

British Model Flying Association

North West Area

The North West Area will be meeting on **Tuesday 8th January 2019** at 8.00pm in St Aidan's Parish Centre, Highfield Grange Avenue, Winstanley, Wigan WN3 6TB.

See how the BMFA maintains contact with clubs such as yours in the area

Learn what is going on in the modelling world

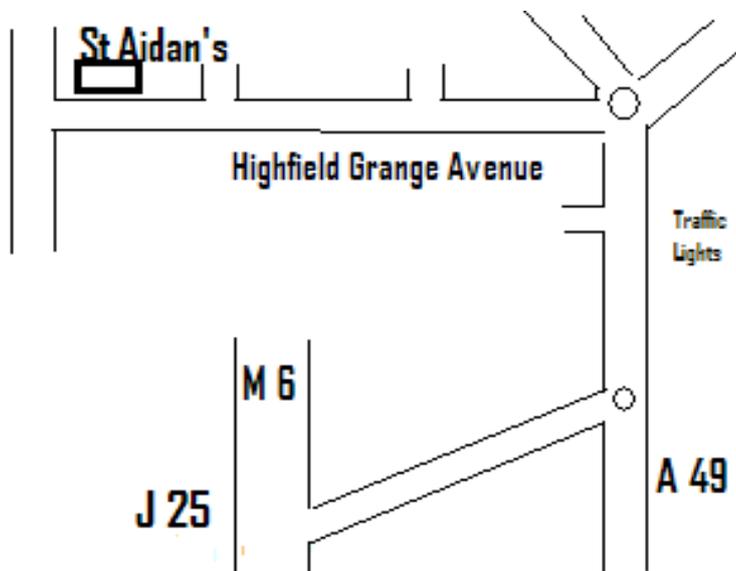
If you can't come to the meetings, would one of your members be interested – please pass this on to them

If you have a problem or subject you would like to discuss but can't make it to the meeting, E Mail it to us and it will be discussed and a reply sent to you. carl_brotherton@yahoo.co.uk

Hope to see you there

Carl Brotherton
Secretary

20 Windsor Road, Saint-Ann's-on-Sea, Lancashire FY8 1ET,
0125 378 2565 carl_brotherton@yahoo.co.uk



No exit SOUTH at J25 - continue to J 24 and go north on M 6 to J 25

British Model Flying Association
North West Area

Agenda for North West Area Meeting
8.00pm, January 7th 2019

St Aidan's Parish Centre, Wigan

Apologies for absence.

Correspondence.

Correction of minutes of the last meeting.

Matters arising.

Officer's reports.

Council agenda and minutes.

Minutes of the Meeting of the BMFA North West Area Held on 4th September 2018 at St Aidan's Parish Centre, Winstanley, Wigan.

Persons Present

Mike Colling	Chairman
Martyn Kinder	Delegate/CCMAS
Carl Brotherton	Secretary & Treasurer/Sale MFC
Keith Barker	Rochdale
Gerry Ferrer	Timperley Model Flyers
John Minchell	Shropshire Indoor Flyers & Sleaf Flyers
Jon Laughton	Oldham Model Aero Club

There were 7 people present, 7 voting

The meeting started at 8.00 pm.

Apologies for absence

Sue & Roger Price, Derek Perchard, Clive Needham, Kevin Watson.

Correspondence

None

Minutes of the meeting held on 8th May 2018

The minutes were approved, with a vote of 7 for acceptance, there being no abstentions.

Matters Arising

The minutes of Full Council held on Saturday 12th May 2018, were considered It was agreed that the reference to the production of a Video to support the BMFA Achievement scheme, as outline by Duncan McClure the National Scheme Controller, would be discussed under officers reports.

Gerry Ferrer raised the issue of availability of NW Area Minutes on both the BMFA NW Area and the BMFA Organisation Internet Sites. It was explained that the minutes are not presented on either site until endorsed and agreed.

Officers' Reports

Chairman, Mike Colling.

Mike Colling announced that the North West Indoor Gala will once again be held at the Manchester Velodrome in 2019. As has been previous practice the area will be continuing some financial support. This has been the practice until the issue of availability of the venue had forced the cancellation of the event. Hopes of a return to the venue remained, now a reality. The BMFA NW Area contribution is made via the "Indoor Tech Committee (ITC)". Our contribution is usually spent on competition balsa, by the ITC.

