

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area 2018 AGM

The AGM commenced at 07:30pm on the 14th November 2018

Present;

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area Role</u>	<u>Club</u>
Stuart Willis	Chairman	Felbridge Flyers
Robert Richardson	Vice Chairman	Hastings MFC and Horam MFC
Jim Tucker	Treasurer	Wealden and Hastings MFC
Chris Searle	Secretary	Felbridge Flyers
Bob Hart	A.S. co-ordinator	Wealden MFC and Eastbourne MFC
Richard Pidduck	Member	Caterham and District MFC
Roger Marples	Member	E.D.M.A.C.
David Lambert	Member	E.D.M.A.C
James Gordon	A.C.E	Caterham and District MFC
John Phillips	Member	E.S.S.A
Peter Burgess	Member	E.S.S.A
Derek Potter	Member	E.R.F.C
Martin Jones	Member	E.R.F.C

Apologies from;

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area Role</u>	<u>Club</u>
Mike Sun	A.C.E	
Taj Manning	Education co-ordinator	Mid-Sussex Flyers
Mike Richardson	Competition Secretary	

Minutes of the previous meeting;

Agreed to be a true record.

Matters arising from the previous meeting;

Nothing.

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area 2018 AGM

Officers reports;

Chairman and Council Delegate;

The year ended on a sad note. Bob Cutter, the Area Chairman for over 30 years, passed away on the 29th August. Bob was a happy jolly person who always saw the funny side of life. He will be missed. I attended his funeral with members of his flying club Felbridge Flyers.

The Area ran its area indoor competition at the K2 Leisure Centre in February this year with a reduced flying area and associated reduction in cost, but still was not able to break even. So, the decision was taken not to run the event in 2019, as the Area funds were running very low after the losses that had been made on this event over the past few years, and because of the Area having the ongoing costs of the Ashdown and Longman Site Licences. This decision was reversed later in the year after a campaign to see if the Area could find additional funding for the two Licences we pay for from clubs was fruitful. With the payments we get regularly from a couple of clubs, the extra donations and some prudent budgeting, the Area funds are looking slightly better. I also spoke to the Free-Flight Technical Committee about the situation and the fact we did not want to lose this long- running event and they said they would help with the promotion of the event and may be able to help out financially. I'm hoping for a turn around in financial viability for the event.

The Area will be having meeting with the Ashdown forest conservators to see if there is a way of extending the hours BMFA members are allowed to fly on the forest, this has come about due to some members being stopped from flying by forest rangers, because they were flying outside of our licensed hours. The members say they have been flying for many years on the forest but had never been stopped. Some know about the licence but thought it was only in relation to competitions, despite the licence details being published on the area website and in the area newsletter.

The Area has a number of events this year. The Scale Fly-In, at the Epsom Radio Flying Club field near Gatwick was very much a success with more people attending than expected. We have been invited back next year and hope to make it a bigger event. The All-Electric Fly-In at Epsom Radio Flying Club and a Scale competition at the Hastings Club had to be postponed due to about the only wet weekend this summer. These took place at the end of September and beginning of October. The Scale competition was very well attended with more kit-built models entering that ARTF's this year, Although the Electric fly-in was not as well attended it was enjoyed by all that did turn up and plan to run both again next year.

The Area did not run any Examiners Workshops this year partly due to financial considerations but mainly due to the lack of response from the people we had last year.

The Area website hosted by the BMFA is working well and the email part of system is used on a regular basis. There is still the issue of returned emails because people change roles and do not inform us of the changes. Facebook is enabling us to keep in contact with a lot of people because the posts are seen by hundreds of people.

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area 2018 AGM

Chairman and Council Delegate continued;

The Area was able to provide a number of BMFA Darts to the ATC Squadron at Biggin Hill as part of their model-making activities. Myself and two others were asked to help out at the Warden Park Academy student enrichment days to explain about model aircraft and the BMFA. Each of the nineteen students built, trimmed and flew BMFA a dart. The Area has been asked back to do a similar thing in 2019 only this time over two days.

We are seeing more clubs represented at Area committee meetings, which is very encouraging, but it would be nice to see more, however, my Area is quite large and clubs are spread across a number of counties.

I'd like to thank members of the area committee for their support especially Chris Searle for his work as area secretary.

Vice Chairman;

Robert stated that the attendance at the Area Scale day was greater on the rescheduled date at the end of September than would have been expected on the usual July date. This will be taken into consideration when the date of the 2019 meeting is decided.

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area 2018 AGM

Treasurer;

I have reviewed this year's expenditure with reference to the monies on account as at December 2017. Effectively at the above date we had £3700 (approximately) on account. The following reviews the expenditure for 2019. This is carried out by checking the current account statement for 12th November 2018 and proposing expenditure for 2019. The budget shows expenditure of £2520.00 with a revenue of £2260 (see the proposed detail). This means we have spent a further £300 of the current capital. Obviously some of these figures are only proposal so the difference could be larger or smaller. However it does seem we are slowly reducing our capital.

