

# Minutes of the BMFA South East Area OGM

The OGM commenced at 08:10 on the 14<sup>th</sup> 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;**

Name	Area Role	Club
Mike Sun	A.C.E	
Taj Manning	Education co-ordinator	Mid-Sussex Flyers
Mike Richardson	Competitions Secretary	

## **Minutes of the previous meeting;**

Agreed to be a true record.

## **Matters arising from the previous meeting;**

The Ashdown Forest site and Area funding issues which will be covered later in the meeting.

# Minutes of the BMFA South East Area OGM

## Officers reports;

### **Chairman and Council Delegate;**

My report starts with the sad new that John Dart passed away recently. John was one of the driving forces behind the South East Indoor competition and has been so for a very long time. Our thoughts are with his Family.

A lot of my time recently has been taken up with the new BMFA Membership system This will be covered later in the meeting.

As stated in my annual report we will be looking at extending the hours we are allowed to fly on Ashdown forest, this took place yesterday 13<sup>th</sup> and will be covered later in the meeting.

I attended the September Full council meeting.

The morning and part of the afternoon was spent going over the account for the year ending March 2018 and the proposed budgets for the next financial year that are to be put forward at the AGM this 17th November.

This includes the proposal for a £4 increase for the membership subscriptions. Hopefully you will all be aware of the reason for this increase as the reasons are fully explained in the BMFA news but the main factors are a decline in membership numbers and the reduction, or total loss of the amount of rebate received from the insurers this year to the increased value of the claims being made. Clubs can also help by reviewing the locations of where they park their cars in relation to pits and flying areas at their fields. A short presentation on the new membership system was given to the council members by me.

A couple of items from the annual safety review report I felt worth of passing on. There is issue with FrSky wireless buddy systems. unlike manufactures like Spektrum. They use their own implantation of a Bluetooth wireless connection and this has a very short range and loss of control to the student can happen. One example was when an instructor put his body between the two transmitters causing the model to be uncontrolled until the instructor realises the student did not have control and recovered control of the model.

There has been reports of loss of control when using mix and match Tx/Rx systems. This can happen when the level of software in the Tx is updated and becomes no longer compatible with the Rx or vice versa.

Reports back on the NAT's this year were excellent from the RAF staff. Which is a good start for the NAT's in 2019 but as always nothing is guaranteed.

## Minutes of the BMFA South East Area OGM

### **Chairman and Council Delegate continued;**

This year's award winners were agreed. It gives me great pleasure to announce that the Area has a worthy recipient this year. Bob Hart was awarded BMFA Certificate of Merit for his work in the area as Area controller. This is the first award given since I became involved with the area I hope there will be more to come, so I ask Clubs to think about this for 2019.

### **Vice Chairman;**

Robert requested confirmation of the Insurance cover provided for Club assets.

The BMFA have arranged cover which protects individual clubs against loss or damage to club equipment at the club premises. The policy provides cover against loss or damage to club equipment such as club buildings and grass cutting equipment etc. However, the current level of indemnity should be checked with Head Office before any claim is made.

### **Treasurer;**

Nothing.

### **Secretary;**

Nothing.

### **Achievement Scheme Co-Ordinator;**

Bob reported that £1050 had been donated by 4 Areas towards the making of the Achievement Scheme training video and that another £2000 had been offered by consultants Admac.

### **Education Co-Ordinator;**

Nothing.

# Minutes of the BMFA South East Area OGM

## **Review of SE Area Events in 2018;**

Stuart thanked the Hastings and the Epsom Radio Flying Club for hosting the fly-ins this year.

## **Proposed SE Area Events in 2019;**

An E2K pylon racing meeting will be run in January at Old Hay airfield, near Paddock Wood. James will supply more details for inclusion into the Area Newsletter.

Three Clubs, Caterham, Croydon and Concorde currently hold inter club Fun Fly competitions and other clubs in the Area could be invited to participate.

The K2 Indoor Flying meeting is scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> February 2019, the cost of the venue is £984.09. The Free Flight Technical Committee are prepared to underwrite the cost subject to approval of the financial arrangements. Stuart will contact the Crawley Club to discuss the organisation of the event. Stuart also asked if any Area members would be available to assist with the non-flying aspects of the meeting. It is not possible to invite traders as K2 have restrictions on commercial activities and the cost would increase.

Other regular meetings will be discussed during the January OGM.

There is interest within the Area in holding a Scale Helicopter fly-in, Stuart will look in to this.

If there is interest from other disciplines, for example Control Line, the area would also look at supporting these events.

## **Ashdown Forest Licence;**

Stuart had met with the Conservators because some BMFA members had been challenged by Rangers due to flying outside of the agreed hours. Apparently these members were not aware of the times but had been flying there for some time however on this particular occasion a different Ranger was on duty who upheld the official flying times. Drone flying had caused the Rangers to enforce the terms of the licence more strictly. Proposals by the Area to extend the flying times were well received by the Conservators and they will be having an internal meeting to discuss extending the times. No increase in fees was mentioned. Restrictions had been imposed due to animal grazing and a rare bird nesting, the Dartford Warbler, but the relevance of these activities will now be reconsidered. At the moment it is allowed to power models with small IC engines but this policy may be changed to electric power only. In order to validate the BMFA membership of flyers the Conservators suggested issuing lanyards however there would be difficulties when flyers from outside the Area used the site.

# Minutes of the BMFA South East Area OGM

## **Go membership;**

There will be a workshop on 22<sup>nd</sup> January at South Godstone for Club Administrators, currently 15 places have been booked. Renewals can be made from 1<sup>st</sup> December and this can be done by individuals or by Clubs. It is apparent that there are many Clubs yet to add their location details.

## **2019 Area Accounts;**

A third signature is required to be registered in the event of one of the existing signatories not being available. The Secretary will be added and paperwork to enable that was provided by the Treasurer.

The problems experienced by Epsom Downs MAC in paying into the account have been resolved by confirmation of the correct sort and account numbers.

All other departments of the BMFA supply a forecast and work to a budget, the Areas are the only part that are given fixed amounts. It would be desirable for Areas to conform to other parts of the BMFA. In preparation Mark Benns has requested that Areas write a trial budget for test purposes.

## **BMFA AGM;**

There were no Club requests for the Chairman to make any Proxy votes at the AGM.

The subscription is expected to rise to £38.00, mainly due to a reduction in membership and also the anticipated loss of the insurance rebate.

## **A.O.B;**

Dave Knott had come first in F4C at the Nationals.

John Phillips had come second at the BMFA F3F meeting.

## **D.O.N.M;**

9<sup>th</sup> January 2019

The meeting closed at 10:00pm.