

**BMFA**  
**FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING 11<sup>th</sup> June 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	
	David Phipps (part time) DP		
<b>Minutes of 07.05.14</b>	Minutes accepted		
<b>Matters Arising</b>	No matters arising		
<b>Contest Calendar</b>	<u><b>2014 Calendar</b></u>		
	Latest version is V1d. Contact for Space to be changed to Trevor Seabrook. JJ to send details to TG. IK stated that the new F1E site near Melton Mowbray is good and arrangements for telephone contact with him before events remain satisfactory.		JJ TG IK
	<u><b>Salisbury Plain</b></u>		
	TG reported that he had attended the recent planning meeting at Westdown Camp and met the Army, Air operations and other staff involved with user applications, approval and control. He will write up the booking and authorisation procedure (see Appendix A) and will attend the Westdown meetings in future. IK agreed to be his back up for these meetings. The Calendar bookings for the rest of this year are clear of any clashes.		TG
	<u><b>Barkston</b></u>		
	DP reported that the visit of the Commandant to the Free Flight Nats had gone well and there will be a meeting between him and the BMFA in the next few weeks. DP is hopeful of a relaxation of the current situation in due course.		DP
	<u><b>Luffenham</b></u>		
	The established situation at Luffenham is now that Bryan Spooner handles all negotiation of Free Flight dates with the Army and then passes the information to DP who applies to Defence Estates for the appropriate licenses.		DP
<b>SAM 35</b>	There had been little evidence of SAM 35 activity (other than Control Line) at the Nats. PB agreed to contact Ian lever to see how things went.		PB
<b>Nationals</b>	The Nationals were successful and JC reported that so far it looks as if a sensible profit will result.		
	PB will produce the Nationals report and a list of items to consider for next year. Those raised at this meeting included		PB
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entries in Lulu and Junior Rubber/Glider are too low to justify the events</li> <li>• Spectator safety during the Bowden must be properly addressed</li> <li>• New set of Scoreboards agreed as a maintenance expenditure</li> <li>• Prize giving at Control works well but we need to keep flexible. Celebrity prize presenters does not work as they cannot be expected to stay that late.</li> <li>• The new championship scoring system is a success but needs some refinement of information collection, possibly with a PC on site. This does not imply any move to computerising of the main scoring system</li> <li>• The importance and value of Roy Wright's contribution to the operation of the event over many years was discussed and it was agreed that an appropriate recognition would be to recommend Roy for a suitable BMFA</li> </ul>		

	award (possibly the Ray Malmström trophy). MW undertook to produce a citation.	MW
	PB offered to undertake co-ordination again in 2015.	PB
<b>Officer's Reports</b>	<p><b><u>Treasurer</u></b> All Stonehenge entry forms have been returned. Nothing else to report</p> <p><b><u>Council Delegate</u></b> MW has circulated a report on the May Full Council meeting. Team Travel Fund disbursements will be £845.66 to Free Flight and £307.51 to Space</p> <p><b><u>PRO</u></b> Nothing to report</p> <p><b><u>Results Officer</u></b> PB reported fewer results than usual this year so far due to bad weather and come calendar changes. He feels that the Plugge needs some refocussing to make more sense and increase the number of clubs with a chance of being competitive. The Senior Championship creates considerable interest and could perhaps be built upon.</p> <p><b><u>Safety Officer</u></b> Nothing to report except Bowden spectator issues (see Nats above_)</p> <p><b><u>Rules Officer</u></b> Nothing to report.</p>	PB
<b>International Teams</b>	<p><b><u>F1A,B,C</u></b> Brain Baines has withdrawn from F1A and his place has been taken by the first reserve – Richard Jack. A team meeting will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> June</p> <p><b><u>F1E team</u></b> Steve Philpott will not be going and his place has been taken by Paul Fynn</p> <p><b><u>Space team</u></b> Nothing to report</p>	
<b>Team Selection</b>	<p><b><u>2014</u></b> First event is scheduled for Salisbury Plain on 21/22 June and there are no site problems anticipated.</p>	
<b>Stonehenge Cup and Equinox Cup</b>	<p>It was proposed that the two events should be run over the same weekend (27/28 Sept) with free entry for both regardless of previous entries. Stonehenge on the 27<sup>th</sup>, Equinox on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Pre registration by 19<sup>th</sup> Sept to be required to enable planning.</p> <p>Proposed MW Seconded PB Accepted unanimously</p> <p>SD to put out notice ASAP. IK to announce in FFN</p>	JC    SD IK
<b>Space Modelling</b>	<p>JJ reported that FAIR will continue as a small but stable group. They are finding difficulty in finding sites for testing before the World Championships. It was pointed out that they are welcome to fly at any BMFA calendared event and should liaise with the appropriate contact.</p>	JJ
<b>Rules</b>	<p>TG is continuing to work through the rule book revisions needed to accommodate the removal of FAI rules from the domestic rule book.</p> <p>Two other proposals have arisen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fly off times at Centralised contests are not specified and could be argued to</li> </ul>	

