

Minutes of Ordinary General Meeting 6th Sept 2017

Present:

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| Stuart Willis | Chairman |
| Robert Richardson | Vice Chairman |
| Jim Tucker | Treasurer |
| Bob Hart | A.S. co-ordinator |
| Richard Pidduck | Member |
| David Lambert | Member |
| Pete Burgess | Member |
| John Phillips | Member |
| John Privett | Member |
| David Stiff | Member |

Apologies:

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| Chris Searle | Secretary |
| Taj Manning | Education co-ordinator |
| Roger Marples | Member |
| John Collins | Member |
| Paul Holmes | Member |

2. Minutes of previous meeting agreed.

3. No matters arising from previous meeting.

4. Officers reports

Chairman and Council Delegate Report from Stuart Willis

I attended the May full council meeting. The first part of the meeting was reviewing year end accounts. The National Centre at Buckminster is now up and running. As at year end 31st March 2017, £143,000 has been allocated from the Development Reserve of approximately £335,000. This will now show as an asset which will be depreciated over the next 35 year lease term. As

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with the National Championships, there will be a sub-account for the National Centre which will be incorporated into the main accounts.

The National Centre is already generating revenue mostly from the sale of season tickets and a few occasional day visitors, which totalled approximately £1300 income in the first week of opening

The BMFA has had no PRO for some time and no one had come forward to fill the vacancy, Paul Tallett a BMFA member and professional PR consultant was asked to give a presentation on how he felt the BMFA should be approaching the subject of PR. The presentation covered a number of areas from articles in modelling press up to social media. After a discussion between the council members it was decided that we would take on his services on a temporary basis the cost being offset by not having a PRO on the council and the expenses that post would create.

Paul would report back to the Full council meeting in September.

Dave Phipps has been very busy with the setting up of a European Model Flying Union (EMFU) this is being formed to coordinate efforts throughout Europe in terms of regulations. It is essential that the BMFA is part of the Union to ensure that we continue to get representation in Europe after the Brexit process concludes.

The CEO has also been attending meetings with the Department for Transport (DfT) and the CAA in the UK to discuss the ongoing situation with EASA. I have sent out E-mails with updates as I get them.

It was agreed that the updated BMFA Handbook is to be sent out to all BMFA members but no date has been set I hope to find out more at the September Council meeting.

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting two representatives from CLAPA, Pete Tindal and Kevin Morgan from CLALPA Control Line Aerobatic Pilots Association give a brief presentation in support of the proposal to make them a specialist body within the BMFA when put to a vote there were 12 in favour 3 against and 5 abstentions.

Other items were discussed like the Nats but as that has been and gone I see no point in reporting on it.

I attended the Areas council meeting in July. There were a couple of proposals so passed on to Bob Hart the information for his option as related to ASRC matters. The first was to make the National Centre at Buckminster to effectively be an all areas status so ACE's could go there and take tests, this was carried. The second was to change term "Club Examiner" to "BMFA Examiner" after much discussion it was put to the vote and was 10 to 4 against.

The rest of the meeting was spent discussing a communications strategy using Website and social media etc in light of any proposal's Paul Tallett the PR consultant is likely to come up with.

I have been to other events but these will be covered later in the Agenda.

Vice Chairman. Nothing to report

Secretary Nothing to report

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Treasurer

Bank £2700.00 which is about normal for this time of the year. He said that Crawley had cost a bit more than previously. BMFA told him it was not absolutely necessary to audit accounts before sending them in.

Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator

Issue with Club examiner who had not been ratified by his club and had therefore lost his status continued. First C/E had declined to test him owing to his non-cooperation. A second C/E had been asked to try and arrange a test but we have not heard if it was done yet.

Education Officer No report.

5. Area events.

The Cloud Tramp took place on Epsom Downs and was very well attended with 29 pilots taking part. A good day was had by all.

The Electric Fly-in was considered a success with visiting pilots from around the Area. The Epsom Radio Flying Club looked after us very well and the Chairman thanked them for hosting the event.

Scale fly in 1st Oct. Chairman hoped this would be better attended after the lack of model registration for the first one earlier in the year which caused the event to be called off.

Scale Day Hastings. Considered very successful. The Chairman asked how we could encourage more models in the scratch build category. It was suggested that more publicity might help. It seems that building models from scratch is declining.

Towner Trophy. Very little information known about this and enquiries are to be made.

6. Examiners workshop. Only 7 examiners attended the event at the Gravesend Club's site. Paul Holmes, of the Club, thanked us for holding the event at their site as it had encouraged more interest within the club regarding the Achievement Scheme. He said they would be prepared to hold it there again. The Chairman thanked them for allowing us the use of their site. Roger Marples had sent the Chairman a letter suggesting improvements for workshops by means of a classroom session before the flying demonstrations take place. Some areas have done this it seems. It was agreed by those present that the first problem is getting the examiners to attend. Chairman would talk to Duncan Maclure and discuss Rogers letter with him.

7. Ashdown Forest and Long Man funding. There followed a long discussion on the subject. The treasurer pointed out that we spend nearly 50% of our funding on these two

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sites. The Chairman will contact other areas and see if they fund public sites. We can apply to the BMFA and put forward a special case if we feel we are underfunded.

8. Bank account signatories. The Treasurer said the current arrangement was satisfactory with just the two.

9. A.G.M. Committee members are voted in on two year appointments. It was felt better if they were staggered so they don't all come up at once. Therefore, the Chairman and Treasurer will be put forward one year and the Vice Chairman and Secretary the next. The Achievement Co-ord and Education will alternate each year.

10. Next Council meeting Sat 9th September. Rates for 2018 will be proposed and put forward at the BMFA AGM.

11. A.O.B. The BMFA are to host our website and the Chairman is working on this. Regarding Data Protection in May next year there will be new regulations coming in and the Chairman will pass on any information as he gets it.

12. Next meeting A.G.M Monday 6 November starting at 7.30pm, followed by an O.G.M. immediately afterwards.

Meeting closed at 10.10pm

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