

**BMFA**  
**FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

Action

<b>Present</b>	Mike Woodhouse	MW	Phil Ball	PB
	Chris Strachan	CS	Trevor Grey	TG
	John Carter	JC	Ian Kaynes	IK
	Stuart Darmon	SD	John Jacomb	JJ

**Minutes of 02.04.14** It was noted that these minutes as circulated were headed 04/March rather than 04/April. CS asked that members correct their file copies. CS  
 The minutes also included in Appendix A the FFTC votes for 2016 Championship locations which were not actually voted on at the meeting but were collected afterwards.

**Matters Arising** Minutes accepted  
 No matters arising

**Contest Calendar** **2014 Calendar**  
 Latest version is V1d incorporating revised location of June trials to Salisbury.

**Salisbury Plain**  
 The loss of Area 8 for the Stonehenge Cup (see below under Stonehenge Cup for actions) causes concern for the availability of this and other potential sites on the Plain in future. It was agreed that we need to determine what is going on and how co-ordination with the Army's planning processes can be improved. TG will be the FFTC co-ordinator for the Plain in future and as a first step he reported that Lindsey Smith is attending a meeting today (7<sup>th</sup> May) and will request a meeting for him with the appropriate personnel at Westdown. Points discussed and relevant to such a meeting included

- The Amy list of planned events that is said to be produced each January
- The need to keep well clear of any planned dates for the use of Area 8 (2 or 3 weeks either side)
- Any benefits of separating the management of event dates from that of trimming weekends
- The immediate need to confirm the bookings for the first Team Selection and the Southern Gala
- Acceptance that whatever is agreed there will always be a risk of last minute cancellations
- The need to set up closer planning and liaison our Army hosts

It was agreed that we should put out a statement that we are working on improving communications and confirming the rest of the contest calendar. This statement should include an apology to all who entered the Stonehenge Cup. It should also stress that competitors should always make sure of venues before travelling to an event. SD to produce a draft for comments. SD

**Barkston**  
 Following the withdrawal of all casual licences for the use of Barkston (other than for the Free Flight and August Nationals) discussions with Cranwell are taking place but as yet there is nothing to report.

**Luffenham**  
 The transfer of the Northern Gala to Luffenham from Barkston at short notice has created concern from the Rutland Radio Club who see their worst fears for much increased use of what is already a sensitive site confirmed. There has been some tension and email writing as a result focussing on the event but it appears that there

is little from the conduct of the event to justify it.

MW to speak to Bryan Spooner about increasing liaison between all interest parties (the radio club, the Midland Area, the farmers, the Army and the competition calendar) MW

### **Flying Fields CRISIS?**

The current shortage of Flying Fields and the pressure on those we have left lead to a wide ranging discussion on where we should go next.

#### **A Starter Paper**

TG stated that he has already started to produce paper on the subject and it was agreed that he and CS should work on this. The topics discussed and the possible range of such a paper included TG CS

- How to approach an airfield (such as Cottesmore)
- Bodies to be approached ( eg farmers via NFU, National Trust etc)
- Help available from the office
- An explanation/ proposal of what we want to do on “your” site
- Avoiding going of the field
- Contest organisation to suit fields
- Classes of model to suit fields
- Living with SSIs and Wildlife (such as Sculthorpe)
- And many more!

### **SAM 35 relationship Nationals**

PB reported that the issue of SAM 35 charges at the Nationals is now resolved PB

PB reported that all is now under control. In particular

- Bowden CDs are David Leading and Ken Norton
- Prize presentation will be by the BMFA Chairman on Saturday, Andrew Boddington (Aeromodeller) on Sunday and the CDs on Monday

#### **Motorised Retrieval**

It was agreed that motorised retrieval needs to be as limited as possible but should be allowed for those who are unable to retrieve on foot or by bicycle. Those requiring to do so should inform the CD. SD to write and circulate a notice SD

#### **FOD**

This has been sited as one of the justifications for rejection of casual users on Barkston. SD to include out a reminder to take all objects home SD

#### **Entries**

SD to include in his notice a clear statement that the Nationals are definitely on, in case any confusion or alarm remains.

### **Officer's Reports**

#### **Treasurer**

All accounts are healthy.

#### **Council Delegate**

No meeting since the last FFTC meeting. MW will report on the flying fields situation at the next Full Council Meeting.

#### **PRO**

Nothing to report

#### **Results Officer**

Nothing to report

#### **Safety Officer**

Nothing to report other than concern about the control of motorised retrieval at the Nationals See above.

#### **Rules Officer**

The number of flights for 1/2A is now shown correctly in the rule book

<b>International Teams</b>	<b><u>F1A,B,C</u></b> The final entry form has now been sent in. Its late appearance was due to an error from the organisers but there have been no consequences. <b><u>F1E team</u></b> Steve Philpott will not be going and his place has been taken by Paul Fynn. The Competition Secretary has been informed. <b><u>Space team</u></b> Nothing to report	
<b>Team Selection</b>	<b><u>2014</u></b> First event is scheduled for Salisbury Plain on 21/22 June. Entries are low at present.	
<b>Stonehenge Cup</b>	The event was cancelled due to late cancellation of the site but all entrants were informed and entrance fees have been refunded.(see Contest Calendar above) It was agreed that all these entrants should be given free entry to the next Stonehenge Cup. Proposed JC Seconded PB Accepted unanimously The possibility of running the Stonehenge and the Equinox on the same weekend as two one day events on the Calendar Date already published for the Equinox was discussed and a final decision will be taken at the next FFTC meeting.	JC
<b>Equinox Cup</b>	Nothing to report except as above	
<b>Space</b>	JJ reported that the attendance at CIAM was useful and instrumental in getting a proposal for reduced power in S8 rejected. He apologised for not yet writing a piece for News explaining the relationship between FAIR, SERFS and UKRA and promised to do so asap.	JJ
<b>Rules</b>	<b><u>CIAM</u></b> TG and IK reported that some compromises were successfully arrived at for F1Q which took the class in the direction we wished. All the other Free Flight rule changes accepted at CIAM were in line with the FFTC wishes.	
<b>BMFA and FFTC websites</b>	<b><u>Transfer to BMFA Website</u></b> Bryan Spooner to be asked to provide a copy of all the data files on the FFTC site to Andy Symons for loading onto the BMFA site. The FFTC presence then be held inaccessible for a period of parallel running and the cleaning out of obsolete data. The FFTC site to be continued to be run until that period has proved successful.MW reported that Bryan has no problem with this and asked TG to request him to proceed accordingly.	TG
<b>Events</b>	<b><u>2015</u></b> It was agreed that an event along the lines of a show and tell should be held at Husbands Bosworth at late January/early February. All members to develop ideas. Carry forward.	ALL
<b>AOB</b>	MW reported that contact with Mongolia is now established thanks to the help of the Competition Secretary.	
<b>Next</b>	<b><u>Dates</u></b>	

**meetings**      Wednesday 11th June **Note this replaces the previous date of 25<sup>th</sup> June**  
Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July

FFTC 08/05/14

**Critical dates for FFTC**

<b>BMFA News Copy dates</b>	August 2014 Issue– copy date 19 <sup>th</sup> June October 2014 Issue– copy date 3 <sup>rd</sup> September December 2014 Issue– copy date 25 <sup>th</sup> November
<b>Full Council</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> May Agenda deadline 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 6 <sup>th</sup> September Agenda deadline 11 <sup>th</sup> August
<b>Technical Council</b>	18th October Agenda deadline 22 <sup>nd</sup> September
<b>FFTC meetings</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> June 15 <sup>th</sup> July