



BMFA South Midlands Area Committee Meeting
Minutes of the meeting held at 20:00hrs on Tues 9th January 2018
at the Red Lion, Dagnall

Area Officers present:

Chairman	Duncan McClure	Vice Chairman	Mick Eames
Area Delegate	Duncan McClure	AS Co-ordinator	Mick Eames
Secretary	Dick Whitehead	Education Co-ordinator	Brian Cooper
Treasurer	Andy Todd		

Clubs in attendance:

Aylesbury & District – Peter Johnson (v)	Aylesbury & District – Bob Playle
Buckaneers MFC - Neil Tidey (v)	Buzzards MFC – Mick Dudley (v)
Chiltern Flyers – Peter Rabjohn (v)	High Wycombe – Mitch Mabbutt (v)
Ivinghoe SA – Jim Wright (v)	Luton & DMAS and ASC – Mick Eames (v)
Luton & DMAS & Sec. – Dick Whitehead	Oxford MFC – Bob Lee (v)
Watford Wayfarers – Richard Crap (v)	Wicken MAC - Pete Richardson (v)
Watford W. and Treasurer – Andy Todd	Witney & District – Graham Smith (v)
White Horse MC and Chair – Duncan McClure (v)	Wellingborough OG MFA – Brian Cooper (v)

Total voting strength: 13 voting attendees (v), plus 3 non-voting attendees, Total attendees = 16

1) Welcome and Apologies for absence:

Apologies received from:

Derek Giles – Buckaneers MFC – President, South Midlands Area	
Bedfordshire Silent Flight – Barbara Wright	Coombe Hill Soaring Assoc. – Matt Brett
Old Warden MAC – Julian Barker	Old Warden MAC – Charles Malcolm
South Cambridge MFC – Greg Butterworth	Wicken MFC – Ian Heath

2) Adoption of minutes of the meeting held on Tues 5th December 2017

It was proposed that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed: Witney – Graham Smith

Seconded: Wellingborough – Brian Cooper

Votes for – 12 Votes against – 0 Abstentions – 1

3) Matters arising:

Item 5:- Neil Tidey has sought and been granted permission to attend the BMFA Council meeting on the 13th to support our proposal that the BMFA commission a study to consider obtaining Charitable Status. Neil then outlined the reasons for the proposal and the advantages for the BMFA that could arise. There was a lengthy discussion on the way forward should the proposal be agreed at Council.

4) Correspondence:

A claim for catering expenses relating to the joint Achievement Scheme Examiners Workshop at Popham has been received. This was passed to the treasurer.

5) Review of BMFA Council 13th January Agenda

Items where our delegate required our instructions on how to vote were discussed. These were :-

NOTE Abbreviated versions follow - for the full text of these items please see the Council Agenda

Item 19 i) Proposal for Vice-chairman of Areas Council

ii) Proposal for addition to ToR for Technical Committees with reference to quorums.

Item 20 i) To Change General Rule 1.2.2. Dimensions of Model Aircraft.

ii) Rule Change for Extreme Weather Conditions at the RC, CL & Scale British National Championships;

Item 22 To receive a report from the Records Officer to include the following Record Claim:

i) Smith/Jephcott (181081/066766) – Junior Mini Goodyear

Item 24 i) From South Midland Area that the SMAE/BMFA commission a study to consider obtaining Charitable Status for either or both the SMAE or the National Centre.

ii) From ASRC that the Association fund the cost of the dinner ticket for one table at the awards dinner, allocated to the Achievement Scheme.

As the meeting seemed in favour of supporting all these items a proposal was made that we take a block vote for all of them rather than individual votes.

Proposed: Luton – Mick Eames

Seconded: White Horse – Duncan McClure

Votes for – 13 Votes against – 0 Abstentions – 0

There followed a proposal that our delegate should support all these items.

Proposed: White Horse – Duncan McClure

Seconded: Witney – Graham Smith

Votes for – 13 Votes against – 0 Abstentions – 0

6) Proposal – that Brian Cooper be proposed as an Area Chief Examiner. See CV attached

After a short discussion a vote was held.

Proposed: Luton – Mick Eames (Area AS coordinator)

Seconded: White Horse – Duncan McClure

Votes for – 13 Votes against – 0 Abstentions – 0

7) Any other Business

Duncan McClure advised that there would be several Achievement Scheme events held at the BMFA Buckminster National Centre this year.

8) Club activity comments from delegates

Wellingborough OG – A very wet field is causing car parking problems at present. They introduced “picnic nights” last year and this has proved very successful at bringing people to the field.

Witney & District – nothing to report.

Luton & DMAS – flying continues but affected by the weather lately. Had the usual Christmas fly in and dinner which went very well but only 16 members fully participated.

Chiltern Flyers – Grass cutting issues have now been sorted out. Some good days flying was had at comps they have run. One member, Glen Allison, has made the British F2b C/L Aerobatics Team.

Aylesbury & District – Electroslot has become very popular with 8 comps last year and 10 planned for the coming year. They had an excellent barbecue during the year and the recent Christmas dinner was well attended and very good. Victory against the moles is claimed for their field.

Watford wayfarers – They have installed a club hut and a generator on their site, so now have field charging facilities available. The field is kept in good condition by volunteer cutters and usage is going up. The installation of grass protection matting round the model benches is helping keep the site in good condition.

Oxford MFC – report a 30% increase in membership last year with many people travelling to make use of the Port Meadow site. Attempts to run a couple of free flight comps were adversely affected by the weather.

Buzzard FC – Membership has doubled, and the club finances have been boosted by being left a legacy from one club member.

Buckaneers MFC – Housing development is slowly closing in on their field. They get a decent turnout but note that the membership is ageing.

Ivinghoe SA – They had a decent Christmas dinner with a good turn-out. Approximately two thirds of last years members have already re-joined. The National Trust licence to use the Beacon has been renewed for 5 years at a reasonable price. They are hoping, via a BMFA News article, to persuade more visiting flyers to join the ISA to aid communication – important for maintain good relations with the NT.

High Wycombe & DMAC – They have two good sites and a club hut but get very few people turning up to fly, or hear guest speakers, or at organised events. Where is everybody?

White Horse MC – relations with the National Trust are very good, and the NT even installed a more convenient gate into the club field without being asked. The mole problem seems to have been solved. They have a good flying site but membership is struggling.

9) **Date and venue of next meeting:**

The next Area meeting is to be held on **Tuesday 8th May 2018** at the Red Lion, Dagnall, at 20:00hrs

Meeting closed at: 22:10