John Minchell noted, that a number of members had recently asked “what is the purpose of the BMFA NW Area”? John suggested that the efforts of the Chairman in this instance, is an example of how the area officials, its member clubs and their delegates are central to the functioning of the area. John then made a suggestion that the NW Area needs to define its purpose and role in the form of “Job Description”. Typically it could be, to facilitate Indoor Flying events, RC Fly-ins, the support of education via STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) etc. In line with increasing NW area effectiveness, a projected budget for the anticipated spends of the NW Area should also be undertaken on a yearly basis, ensuring that the NW Areas Support, matches its financial resources to the commitments.

Treasurer, Carl Brotherton

The two fly-ins that were supported by the NW Area of the BMFA have now been run. The financial support as agreed has been made to the two clubs (the Blackburn and Blackpool and Fylde Clubs). The payments were made by way of cheques, against the invoices presented. Both clubs report that the events were most successful, via Emails. Both clubs graciously thank the committee and the supporting members. The Emails sent are provided in Appendix 1 for the Blackburn Club and Appendix 2 with respect to the B&FRCMS. The achievements of both clubs is most gratifying, very much in line with what the BMFA and the NW Area of the BMFA, supports.

With respect to fly-ins as discussed, the issue of the appropriate level of competence was raised, when members of the public are or could be present. The discussion revolved around the use of “A” or “B” achievement scheme certificates and the guidance issue by the BMFA. Also with respect to the BMFA insurance scheme and the area being a sponsor to the event.

An **Action (1)** was placed on the Secretary to seek guidance from the BMFA Office in Leicester. The action has now been discharged, the BMFA response is presented in appendix 3.

At the 8-5-2018 meeting of the BMFA Area Council, Martyn Kinder the areas delegate, reported that Duncan McClure was seeking financial support to enable a professional video to be produced. The Video is intended as a teaching Aid, initially for use by ACEs, Club Examiners and Instructors, to highlight and illustrate the requirements of the “B” Proficiency Scheme. The sums tentatively sought were in the region of +£400.

A vote was taken at our meeting, which supported the Video, in principle. Martyn had full NW Area support to commit to a sum in the region of £450. As a one of payment, at the next Area Council meeting.

Duncan has subsequently moved the position on from the initial plan, before the following Area Meeting. The Video is no longer to be a professionally produced product. Although it will remain a “Professional Quality Product”. It will be produced by those with professional training, without payment for their time, which will reduce the cost substantially. A discussion between Duncan and the Treasurer resulted in agreement of a donation of £250 as suggested by Duncan. A cheque for aforesaid value was sent to the BMFA, for the purpose of the video production.

Secretaries Report.

A discussion relating to the recent introduction of the “Data Protection act 2018” took place, with respect to the distribution of the Areas Minutes and matters relating to the BMFA. There was unanimous agreement as to the requirements of the act as it now stands, although difference as to the potential impact on both the BMFA and those who act on behalf of the BMFA. It was decided that the matter should be referred to the BMFA Leicester Office for a more knowledgeable consideration.

Action 2 Secretary to refer matter to Head Office of the BMFA for judgement.

A reply has been received, which is presented in Appendix 4.

AOB

A number of issues had been forwarded prior to the meeting, by Kevin Watson the ASC (Area Scheme Co-ordinator), for discussion under AOB . Unfortunately due to private issues, at the last minute he was unable to attend the meeting. However prior to the meeting, the broad nature of the issues were made known to the Secretary. These were announced at the meeting by the Secretary.

- 1) Kevin Watson (Area Scheme Co-ordinator) has reached an agreement with Duncan McClure the NSC (National Scheme Controller), in that an additional two ACE (Achievement Scheme Examiners) have been appointed to the area.
- 2) Although there had been changes in both venues and dates, that two identified ACE workshops are to go ahead.

Since the meeting Kevin Watson has informed the secretary that he will be presenting a detailed report with respect to both issues at the 20th November meeting.

Both of the announcements were well received, being an indication that the NW Areas contribution and support of the Achievement Scheme is increasingly effective.

