

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area OGM

The OGM commenced at 20:00 on the 9th January 2019

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
Peter Burgess	Member	E.S.S.A
Martin Thompson	Member	C.C.M.F.A
John Perry	Member	E.R.F.C
Martin Jones	Member	E.R.F.C
Rob Stanley	Member	Slope Soaring Sussex
Paul Holmes	Member	G.A.C
J R Craig	Member	G.A.C
K Moore	Member	North Kent Nomads
Peter Bennett	Member	North Kent Nomads
Mark Spicknell	Member	North Kent Nomads

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area OGM

Apologies from:

Name	Area Role	Club
Mike Sun	A.C.E	
Taj Manning	Education co-ordinator	Mid-Sussex Flyers
John Phillips	Member	E.S.S.A
Peter Glover	Member	Horsham & District

Minutes of the previous meeting:

Agreed to be a true record.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

To be covered later in the meeting.

Officers reports:

Chairman and Council Delegate;

It has been a quite few months most of what I have been up to is covered in later agenda items. I attended the BMFA AGM in November last year. The increase on BMFA membership created a lot of discussion and a proposal from one club that the increase should be scraped, but as it did not have anyone to second it then was withdrawn. One suggestion was that it should just be made £50. This was rejected as if the BMFA would be seen to be making a profit then the Tax breaks we get for being a non-profit making organisation would be lost and the extra income would be lost in Tax payment. The 2019 AGM will be held at Daventry on the 16th November a change of location.

I attended the drone show at the NEC on the BMFA Stand. I was surprised at the number of people that fly drones that could not find a club willing to accept them at their sites. I know there are a number in the area that do and would ask them to ensure the “Flying Disciplines” on the new BMFA system club information is up-to-date.

The Area ran a GoMembership workshop in November. Andy from head office came down to run it I believe the evening went well and people that attended got a lot from it.

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area OGM

Chairman and Council Delegate continued;

A big thanks goes to James Gordon of the Caterham club for arranging the hire of the hall. The new BMFA membership system is getting the expected mixed reviews everything from “It’s too complicated to “wow brilliant things are so much easier” but on the whole I think it’s a success. The new Club + part of the system is currently being tested by a couple of clubs. If you want further information on this chargeable part of the system then contact either Andy or myself.

Vice Chairman;

Nothing to report.

Treasurer;

There is £3470.00 in the Area account at the moment however payments for the Ashdown Forest and Long Man flying sites are still outstanding. The BMFA will pay £1500.00 into the Area account during April or May. In previous years expenditure has been approximately £3000.00.

Secretary;

An application to add Chris Searle as a signatory had been rejected and this will be resubmitted with different proof of identity documentation.

The Area web site has been amended to substitute Alex Cameron’s details for Mike Richardson’s.

The current meeting room has been booked for the 3 remaining meetings of 2019.

Achievement Scheme Co-Ordinator;

Sussex Soaring Association have been informed that their Fixed Wing examiners can do Silent Flight A tests.

Mikes Sun’s email address as shown in the Area Newsletter is incorrect.

Paul Holmes wanted to know how the Gravesend club could acquire some Club Examiners and Bob Hart agreed to contact Paul to help him accomplish this goal.

Education Co-Ordinator;

Nothing received.

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area OGM

Flying Discipline Secretary (Free Flight);

Alex Cameron has supplied Stuart Willis with a list of competition dates that he has passed on to the Ashdown Forest Conservators.

Proposed SE Area Events in 2019;

The K2 Indoor Flying meeting is scheduled for 16th February 2019 and arrangements are progressing as planned with the Free Flight Technical committee being kept informed. The cost of the venue for the use of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the hall is £984.09 and Stuart Willis requested 3 cheques from the Treasurer. The trophies will be arranged by Alex Cameron. The Flitehook company will have a stand. Volunteers were requested to help with the entrance and Robert Richardson and Rob Stanley confirmed their attendance and Roger Marples would check his availability. The hall is booked from 10:00 but will not be ready for flying to start until 11:00 and flying will cease at 18:00.

The Epsom Radio Flying Club will again be holding an Electric and Scale Fly Ins and the committee of that Club will provide the dates to the Area within 5 days of this meeting. They are also considering arranging a drone racing day.

The Area Scale Day at the Hastings Club site will be on 28th July with a backup date of 29th September.

The Cloud Tramp will be held on Epsom Downs on 3rd August, launch time will be 17:00.

Representatives from the North Kent Nomads club informed the meeting that they are keen to increase the number of competitions they run, both for club members and also for visitors. The club has an excellent open field with unrestricted flying times in the Dartford area with ample car parking available. Initially it is proposed to organise an Area Fun Fly event including a BBQ during the summer. The entry fee, the expected number of fliers and dates that do not clash with other events will be discussed and agreed between the club committee, Stuart Willis and James Gordon.

Pylon racing received little support from members of this Area and the upcoming meeting on the 20th January at Paddock Wood will be promoted by the Area in the various ways at its disposal.

Minutes of the BMFA South East Area OGM

Ashdown Forest and the Long Man;

The Conservators have rejected the request for extended flying hours as they believe this would be harmful to the rare bird species that have sanctuary in the Forest. In fact, some people had already been flying inadvertently outside of the prescribed hours with, as far as is known, no untoward effect on the rare bird population. Stuart Willis stated that he would contact the Conservators to ascertain the concerns of the Conservation Officer. In the meantime, the 2019 licence has been requested.

The licence for the long Man is available and Stuart Willis requested a cheque for £500.00 from the Treasurer.

Gatwick drones;

The Police had contacted a number of local clubs by telephone and also by email. Any future contact should be referred to Dave Phipps at Head Office who has written to the Police explaining the role and relevant procedures of the BMFA.

If an unknown drone is seen flying over a club site the Area should be informed.

Council meeting Proposals;

The Area will support the following proposals;

- 1) The division of the Radio Control Power Team Travel Fund.
- 2) The "Fun Fly Group" be approved as a BMFA Specialist Body and known as the "British Fun Fly Association"

A.O.B;

Martin Thompson from the Chobham Common club stated that he had requested BMFA support regarding actions taken by the Surrey Wildlife Trust but that the request was still outstanding. On receipt of full details, the Area will liaise with Head Office to ensure that the club receives the help and advice needed to negotiate with the Trust.

D.O.N.M;

8th May 2019

The meeting closed at 10:00pm.