

BSAC Synopsis 17 and 18 November 2023

Council meeting and joint Council /NDC workshop

1. Welcome & Opening Admin

The Chair confirmed the meeting was quorate, apologies were noted. A HQ representative was present. The Chair approved the Minutes of the September Council meeting. Members were invited to declare any new conflicts of interest – none were declared. Members were also invited to lodge any topics for AOB.

2. Actions from previous meetings

Actions from previous meeting were either updated, carried over to later meetings or closed.

3. Sub-committees

Multiple Council sub-committee reports had been submitted to the Council OneDrive in advance of the meeting:

- There was a substantive update and discussion led by the Chair regarding international partners and franchise holders.
- The Honorary Secretary set out proposals for revising the AOA that will be put to the membership at the next AGM, these were unanimously approved by Council. An update was also provided on the progress in appointing an independent Director.
- The Chair of the Environment & Impact S/C provided an update on the key personnel involved and major projects being taken forward including the Underwater Surveyor course, the future for marine protection (including current protections in place), consultations and related activities. BSAC is regularly consulted, and divers overall are increasingly seen as a force for good.

4. Five year budget forecast:

The COO led a presentation and briefing on a new five-year budget forecast. Council welcomed the depth of thinking, analysis and overall effort displayed in its compilation. There followed a detailed discussion that explored key assumptions especially as regards membership growth and cost drivers.

5. 2024 budget scrutiny and approval

Council reviewed the 2024 budget in some detail and provided feedback to the CEO that would be addressed before it was formally approved.

6. Joint Council/NDC meeting

Council and the National Diving Committee (NDC) then conducted a joint workshop covering a range of agreed priority topics encompassing:

- Establishing a shared understanding of the role of NDC for newer Council members.
- Outlining the role of Council in setting and assuring the strategic direction of travel.
- The role of HQ in implementing the organisation's strategy.

- Issues, concerns and problems that require a shared and or coordinated approach to resolve.

Participants found the workshop to be extremely valuable and range of matters for joint action were agreed.

7. Association Management System (AMS)

The Honorary Treasurer and COO provided an update on the background, need and imperative of the AMS project. There was a substantive discussion, and several points were noted that would need to be addressed prior to a contract being signed.

Council emphasised that this is a business transformation programme enabled by technology and that as the programme develops a further elaboration of the intended benefits by reference to stakeholders will be required.

The meeting concluded at 17.30 and recommenced at 09.03 on 18th November.

8. CEO Report:

The CEO presented an extensive report that Council discussed covering:

- Overview and dashboards.
- The Club's 3rd Party Liability insurance.
- HQ staff recruitment.

and took questions from members.

9. Management Information/Accounts

The COO updated Council on the current financial situation and forecast of outturn for December.

10. AOB

The proposed dates and form (online/f2f) of future Council meetings were flagged and noted. It was agreed that:

- A mix of online and face to face is appropriate and the latter importantly facilitates more effective decision making and organisational governance.
- Council would therefore move to four face-to-face and two online meetings in 2024.
- A joint Council / NDC meeting should be diarised for November 2024.

Meeting concluded at 12.30pm.

Next meeting, Teams, 27 January 2024.