The Areas financial accounts are at present structured as per standard practice for organisations where VAT is being paid. Which is also a standard for accounts which are complex as a reflection of the size of the organisation. In contrast the BMFA NW Area has a small financial turnover, the payments and receipts are small in number. The treasurer suggested that the principle of carrying forward and accruing some fraction of a transaction, reduces the transparency of essentially simple accounts. In that varying fractions of transactions at present come into the current accounting period. and some are carried forward into the next accounting period.

The following account issues are raised for consideration prior to the formal review of the BMFA NW Area accounts at the forthcoming AGM.

- 3) The accounts for the BMFA NW Area have now been audited by Keith Elliot of the Fylde Coast Model Flying Association. During the exercise two issues became apparent, that are worthy of consideration. The incorporation and carrying forward of fractions of transactions, between financial years, complicates some transactions. Would it be more transparent to treat all outgoings in a year to being treated as being for the provision of a service in that year only?
- 4) At present there is a small sum within the accounts which is ring fenced, identified

as for support of “Education”. The sum is the consequence of Mike Colling claiming travel cost, then donating the sum to the Education Budget. This arrangement is dependant on an individual claiming due payment and their generosity in making a donation. As Education has historically been a component in the areas activities, a more certain means of funding could be considered. The Treasurer suggested that a specific sum should be awarded from the annual budget. This would put the educational activity on a firmer footing.

Martyn Kinder outlined the typical areas of activities that comprise Education.

John Minchell suggested that that the appointment of the new “Chairman” could be catalyst, to providing renewed focus, that change invariably provides.

- 5) The CVs of the two individuals not known to the regular NW Area Officials and regular attendees, were circulated, These being Jon Laughton and Chris Boardman.

Jon Laughton being present was able to introduce himself and then verbally present his CV. This culminated with a short question and answer session.

Both CVs were well received. The committee look forward to the opportunity of further consideration at the AGM.

- 6) The secretary explained due to the substantial changes in the personnel of the BMFA NW Area, the signatories to the Areas Bank account has remained unchanged. It is suggested that persons are identified as the new signatories, to replace the present, when all the posts are decided.
- 7) John Minchell reported that the “Eddie Riding Competition” had been held at a new venue. Which is the NFC (National Flying Centre) at Buckminster. It was reported that the event was a great success. Details are in Appendix 4 which is by a contribution by Doug Hunt. Many will not be aware that this competition has been one of the bedrock events of the NW Area of the BMFA, being held as a part of the Woodvale event. Most unfortunately Woodvale, has not been an event in our area for some time and is much missed, being an active recruitment sergeant for all age groups into our hobby. The area recognises the effort and generosity of both John Minchell and David Lloyd Jones in resurrecting the event, and the BMFA Technical Committee for running it as a national event.

AREA MEETINGS 2019

Tuesday 7th May for Area meeting
Tuesday 3rd Setember for Area meeting
Tuesday 19th November for Area meeting and the Area AGM

The meeting closed at 10.30 pm

These minutes are provisional until approved at the next area meeting.

Appendix 1

The following Email was received from Kevin Watson

The Area kindly sponsored Blackburn Model Aircraft Club with finance towards a Fun Fly event at the Club Summer rally in June. Helium filled balloons were tethered and subject to a mad free for all bursting competition...great fun enjoyed by all, however, the FPV lads had somewhat of an unfair advantage.

I am pleased to report the sun god was with us this year and the event went very well raising money for Derian House Hospice in Chorley. Were also honoured to have the close relatives of a recently deceased member visit us and make use of the bequeathed bench in his memory.

On behalf of all the members I thank The BMFA North West Area for their support. The club is on track to make a donation before the year end.

Appendix 2

Email received from Paul Cusworth , the Chairman of the Blackpool and Fylde Radio Controlled Society

As Chairman of the Blackpool and Fylde Radio Controlled Society i would like to thank the NW Area of the BMFA for providing your support to our Fly-in on the 20 May 2018.

Your support helped us make the event a great success. Our measure of success was to provide an opportunity for all BMFA members to meet and fly their models in a safe and relaxed atmosphere. The local community was also invited to observe and discuss with us what we do, as part of the Fylde community.

