

Minutes of Ordinary General Meeting 5th Sept 2018.

Present:

Stuart Willis	Chairman	Felbridge Flyers
Robert Richardson	Vice Chairman	Hastings MFC and Horam MFC
Chris Searle	Secretary	Felbridge Flyers
Bob Hart	A.S. co-ordinator	Wealden and Hastings MFC
Terry Knight	Member	Crawley & District MAC
James Gordon	Member	Caterham and District MFC
John Phillips	Member	E.S.S.A
Peter Burgess	Member	E.S.S.A
John Collins	Member	G.A.C
David Stiff	Member	Riddlesdown MFC
Roger Marples	Member	E.D.M.A.C
Martin Jones	Member	E.R.F.C
Derek Potter	Member	E.R.F.C
Richard Pidduck	Member	Caterham and District MFC

Apologies:

Mike Richardson	Flying Discipline Secretary
Taj Manning	Education co-ordinator
David Wolper	Member
Rob Stanley	Member
Jim Tucker	Treasurer
David Lambert	Member
Paul Holmes	Member

Minutes of the previous meeting

Read and approved by those present.

Matters arising from the previous meeting

To be discussed under specific topics.

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Officer's Reports:

Chairman and Area Delegate report September 2018

I must start my report with the sad news that Bob cutter passed away on the 29th August. Bob was the area chairman for some 30 plus years. Some at the meeting will know Bob but not all, Bob was a jolly fellow and always seemed to find the funny side of life even as his health deteriorated over the past few years. His funeral is tomorrow 6th September at 15:00 at the Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, A number of his friends will be attending from Felbridge Flyers and I will on behalf of the BMFA south East Area.

It's been a busy few months in one way or another. The Scale day at the Epsom Radio Flying Club field went off very well the wind and weather was kind to us and speaking to people enjoyed by all. My own day a mixture of sadness and joy article in the upcoming news letter. A big thanks to Epsom Radio Flying Club for their hospitality. If it's ok with them, I'd like to run it again next year. The two other events the Electric Fly-in and Area scale competition were not so lucky, picking about the only wet and windy weekend we had seen for some weeks both having to be cancelled at the last moment. The scale competition has be re-scheduled for the 30st September I have not heard from Epsom Radio Flying Club re the electric event per-haps they are unable to fit it in this year.

Last year the Area was asked by **Warden Park Academy** to run a model aircraft building day as part of their student enrichment event run at the end if the term year. **A big thanks to Rob Stanley and Graham Uwins for their help on the day. Rob has done an article for the next newsletter "Back to School". There is a good chance we will be asked to do the same next year.**

A lot of my time has been taken up with conference calls and testing the new BMFA membership online system. This is due to go live mid September. Head office will be sending out details once things are finalised. The new system will not please everyone but given the options we had, it's the best we could hope for.

The indoor Competition at K2 will run in 2019 I will cover this later in the meeting

I have had a lot of communications from people that have been stopped from flying on Ashdown forest this I will also cover later in the meeting.

I was at the Nats this year helping Manny running the show line. Saturday was a good day, the wind did decide to swing round to the north making take offs and landings a bit tricky as the run way is an east west runway. Sunday was a complete washout flying started at 10:00 but the rain came in at 11:00.

Back in May I attended the second full council meeting in Leicester. It was one of the shortest meetings I had attended.

Relevant points from the reports given at the meeting.

The Honorary Treasurer advised that the Year End Accounts are almost complete and we should break-even within £5,000 on a turnover of just over £1 million.

Buckminster update

Two temporary staff members have been appointed at BMFA Buckminster:

All weekends bar 2 have been booked this year.

Plans have been drawn up and submitted for the next phase of development which includes shower facilities, toilets and bunk rooms. Melton Borough Council planning committee passed it unanimously and was extremely positive and supportive. Melton Borough Council are very much behind the BMFA and the National Centre as they see its a good thing for the area. An application for EU 'Leader' funding has been sub-mitted. The maximum amount which could be awarded would be £70K.

Insurance.

The new three-year sponsorship deal has been signed with Integro. Integro will be sponsoring the Show line at the Nationals and their name will appear on Nationals advertising. Integro are wanting to arrange another corporate team building event for their staff at BMFA Buckminster.

