



**Annual General Meeting**  
**BMFA South Midlands Area**  
**Un-adopted Minutes**  
**Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 8pm**

The 2018 Annual General Meeting of the BMFA South Midland Area Committee and Club Delegates took place on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018, starting at 8.00pm held at The Red Lion, Dagnall, Hertfordshire, HP4 1QZ.

**Agenda Item.**

**1. Apologies for absence received from:**

Derek Giles – Buckaneers MFC – President, South Midlands Area  
Robin Tinston – Knebworth MFC  
Allen Stephens – Henlow MAC  
Glenn Eaton – Weston on the Green MFC  
Charles Malcolm – Old Warden MAC

**2. Attendees: Total attendees 19, Voting strength 15, (v=voting)**

Bedfordshire Silent Flight – Barbara Wright (v)	Aylesbury & District – Peter Johnson (v)
Aylesbury & District – Bob Playle	Buckaneers MFC - Neil Tidey (v)
Buzzards MFC – Mick Dudley (v)	Chiltern Flyers – Peter Rabjohn (v)
Ivinghoe SA – Jim Wright (v)	Luton & DMAS and ASC – Mick Eames (v)
Luton & DMAS & Sec. – Dick Whitehead	Milton Keynes Modellers – P Rabjohn (v)
Old Warden MAC – Julian Barker (v)	Oxford MFC – Bob Lee (v)
Watford Wayfarers – Richard Crap (v)	Wicken MAC - Pete Richardson (v)
Watford W. and Treasurer – Andy Todd	Wicken MAC – Ian Heath
White Horse MC and Chair – Duncan McClure (v)	Witney & District – Graham Smith (v)
Wellingborough OG MFA – Brian Cooper (v)	

**3. Adoption of the minutes of 2017 AGM**

It was proposed that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting  
Proposed by Graham Smith - Witney                      Seconded by Brian Cooper – Wellingborough  
For 15, Against 0, Abstentions 0

**4. Matters arising from the minutes of 2017 AGM** – There were no matters arising.

**5. Officers Reports**

- **President – Derek Giles** – In Derek's absence Neil Tidey reported that Derek was still taking an active interest in Area affairs and was sorry that, due to ill health, he was unable to attend the meeting.  
*The meeting wished Derek a speedy recovery.*
- **Chairman's Report – Duncan McClure** (also includes his role as Area Delegate)  
As well as providing the written report below, Duncan was pleased to inform the meeting that at the recent BMFA AGM Jim Wright was made a Fellow of the BMFA, and Mick Eames was awarded the SMAE Medal. Both awards were for all the work these two have carried out over the years in support of the BMFA and aeromodelling.

*Written report*

I have attended all but one of the of the Full Council meeting held this year, and the one Areas Council meeting held so far.

The South Midland Area has had another reasonably active year, with attendance at Area meetings typically attracting representatives from approximately 15 clubs, which equates to the representation of roughly a quarter of all clubs in the Area. The attendance at meetings remains reasonably strong, with useful debate and discussion and we even have several new club representatives within our ranks. We have also increased our use of e-mail for input and discussions on Area matters.

Thankfully in 2018 we have been able to fill all of the Area Committee positions, with just the one concession that the Chairman also fulfils the role of Area Delegate, a combination which we have found works pretty well. The exception to the above is the position of PRO, which has been vacant for some time.

The Area has run a very successful Achievement Scheme Examiner/Instructor workshop in conjunction with the Midland Area at Buckminster. Such collaborations (we did the same thing last year with the Southern Area) work really well and help to spread the organisational load. Workshops are now established annual events for the Area and have historically been hosted by a variety of clubs (with suitable flying sites and facilities) at different locations throughout the Area. Plans are in hand to run at least two workshops in 2019. This year there has been a notable increase in the number of requests for Club Examiner tests in the Area.

As well as financing the Achievement Scheme workshops, the Area has provided modest financial support to other Area organised events and also to Area members who are competitors at International competitions.

Our Area Education Officer, Brian Cooper, has done some excellent work with Youth and Education Support (YES). Also, with a small team of members from a few Area Clubs, (Ivinghoe Soaring Association, Aylesbury and Leighton Buzzard) Jim Wright and team have continued to support the Cool Aeronautics events that are held at the Trenchard Museum in RAF Halton. Cool Aeronautics is a Royal Aeronautical Society program aimed at 9-11 year olds and typically has 6 'aero' related activities. As part of the RAF100th Anniversary celebrations this year the team have already helped over 600 children build and fly the BMFA AeroJet in 7 events at RAF Halton with 3 more planned this year.

The Area supports and continues to take a keen interest in the study looking into potential charitable status for either the Association and or the National Centre.

Jim Wright continues his work in support of the further developments at Buckminster, particularly in connection with securing external grant funding.

I would like to thank all the members of the Area Committee, and associated clubs, for their support and guidance in my endeavours, and I look forward to being able to represent them in the future.