I am pleased to be able to say that we attracted visitors from far and wide. Perhaps the furthest was from Scotland (Glasgow), probably followed by a visitor from the Wirral. Of equal importance to us the event brought together modellers from the locality.

Our second objective of demonstrating our role in the local community was also achieved, attracting a number of spectators. This provide the opportunity to outline, in a soft touch approach, who we are as a club, what the BMFA is, the relationship with the BMFA and the regulations which must be adhered to.

An additional measure of success has been the applications to join our club, with at least one non modeller

Appendix 2

Good afternoon Carl

Thank you for your Email.

In relation to fly-in's it is fairly simple, the important point is to ensure that all those attending as pilots are insured, the easy way is to stipulate BMFA membership as it is easily recognisable but there are of course other equally valid schemes available through alternative organisations (for example the LMA)

The other point is to ensure that anyone involved with the organising or running of the event is protected by the BMFA insurance arrangements, this is best achieved through affiliated club status as BMFA affiliated clubs are provided with directors and officers cover as well as event cover as standard.

In terms of pilot requirements it is up to the club/event organiser to specify a requirement that they feel appropriate to the event, there is no BMFA ruling or insurance requirement, for a fly in most clubs would stipulate an A Certificate as a minimum but equally it is up to the club if they wish to specify a B Certificate or equally no certificate requirement where appropriate supervision will be in place, the idea with a fly-in is generally to make it as inclusive as possible.

In terms of members of the public, firstly it is difficult (almost impossible) to control who is watching and in the near vicinity, however, they are essentially all covered on the basis that you have liability insurance in place both as a club and for the individual pilots, therefore if a member of the public sustained injury or loss as a result of your activities then they would make a claim against you (or the pilot) and the insurance policy would respond on your behalf.

It is worth bearing in mind that a different set of criteria apply for a display where members of the public are specifically invited to the site to spectate, in this case the event would fall under the requirements as set out by the CAA, however it is nothing too onerous and we deal with the insurance element.

I hope this is of assistance, of course do not hesitate to get back to me should you require any further information.

With kind regards

Manny Williamson

Development Officer

Carl

Thank you for your email.

For matters that you consider to be “area management matters”, circulating of agenda and minutes to clubs for example you are able to send these without seeking consent. For matters which could be considered more along the lines of marketing you should seek active consent. The new membership system which will be going live this week will however take care of many of the consent requirements.

One of the better ways of dealing with communications directly to individuals rather than clubs is through email notifications of news articles on the area website, hopefully the area website has the facility for individuals to subscribe to email notifications.

Kind Regards

Andy Symons

Club Support Officer

The Eddie Riding Competition Re-Kindled in 2018

Many good things result from early-hours discussions fuelled by a good meal and neurologically boosted by a good Malt - Such a conversation at the 2017 Free Flight Nationals triggered the re-kindling of the Eddie Riding Competition formerly hosted by the NW area at RAF Woodvale but sadly made dormant by the loss of that super venue some years ago.

After many months of discussion and negotiation with the NW area and the Scale Technical Committee, by John Minchell particularly and with the help of others, the weekend of the 7th & 8th July was pinpointed as a suitable date with the event to be run alongside the SAM 35 Retro Festival making use of the excellent facilities of the BMFA National Centre at Buckminster.

Saturday was devoted to static judging, a relaxed affair undertaken in the cool of the Buckminster Events Building. The judging tables were manned by the experienced team of Dave Causer, Phil Smith, Paul Rich and Doug Hunt. The lion's share of the work being undertaken by messrs Causer and Smith who judged the general entries leaving the EJR designs to Paul and Doug.

Sunday dawned hot, almost cloudless and a little breezy. All flights were judged by the same 2 judges Paul Rich and Doug Hunt. Flight judging was a relaxed affair with flexibility in the order of flight to allow for retrievals, repairs and re-assembly following sudden arrivals.

CO2/Electric

Mike Smith's HP 0-400 scored high in static and, with a couple of abortive attempts, made three good flights circling in the sun passing out of the field at low height behind bushes and back into the field for a good landing approach which gave Mike first place in the CO2/Electric category. Ivan Taylor's EE Lightning EDF scored well in static and slowly accelerated to a realistic and stable cruise for a long first flight and distant landing and which took some time to locate and retrieve resulting in Ivan recording just a single flight. This was enough, however, to give Ivan 2nd place. After a reasonable static score, Chris Brainwood gamely made attempt after attempt with his lovely CO2 powered Bleriot XI but the breezy conditions were not kind to what is essentially an indoor model so he failed to make a qualifying flight - pity.