Budget 2019

Money on account as at 12/11/2018 - £3520.64

Ex Nov/Dec (Hastings and Hall) - £165.00

£335564

New Year Expenditure (Before BMFA Amount)

Long Man-£500.00

Ashdown-£450.00

Indoor-£900.00

£1850.00

Expected Rev

Ashdown-£200.00

Long Man-£180.00

Indoor-£380.00

BMFA-£1500.00

£2260.00

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area 2018 AGM

Treasurer continued;

Expected other expenditure in 2019

Trophies-£120.00

Events-£240.00

Hall-£160.00

Gen Exp-£150.00

£670.00

Expected account as at November 2019-around £3100.00

Secretary;

Nothing.

Achievement Scheme Co-Ordinator;

A quiet year overall. Very few test requests for our C/Es. We welcomed James Gordon to the ranks to improve coverage of the Area and I know he has completed a couple of tests for us. I am to submit our list of C/Es for ratification. I have not been able to contact Mike Sun. He was suffering poor health when last we had contact so I don't know if that's why. I and two of our C/Es attended a C/E and Co-ordinators workshop earlier this year which was very informative. The Area did not run an examiner/Instructor workshop this year.

I propose to ratify the following for our Area;

Kevin Beale, Gary Bunclarke, Mick Galvin, Dave Knott, Colin McGinn, Derek Henzell, Rob Creasey, James Gordon and Mike Sun (if I am able to get in touch with him first).

Education Co-Ordinator;

Nothing.

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area 2018 AGM

Flying Discipline Secretary (Free Flight);

Flying took place on 7 of the 8 scheduled area competition days this year, the 2nd event, in early March being cancelled by the BMFA due to the arrival of the "Beast from the East". On the whole, here in the south east, we were blessed with reasonable weather most of the time, at least, compared to the rest of the country, enabling south east members to place highly in the national results, with numerous 2nd & 3rd places, with Alex Cameron of Crawley placing 1st in Combined Glider at the 3rd event & Neil Allen of East Grinstead topping the results in F1J Power at the 5th meeting. Much to their surprise, with what appeared to be a modest score, the Crawley team of Alex, Gary Oulds & Mike Cook repeated their success of 2015, by winning the Model Engineer Trophy for team glider at the final meeting of the year. Alex also came top, by a considerable margin, in the Combined Glider League Table for all the scores in the area events during 2018.

Neil also placed 1st in F1C Power at the National Championships held at Barkston Heath at the end of May, while Mike Woolner of East Grinstead topped the results in F1B Rubber in the trials to select the team to represent GB in the world championships to be held in California in October 2019

As in the 4 previous years, the East Grinstead Club handled all the competition days, Rob & Ken Taylor looking after the onsite work, while I handled all the paperwork, sending of the results & entry monies to the BMFA etc. It's now time for others to take a turn & I understand that next year the Crawley club members are going to take on the work & I will therefore not be taking on the role of Area Free Flight Competition Secretary for another term, although I will of course support whoever takes on the position.

Apart from the 8 competition days, it is difficult to know what use is made of the forest for model flying, but it is very important that we retain its use for free flight, as it is the only site in the crowded south east of England large enough to host free flight competitions.

Donations totalling £110 collected from those flying in the competitions have been forwarded to the Area towards the cost of the Ashdown Licence

The winners of the Area awards for the 2017 season were as follows:

RAFA Shield. Crawley 275 points, East Grinstead 142 points.

RAFA Individual Awards. For the top three flyers in each of the glider, rubber and power disciplines.

CO2 and electric are included in the power category. Based on the RAFA comps, a flyer's best five contest scores in one discipline, fly-offs not included, gives their RAFA Individual total.

RAFA Rubber: 1st & Trophy Ken Taylor. 2nd Robin Willes. 3rd Peter Norman.

RAFA Glider: 1st & Trophy Alex Cameron. 2nd Mike Cook. 3rd Ken Taylor.

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area 2018 AGM

Flying Discipline Secretary (Free Flight) continued;

RAFA Power: 1st & Trophy Neil Allen. 2nd Mike Cook. 3rd Rob Taylor.

Area Champion: The flyer scoring the highest aggregate of their best five BMFA totals across all 3 disciplines, including fly-off scores: 1st & Trophy. Neil Allen. 2nd Alex Cameron. 3rd Ken Taylor.

Riggs Trophy: Awarded to the flyer with the most RAFA points who has not received a trophy in any of the other classes. Includes bonus points for fly-off scores: Mike Cook.

The Nordic Shield: Awarded to the winner of FAI glider at the 6th Area Meeting: Gary Oulds.

As a matter of interest, competition for the RAFA Shield has now been running for 68 years, being presented to the Area by the Sevenoaks branch of the RAF Association way back in 1950. In the early days no less than 7 clubs competed for the trophy, now we are down to just 2.

Re-election of Officers;

The following positions were due for re-election his year;

Chairman, Council delegate, Treasurer and PRO.

The existing Chairman, Council delegate and Treasurer were re-elected for a period of 2 years. There were no applications for the position of PRO.

Mike Richardson resigned as Free Flight Flying Discipline Secretary and Alex Cameron has been co-opted into this role until the next AGM.

Returns to BMFA Head Office;

Jim Tucker will send in the Area Accounts at the end of the financial year.

Chris Searle will send in the Officer Information following the AGM.

The meeting closed at 08:10pm