Dave Phipps spent some time going through the state of the EASA regulations.

A lot of this has been change/updated by the latest publications release by the BMFA. Hopefully you have seen it if not check out the BMFA website.

Andy Symons has done a great deal of work on GDPR and has issued a great deal of guidance to our Clubs.

Jo Halman will stand for re-election Competition Secretary this year.

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Vice Chairman;

Robert stated that the 400 foot height exemption only applies to members of the BMFA, LMA and SAA when flying on Club sites or BMFA approved sites.

Secretary;

Nothing to report.

Treasurer;

Not present.

A.S Co-ordinator;

Nothing to report.

Education officer;

Not present.

Flying discipline Secretary;

Free flight competitors on Ashdown Forest this year have collected £110.00 in donations towards the cost of the licence and a cheque for this amount has been sent to the Treasurer.

South East Area Events in 2018

K2 Indoor;

This event has been scheduled for Saturday 16th February 2019. The Technical committee have promised to publicise the event within the free flight community and also assist the Area with any financial loss. However a condition of doing so is that they are involved with the financial planning. Two thirds of the hall with flying from 11:00 to 18:00 has been booked at a cost of £984.09 and the Technical committee's opinion will be sought on how much to charge for admission. The actual competition will be handled by members of the Crawley and District MAC and the Area will provide people to support other aspects, these will be identified at the next OGM in November.

Electric and Scale meetings at E.R.F.C;

The Electric Day was postponed due to inclement weather conditions. The committee of the E.R.F.C will decide if it should be run later this year. The Scale Day was a success with more people attending than had been expected.

Hasting Scale Day;

The Hastings Scale Day was postponed due to inclement weather conditions. It has been rescheduled for 30th September.

Cloud Tramp;

Although a successful event but only 18 flyers attended, this is less than last year. The Epsom Council Chairman and a previous Chairman were there and have sent emails to Roger Marples and Dave Lambert congratulating them.

The Caterham and District MFC and the Croydon MFC held their own cloud tramp with 36 flyers using kits obtained from the Vintage Model Company.

Ashdown Forest

A small number of individuals had been stopped from flying by the wardens as they were flying outside of the agreed times. Apparently they held the belief that the times only applied to competitions and have also been flying there for some time without being stopped. They have complained to Head Office and the Area. It may be possible to extend the hours at no extra cost by negotiating with the new Ashdown Forest conservators committee however if this is not possible those complaining will have to conform to the current times.

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Area Bank Account

The Area is faced with outgoings of about £2000.00 in January and February and this means that this money has to be put aside all year as funds from Head Office are received in April. The BMFA Honorary Treasurer may consider an early appropriation of funds but we need to provide the Area accounts so that they can make this decision. Bob will attempt to obtain the accounts from Jim. Bob was also given a bank mandate form for Jim to sign that would enable Stuart and Chris to manage the account in addition to Jim.

A and B test FW video

The ASRC is planning to make a professional grade video demonstrating flying the A and B schedules. In general this was thought to be worthwhile although Martin Jones and to a lesser extent Roger Marples raised some objections. Duncan McClure had requested that the Areas donate towards the production costs a sum of £200 was suggested. After some discussion it was felt that in the light of the recent funding issues that the area was having it would be best to put it to a vote. With 2 for and 9 against the Area will not be making a contribution.

A.O.B.

James Gordon; The Fun Fly held at the Nationals was run by South East Area members and 2nd and 3rd places were also obtained by members of this Area.

Richard Pidduck thanked the Chairman for giving the Caterham and District MFC a presentation on 3D printing.

Peter Burgess congratulated John Phillips on achieving 3rd place in the 2018 Welsh Open F3F contest in August.

Chris Searle informed the meeting that at the forthcoming AGM the following committee posts would be up for re-election; Chairman, Council Delegate, Treasurer and PRO. Stuart announced his intention to stand for re-election as Chairman and also Council Delegate. We are currently without a PRO, the duties of which are minimal.

NEXT MEETING 14th November 2018 following the AGM (19:30 start for the AGM)