- be required before the “close of the contest” (6pm or 2 hours before sunset). It was agreed that adding “after the contest closes” would solve the problem
- PB raised the issue of the 1959-61 ZAIC Yearbook and proposed that designs therein should be legal for classic events. He was advised to submit a proposal and supporting argument which can then be circulated for discussion.

TG  
PB

**Flying fields** In discussion with DP it was agreed that the greatest current problem for Free Flight is the securing and retention of flying sites.

**New sites**

The “first port of call” for sites is RAF airfields , either currently active or freshly redundant in which case they are often passed to the Army. Making contact with such sites can be difficult and DP agreed to see if he can find a suitable person with whom we can discuss an approach to Lyneham.

DP

**Retention of sites**

The reasons for actual or potential loss of sites are many and various and a perennial source of discussion. TG and CS undertook to work up the results of discussion at this meeting and elsewhere for further consideration at the next meeting. One thread that always runs through such discussions is the excess performance of our models which leads to flights off the site and the need for fly offs beyond the capability of many fliers.

TG CS

**A restricted performance event on a new site**

It was agreed to put together an experimental event with features such as

- Site - Husbands Bosworth
- Date – between mid Nov and early Feb
- Noise – silent
- Classes – ½ motor rubber, ½ towline glider, short run E36, HLG
- Rounds – maxes on field
- Timing – 9am to 3pm

These ideas to be worked on at the next meeting. In the meantime SD to approach the gliding club with respect to their agreement and the possibility of associated use of catering and meeting room facilities.

SD

**BMFA and  
FFTC  
websites**

**Transfer to BMFA Website**

All data has now been passed to Andy Symons. MW to obtain a status report.

MW

**Events**

Nothing to report except as immediately above

**AOB**

Nil

**Next  
meetings**

**Dates**

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July

FFTC 14/06/14

**Critical dates for FFTC**

**BMFA News Copy dates** 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
<b>Technical Council</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> September Agenda deadline 11 <sup>th</sup> August
<b>FFTC meetings</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> October Agenda deadline 22 <sup>nd</sup> September
	15 <sup>th</sup> July

## Appendix 1

### Procedures for Salisbury Plain Training Area Use

1. Year 1(June) :FFTC contact ascertains availability dates.
2. Year 1(Aug') :FFTC prepares FF Year 2 Calendar to fit availability dates.
3. Year 1(Sept') :Booking contact submits bid for required Year 2 dates.
4. Year 2 :FFTC contact checks provisional confirmation at allocation conference, 1 - 2 months before event.
5. Year 2 :FFTC contact obtains semi-firm confirmation from air operations, 1 month before event.
6. Year 2 :FFTC contact obtains final confirmation and/or any restrictions from air operations, 1-2 days before event.