IC Power

Mike Smith was flying his superb Sopwith Snipe but not without some problems with loss of trim after some enthusiastic arrivals causing a number of non-qualifying flights but his high static score combined with a couple of respectable flight scores was enough to give him first place. Bill Dennis ran out of luck with his Hannover CII after his very respectable static score with two non-qualifying flights, the second of which resulted in damage not to be repaired on the field. In the meantime, Chris Brainwood persevered with his relatively small but lovely DH Cirrus Moth, steadily improving his flight scores until his impressive last flight rewarded him with second spot.

Rubber

Bill Dennis was flying his super Bucker Jungmann and, having gained second spot in static, made good use of the relatively calm spell of air on his first flight to give him an impressive score which he did not better in the subsequent rounds but had done enough to give him first place. The yellow colour scheme lit by the sunlight looked most atmospheric. Mike Stuart had an impressive super-light Short Seamew which scored well in static and, after a couple of non-qualifying flights improved as the air conditions settled later in the day to culminate in a very fine high scoring flight good enough to secure second place. Pete Fardell was flying a relatively lightweight Fokker EII Eindecker which coped admirably well with the outdoor conditions to give him a best flight score very close to the winner and which secured him 3rd place. Ivan Taylor's top static scoring DH Hornet sadly failed to qualify. Monique Lyons had a run of bad luck. After a couple of trimming flights with her large Avro Shackleton, her first official flight failed to qualify, by a just couple of seconds, for what would have been a high scoring flight and unfortunately the model suffered some damage. Still down on her luck after getting the model back to the car, the breeze and thermals conspired to create a fast moving twister which lifted her Picnic table/benches set clear into the air. From the elevated judges' position, there was a clear view of the surrounding fields between the underside of the aviating table set and the roofs of the parked cars so it must have reached the dizzy heights of fifteen feet or more. Subsequently, Martin Pike had one reasonable flight with his Widgeon but was to scratch from the comp due to damage to the model.

Eddie Riding Designs

It was a little disappointing to see only three EJR designs arrive at Buckminster especially as there are a number of other known models out there. For some it was the distance, for others it was the prospect of the high temperatures on the field that were off-putting but hopefully a few more designs will emerge for next year - especially as Leon at Belair has already produced part sets for some of the designs. In the end only two models flew with the beautifully constructed BE2c of Paul Briggs deemed insufficiently trimmed to brave the gusty conditions. Bill Dennis flew his super Fairchild Argus which scored well in static and, after a bit of a hiccup failing to qualify on the second flight, improved over the next two to gain a high final flight score. Bill's only competition was the ABC Robin built by Martin Pike who finished constructing the cabin and

glazing on the Friday evening during the social gathering in the Buckminster Events Building. He ran out of time to finish carving the propeller so trimming on Saturday was conducted with the unfinished prop blank. The Robin did not fare too well in the static judging but the intense trimming before the flights paid benefits as Martin's flight scores steadily improved to the point where his last flight (the last of the event) as dusk was coming on was so realistic that it gained the joint highest flight score of all the entries along with Mike Stuart's Seamew which raised the Robin's overall score to within 50 points of Bill's winning score. A close thing.

In Summary

The event was first of its kind to be held under the auspices of the Scale Technical Committee and to be undertaken at the BMFA National Centre. The venue proved to be ideally suited to FF scale with few models flying out of the field and, with the timing of events to occur after harvest, retrieval from the surrounding countryside is relatively easy. Buckminster has a relaxed feel being situated in rolling countryside with helpful facilities such as the Events Hall, kitchen and workshop being provided and camping facilities for those wanting to stay over - reminiscent of Eaton Bray. Wi-Fi is available and the charges made by the facility are very reasonable when compared to the alternatives. The success of this first meeting will ensure that it continues to run into the future and that success should spread the word that a great weekend was had by all thereby increasing entries for next year.

Now where is that neurological booster for the next bright idea?

Doug Hunt