

BMFA
FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING 25th January 2012

Action

Present	Mike Woodhouse MW	Phil Ball PB	
	Chris Strachan CS	Trevor Grey TG	
	John Carter JC	Ian Kaynes IK	
	John Huntley JH	Mike Francies MF	
Apologies	Peter Williams PW		
Minutes of 07.12.11	Accepted with the amendment that the FIE team specified was incorrect and should read		
	Members	I Kaynes 021003	Croydon
		S Philpott 064218	Birmingham
		P Fynn 009010	Country
	Reserves	Nick Bosdet 47905	Country
		Doug Bartle 067661	Morley
	CS reported that the team proposal submitted to Council featured this corrected information		
Matters Arising	<u>Little Rissington</u>		
	CS reported that Devonair are still based at the airfield and he will now approach them..		
			CS
	<u>Church Fenton</u>		
	PB will speak to Colin Foster and discuss what steps or inducements might assist in securing the airfield for the Northern Gala. A final decision is required by 4 th February		
			PB
Contest Calendar	<u>2012 calendar</u>		
	Version V1.7b is still current		
	<u>Barkston Dates and Access</u>		
	Availability for Team Selection and the Nationals is OK. PB to pick up the situation on the Area meetings. He subsequently reported that -		
			PB
	1st Jan 29 Barkston		
	2nd Feb 19 Barkston		
	3rd March 4th TBA trying North Luffenhan (Barkston not available)		
	4th March 25 Barkston		
	<u>World Cup events admin offer</u>		
	MW reported that he has turned down the Ukrainian offer.		
	<u>Salisbury Plain</u>		
	TG to speak to Martin Dilly about the provision of toilets (for Stonehenge, Equinox, London and Southern Galas).		
			TG
	Risk Assessment		
	MW reported that a risk assessment has now been requested by the army for Sculthorpe. This has been provided, based on our usual format. He noted that this is likely to be an increasing requirement and asked that CS should send a copy of CAP 658 and the Free Flight Risk Assessment to all members.		
			CS
Nationals	<u>Progress</u>		
	All forms, posters and documents now completed		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airfield booked • MW, Dave Phipps and Roy Wright now to meet • PB to discuss with Grantham members interested in assisting CDs 		
			<u>MW</u>
			PB

- Ian Middlemiss will be CD for the Bowden. CS to send thank you letters to Michael Marshall and Roger Upson Smith. CS

Nationals management

MW to discuss with Dave Phipps and Ray Wright MW

Officer's Reports

Treasurer

Nothing to report other than need to fix team contribution from team Travel Fund.

A figure of £150 was proposed

Proposed CS Seconded TG 4 in favour, 2 abstentions JC

Council Delegate

TG's report on the January council meeting is attached as Appendix A.

The paper from the Hon Treasurer including the notion that Training and Excellence funding should be confined to team members caused concern as the FFTC

understanding based upon the Jan 2010 Council meeting is that it should be spent upon improving the prospects of UK teams winning but not be confined to team members. JC

It was agreed that attendance at the further 2012 Council meetings should be-

24 March Tech MF MF

19 May Full TG TG

8 Sept Full TG TG

13 Oct Tech MW or CS MW CS

PRO

In his absence submitted a report included and Appendix B

Safety Officer/Results Coordinator Results

PB to write to all competition secretaries and /or CDs asking for a better standard of result returns. PB

Safety

Barkston guidelines have been distributed.

Rules Officer

The junior team qualification requirements (appendix C of previous minutes) were agreed with the Competition Secretary and are now in the 2012 rule book.

TG noted that we may need to consider a standard for senior team members at some time in the future.

International Teams

F1A,B,C

CS reported that following the team management advertisement in BMFA News being in the public domain for more than 10days the committee confirmed by email that MW should be proposed as team manager with Bob Cheesley as assistant. This was done in time for the January Council meeting at which all our proposals were accepted.

MW reported that preparations are proceeding . MW

Space

MF reported that a possible team manager and assistant have been identified and he will provide details to CS. The meeting voted upon accepting his judgement

Proposed CS Seconded MW All in favour. MF CS

F1E

Preparation proceeding

World Cup Events

Stonehenge Cup 2012

Preparations underway. Due to Chris Chapman's illness Peter Tribe is taking the lead on arrangements. IK to check with Peter and update contact details on the FAI calendar if appropriate. IK

Equinox Cup 2012

Nothing to report. TG to look into possible sponsorship. TG

The FAI Competition Calendar

No progress but carry forward

CS

Rules

Radio Assist/ 2.4 ghz

It was noted that the use of 2.4 is not quite the simple panacea that some people expect and some management to prevent over crowding of the band may well be needed.

Free Flight Info.

ITC request for access to FFTC mailing list.

It was agreed that we cannot authorise this but we can put a notice in News giving the link to the ITC for people to ask to be added to their list. CS to speak to Tony Hebb and inform PW

CS

Lifetime awards

MW to discuss with Dave Phipps as such a scheme would have to be Society wide

MW

Events

Free Flight Showcase

Paul Fynn will not be available as he is on the F1E team at this time. Andy Houston may want to take it on and JH agreed to check with him.

JH

Museum

MW reported that Jim Wright has put a proposal to the Executive and awaits their response.

Technical Workshop

Preparations are going ahead and TG discussed requirements with the participants present.

TG

FFTC Deliverables

CS had circulated the revised format and asked for comments by email. MF asked that Space be added in the actions column..

CS

BMFA Growth A.O.B.

No progress to report. No feedback from the executive.

Job Descriptions

MW repeated his request for all members to produce a brief job description.

Calendar balance

CS raised concern about the balance of the calendar across the season and about the ever more difficult situation with flying sites. Possible responses were discussed and CS agreed to produce an outline document to encourage debate.

