correctly. The cost of fitting the beacon to WA1 was expected to be around £500. **Action: - Treasurer**

4. Chairman's report:

The chairman thanked members for supporting WoA and helping make gliding accessible to people with disabilities.

5. Treasurer's report:

- a). Bank current account balance £5,413.
- b). On Deposit £41,000 in total.
- c). WoA account with the SGU £4,426.
- d). WoA is owed £540 from Pooleys including £418 donated in Jan 2026.
- e). Treasurer reported that the annual hangar fee for WA1 has been reduced by 15% by the SGC.

6. Secretary's report:

No report this meeting.

7. Engineering report:

- a). WA1 reported fully serviceable.
- b). FLARM reported as working in an unreliable manner. To be investigated See below.
- c). Battery issue still outstanding from last meeting. Glider to be moved to workshop for investigation and repair. FLARM working intermittently. To be repaired at same time as above.
Action: -Treasurer and SGU.
- d). Treasurer reported that WA1 usage is expected to reduce as JGJ is back in service. This will reduce WoA income from the SGU as WA1 will not be required for flights by the SGU as much, however wear and tear will be reduced.
- e). Treasurer also reported that the SGU is considering the purchase of a new ASK21. Clare suggested that this would be a good opportunity to have hand controls fitted at the factory and apply to the Airport fund to pay for the hand controls.

8. Policies; WoA/SGU

- a). Clare informed the meeting that some of the WoA policy documents require updating to reflect personnel and other changes. Clare mentioned that the Vulnerable Persons Policy needs a new person to act as the point of contact for complaints etc. Bernie kindly agreed to act as the point of contact.
Action: - Bernie Pompilis.
- b). Clare also reported that the H&S policy has not been reviewed for a while. Secretary agreed to review the WoA Health and Safety policy. **Action: -Secretary**
- c). Clare suggested that all WoA members complete a new membership form to ensure we have up to date addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, medical details, and any other relevant details. Board agreed this proposal.
Action: - Clare Johnston.

d). Clare reported that there is a meeting with the SGU, EUGC and WoA to establish who is responsible for what and to resolve issues that overlap the various policies of the three organisations particularly relating to WoA policies on safety and safeguarding members problems and issues. Clare asked the Board “what do we want as outcomes from this meeting” with respect to SGU/WoA and WoA/WoA member personnel problems? The board felt that the meeting with the SGU, EUGC and WoA needs to pin down who has the responsibility.

Action: - Clare & Bernie.

9. Clause 5 of the Operating Agreement between the SGU & WoA.

Bernie explained to the meeting that clause five of the Operating Agreement states that if a WoA member purchases a glider or joins a private glider syndicate, that WoA member must become a full SGU member at a cost significantly higher than the WoA membership fee. Bernie further reported that any EUGC, Junior or Cadet member who joins a private glider syndicate at Portmoak does **not** have to become a full SGU member at a cost significantly higher than their present membership fee. Treasurer reports that this agreement is due for its annual review in October but will raise this with the SGU Treasurer as soon as possible.

Action: -Treasurer

10. Future of WoA.

a). Treasurer stated that in his view the board needs to prepare for future change and roles. He observed that some office holders have been in place for some time.

Clare’s thoughts are that she never wants to be the Treasurer but was open to other roles on the board including the role as chair of the board.

The Secretary stated that he was happy to continue in the role of Secretary for the near future unless someone else wishes to take on that role.

The Chairman reported that he has been the Chairman for a lot longer than the 3 years normally expected in the role as chairman and will be happy to stand down.

Action: -Board to monitor.

b). The meeting recognised that the Treasurer role was the most technically demanding and it was also recognised that not all the Treasurer’s tasks at present are treasurer type tasks, for example arranging annual insurance for WA1 could be done by another board member. The Secretary agreed to take on the insurance task from the Treasurer and the Treasurer will list his tasks as best as he can.

Action: -Secretary & Treasurer.

c). The board agreed that the WoA membership fee for next year be £155 (from £150 last year). The meeting also confirmed that the flying fee continues to be half the SGU flying fee – to be set when the SGU set their fees effective from 1st April.

Action: -Treasurer.

d). The Treasurer reported that he is waiting for an opportunity to fundraise for hand controls for the possible new SGU ASK21 glider. Clare reported that the “Airport fund” can support individual projects up to £8,000 bi-annually. Other potential projects for fundraising would be a portable “Mountain High” portable oxygen system or an updated FLARM system for WA1. Clare stated that she could prepare a bid for a FLARM and Canopy Flasher beacon to the Airport Fund.

e). Derek suggested that WoA should have a “Replacement Fund” for the eventual purchase or a replacement Glider for WA1. The Treasurer and board agreed that this was an excellent idea as it would show potential donors that we are building up funds for a specific purpose.

The Treasurer stated that we were in effect doing this now without specifically stating this. He will revise the presentation in the next Annual Accounts.

Action: -Treasurer,

11. Any Other Competent Business:

Clare reported that she is considering organising a potential WoA visit to Feshie this year.

12. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be at 19:00 on Tuesday 17th March at 19:00 hrs.

Andrew Gordon. Secretary, WoA.
2nd February 2026.