- **Vice Chairman – Mick Eames** – Mick reported that he had to stand in for the chairman on two occasions during the year.
- **Secretary – Dick Whitehead** – I have attended all the Area meetings this year and produced the relevant paperwork in a manner which I hope allowed Area Clubs to participate fully if they wished to do so. In addition, I have circulated a variety of documents as requested, and acted as a contact point for several clubs or individuals seeking information.  
The Area "contact list" has been maintained as well as possible using the club affiliation information supplied by the BMFA, supplemented and corrected sometimes by other methods (e.g. letters, phone calls, etc.).  
In October I also attended an Areas Council meeting on behalf of the Area during our usual delegate's absence abroad.  
I would like to thank the rest of the committee for their continued support and so making my job easier.
- **Treasurer – Andy Todd** – The treasurer presented his statement of accounts (appended at the end of these minutes) with a commentary on some of the items, and a vote was taken to accept the accounts. Proposed by Andy Todd – Watford/Treasurer    Seconded by Mick Eames - Luton  
For 15, Against 0, Abstentions 0
- **Area Delegate – Duncan McClure** – see Chairman's report which includes both of Duncan's roles.
- **Education Officer – Brian Cooper** –  
It has been a quiet year compared to previous years.  
We have had two sessions of introducing model aeroplanes generally, and R/C models specifically, to two Cub packs, with one of them following up with a visit to the local flying field for some buddy-box flying.  
We had to cancel their first visit due to the weather – unusually for the UK it was too hot.  
The second date proved to be very popular and we gave goes to 24 Cub Scouts. We will be going back to this Cub pack in two years (when there is a new generation of Cub scouts).

The Wellingborough flying field is integrated into a large sports complex which hosts many other sports activities.

One Sunday morning we had a visit from some young boys who were bored with being reserves for their football team and were left hanging around all morning doing nothing. . . . so I gave them a go on the trainer.

These boys then went back and told their friends about the model aeroplanes, and, after the football match was over, we had a deluge of about 30 boys all wanting to have goes. A session (with more pilots) was arranged for them the following Sunday and this proved to be highly popular. We even had four youngsters from the Archery range joining in at this session.

One of our pilots took the boys for a flight around our field via a drone and FPV goggles..... This was extremely popular and is something we will do again in the future.

- **Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator – Mick Eames** - Mick thanked Duncan McClure and Brian Cooper for their assistance in running a successful examiners workshop in his absence. Two such workshops are planned for 2019.

Mick again expressed concern over the number of Area Chief Examiners and some parts of the area were particularly 'short staffed'. Some suggestions for possible ACEs will be followed up but more are required.

- **Competition Secretary** – No report as position vacant in 2018.
- **PRO** - No report as position vacant in 2018- volunteer required for 2019.

#### 6. **Election of Area Officers for 2019 –**

The existing officers were all willing to stand again for office, and Peter Rabjohn volunteered to act as Competition Secretary in a "contact point" capacity.

As there were no other nominations a show of hands was requested to agree to a block vote for the election of the officers. All present agreed to a block vote.

It was therefore proposed that the following officers be re-elected "on block": -

Chairman – Duncan McClure  
Vice Chairman – Mick Eames  
Secretary – Dick Whitehead  
Treasurer – Andy Todd  
Area Delegate – Duncan McClure  
Education co-ordinator – Brian Cooper  
Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator – Mick Eames  
Competition Secretary – Peter Rabjohn

Proposed by Graham Smith – Witney      Seconded by Jim Wright - ISA  
For 15, Against 0, Abstentions 0

#### 7. **Ratification of Area Chief Examiners and Area Chief Instructors**

Mick Eames reported that all Area CE have submitted the required annual reports but sadly two now wish to retire from the role.

The Area were grateful to the retiring CE, Roger Bowyer-Lowe and Barry Beech, for all they had done as Chief Examiners and asked the secretary to write to them expressing our thanks.

Mick then proposed that the remaining five ACE are re-ratified.

Proposed by Mick Eames – Luton      Seconded by Julian Barker – Old Warden  
For 15, Against 0, Abstentions 0

#### 8. **Date and venue for the 2019 Area AGM**

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 – venue to be announced (probably Red Lion in Dagnall).

The meeting formally closed at approx. 22:05



# British Model Flying Association

## SOUTH MIDLAND AREA COMMITTEE

### Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2018

	2018		2017	
	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st April 2017				
Business Saver Account	1,651.93		1,651.09	
Community Account	1,641.38		2,109.71	
		<u>3,293.31</u>		<u>3,760.80</u>
<u>Receipts</u>				
BMFA Area Support	1,682.94		1,668.78	
Bank interest	1.08		0.84	
		<u>1,684.02</u>		<u>1,669.62</u>
<u>Payments</u>				
Room hire & refreshments	262.25		194.50	
Committee travelling expenses	697.56		481.09	
Chiltem Flyers Club trophies	50.00		50.00	
P. Allen - area thermal event	50.00		50.00	
R. Crapp - F4H championships	-		80.00	
D. Toyer - F4H championships	-		80.00	
Examiners' workshops	237.16		171.62	
Admin expenses	6.60		29.90	
BMFA National Centre weather station			1,000.00	
		<u>1,303.57</u>		<u>2,137.11</u>
<u>Excess of receipts over payments</u>		<u>380.45</u>		<u>(467.49)</u>
Balance at 31st March 2018		<u><u>3,673.76</u></u>		<u><u>3,293.31</u></u>

### Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31st March 2018

	2018		2017	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Assets</u>				
Barclays Bank				
Business Saver Account	1,653.01		1,651.93	
Community Account	2,020.75		1,641.38	
		<u>3,673.76</u>		<u>3,293.31</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>				
	None		None	
		<u><u>3,673.76</u></u>		<u><u>3,293.31</u></u>

Signed on behalf of the Committee on

A Todd

Treasurer