ALL

CS

SAM 35 events

JH asked if Bill Longley could run Vintage Power Radio Duration at the East Anglian Gala

He also asked if a Voertsak Control Line event could be added to the SAM 35 participation at the Nationals. Both were accepted.

Next meetings

Dates

Wednesday 14th March 11.00 am at Chacksfield House.

Wednesday 16th May 11.00 am at Chacksfield House.

FFTC 27/01/12

Critical dates for FFTC

BMFA News Copy dates April 2012 Issue (111) – deadline 10th February
Full Council **May 19th** Agenda deadline April 23rd
Technical Council March 24th Agenda deadline February 27th

Appendix A**Full Council Meeting , 7th Jan 2012 – T.Grey**

Items concerning or connected with FFTC

(see Council Agenda version 3)

1. Agenda item 10

As part of his report the Hon Treasurer raised the precise details of requirements for the Training and Excellence budget (attached). I pointed out that most were not aware that this spending was intended principally for 'Team Improvement'. Certainly in the case of Free Flight we were already using the budget in a 'broader' context. We need to look at these requirements and possibly submit a proposal for the next Tech Council Agenda (deadline 20th Feb 2012) requesting these broader usages of the budget.

2. Agenda item 11

2012 World Champs F1A,B,C Team, Team Manager and Assistant Team Manager ratified.

Comp Sec raised her concern that the Team Manager was also a 'flying' member of the team and that this was not an ideal situation. I replied that the majority of the Team Manager's work would be completed before the Champs and that Assistant Team Manager who was not flying was responsible for the majority of tasks on the field. Further that the Team Manager was only flying in one class (F1B) so would still be available for most of the meeting.

2012 Euro Champs F1E Team, Team Manager and Assistant Team Manager ratified.

2012 World Champs Space Team, Team Manager and Assistant Team Manager ratified.

Comp Sec also asked that in future proposals for Teams, Team Managers and Assistant Team Managers should be submitted as separate proposals – 3 proposals per team.

Additionally 'minimum standards' for team qualification were raised (the current Junior Indoor Champs team comprises 2 members who are aged 11 and 7 years – this was ratified). We have already set minimum standards for our Junior teams and may also need to consider setting minimum standards for our Senior teams.

3. Agenda Item 14

The Hon Sec presented two proposals to amend the Council Handbook to include various detail changes: cross referencing and adoption of articles of association. I raised concerns with particular items:

1. (see Agenda item 14, appendix to proposal i, page 29: Section 1.8 Term of Office) – Procedures of ratification by Council for members having served more than five 2 year terms. The Tech Sec was also unhappy with this and pointed out that we could not introduce ‘retrospective legislation’, thus any qualifying terms would have to start from the date of adoption and not include any terms already served.

2. (see Agenda item 14, appendix B, page 37: Section 14.5)– Requirements for disciplinary procedures against ‘directors’ (Council Members) in cases of misconduct. I said that I felt that some of the proposed restrictions on ‘Representation’ at disciplinary committees involved in these procedures may be illegal and needed reconsideration. The Vice Chairman felt that the Standards and Conduct Committee so formed would only be concerned with issuing (or not) a disciplinary warning and as thus the subject of such should not require Legal representation.

Notwithstanding my, the Tech sec’s and Record Officer’s concerns both proposals were passed (I voted against).

4. Agenda Item 20

The RC Power Tech Committee made two proposals (iv) and (v) concerning team funding.

Proposal (iv) to spend 50% of the sums raised by the 2012 membership fee increase on team funding was discussed at some length. The general feeling, including mine, was against and the proposal was rejected (I voted against).

Proposal (v) to look at general principals and policy on team funding was also discussed at length and passed (I voted for) though this seemed to cause confusion as to how the proposal was to be implemented. In the end the Vice Chairman (as I understood it) said he would form a working party to look at the policy.

5. Next Meeting

The next Full Council Meeting will take place at Husband’s Bosworth.

T.G. 20.1.12

Attached : Hon Treasurer – Training and Excellence budget synopsis

Appendix B

PRO REPORT Peter Williams

I will not be able to make the meeting on Wednesday due to another engagement so here is my report:

Nationals

1. The entry form and information with photos has been sent to Simon Delaney for publication in the April BMFA News.
2. The poster has been completed and sent to the printers and Gemma is arranging to send to the magazines.
3. The sticker has been completed and sent to the printers. The quantity will be the same as last year.
4. The following competitor documents have been completed incorporating committee edits and are ready for printing:
 - a) Competitors Notes
 - b) Competitors Pack
 - c) Main Programme
 - d) SAM35 Programme

This completes the Nationals items under my responsibility.

Please note that Gemma has now gone on maternity leave and expects to return part-time in 3 months. She has said she will ensure that the Nationals documents are printed and ready in time.

Stonehenge Cup

Peter Tribe has taken on the organisation while Chris Chapman recuperates. Chris expects to have an operation and be fit by the time of the comp.

I have advised Peter on where to get mugs, stickers etc. Andy Crisp is doing the art work.

Dave Greaves is making the Trophies.

I have agreed to issue the entry invitation to my E mail lists (past competitors and FFTC) when Peter sends it to me.

Please ensure that any correspondence on the Stonehenge is sent direct to Peter Tribe with only a copy to me for monitoring.

General

I have had some unexplained hiccups with E mail lately. For example an E mail I sent recently and I know you got because I received comments did not appear in my sent items. Also some E mails I receive have disappeared. This is very annoying because I try to keep current activities saved in E mail directories so that I have the history and can track changes to documents. Fortunately all my incoming E mails stay in my Virgin web inbox so I can usually retrieve those but it does cause confusion at times.