

## London LDWA Group Motion to Annual General Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020

### Background

Members will be aware, from Adam Dawson's article in August 2019's Strider ("New Website May Cost £200k") and subsequent LDWA Chair's Newsletters, that there are:

- significant issues with the LDWA's current website and membership system. The website is becoming difficult to maintain and keep updated, content is looking dated, running costs are higher and we are unable to move to into the world of apps. The NEC's view is that the system will need to be replaced within the next 3 to 5 years; and
- insufficient funds to pay for any rebuild; estimated cost is between £200,000-300,000.

The NEC organised a workshop in October 2019 to look at how funds might be raised for development and implementation of the new website. The output from this workshop was shared and worked up further at the Local Groups Weekend in November 2019. All opportunities discussed are listed below; this motion relates solely to those two **in bold**:

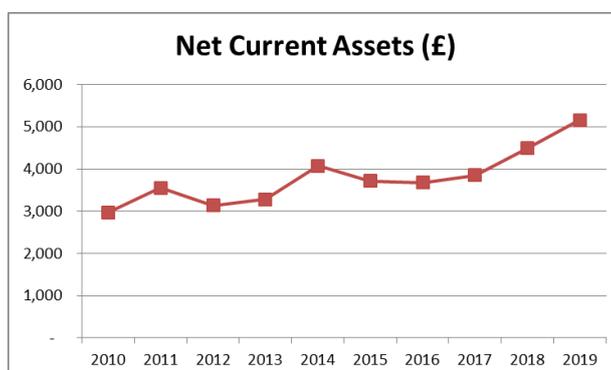
1. Cost Savings
  - a. Strider costs
  - b. NEC costs
2. Additional Income Streams
  - a. Local Group Donations**
  - b. Challenge Event Levy**
  - c. Members subscription increase
  - d. Charging non-LDWA Groups to advertise (themselves and/or events)
  - e. Advertising
  - f. Bequests
  - g. Crowd Funding
  - h. Charitable Status
  - i. Special LDWA Events

### Local Group Donations

Several Local Groups have significant reserves. Under the LDWA's Constitution, the NEC is not able to take funds from Local Groups without the Group's authorisation. The NEC has therefore requested that Local Groups look to make a donation from their current reserves to be used to fund the development and implementation of the new website.

At its December meeting, the Committee agreed in principle to support the NEC in its aim to build a fund and to make an appropriate donation, subject to ratification by members at this AGM.

London Group's surplus as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 is **£5,155**. In the past two years, with income from two major Challenge Events, the Group has made a surplus of c. £600p.a.



The Committee discussed why a reserve was necessary and agreed that, apart from a 'catastrophic' event, e.g. cancellation of a Challenge event with zero/minimal income and all costs incurred, a reserve of between £1,500 and £2,500 should be adequate.

The Committee requested that the NEC underwrite any potential 'catastrophic' issue taking place in relation to a challenge event failing; the NEC agreed to this following its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January.

At its January meeting, the Committee approved a donation of £2,500, subject to a) agreement from the NEC as above (received) and b) ratification by Local Group members at the AGM.

**Action Required: The AGM is asked to RATIFY the Committee's decision to transfer £2,500 of the Group's current surplus to National.**

### **Challenge Event Levy**

Under the NEC's proposal, trialled by Lakeland LDWA on their 'That's Lyth' event, non-members would always be charged 50% more than members on Challenge Events; the differential income would be transferred to the NEC's IT fund.

*e.g. Members: £8; non-members: £12. £4 per non-member donated to NEC fund.*

At its December meeting, the Committee agreed in principle to support such a levy based on analysis of what the impact of adopting this approach would be. It also noted that it would like the NEC to amend its proposal such that non-members would always be charged at least 50% more than members but that the levy, ie the amount transferred to National, would be capped at 50% of the member fee:

*e.g. Members: £8; non-members: £14, of which £4 (i.e. 50% of £8) donated to NEC fund.*

Based on last year's entrants, Capital Challenge fees would have to increase to £16.50 for members (currently £15) and £27.50 for non-members (from £25) for London Group to achieve the same level of surplus (c. £1,200). This would have been after a donation of c. £440 to NEC fund.

Similarly, Founders Challenge fees would have to increase to £13 for members (currently £12) and £20 for non-members (from £17) for London Group to achieve the same level of surplus (c. £380). This would have been after a donation of c. £210 to NEC fund.

So a small increase in fees, which the Committee believe would not significantly impact the number of entrants, would be required to donate c. £650 every year to the NEC's IT fund.

**Action Required: The AGM is asked to SUPPORT the Committee's decision to adopt the proposed Challenge Event Levy from the Founders Challenge event this year.**