

MINUTES

SOCIETY OF MODEL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS LTD.

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 9th May 2009 at 11am at Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrews Road, Leicester LE2 8RE.

Provisional until confirmed at the next Full Council Meeting.

PRESENT

Robin Gowler FSMAE	Chairman
Chris Moynihan	Vice-Chairman
Robin Sleight MBE	Honorary Secretary
Keith Lomax	Honorary Treasurer
Jo Halman FSMAE	Competition Secretary
Chris Bromley FSMAE	Technical Secretary
John French	Records Officer
Jim Andrews FSMAE	FAI Delegate
Nigel Barker	PRO
Peter Leavesley	East Anglia Area Delegate
Peter Spurway	London Area Delegate(Alternate)
George Maynard	PAS/SFAS Controller
Andy Symons	Midland Area Delegate
David Lloyd-Jones	Northern Area Delegate
Peter Christy	North West Area Delegate
Keith Miller FSMAE	South Midland Area Delegate
Stuart Simpson	South East Area Delegate
Phil Durant	Southern Area Delegate
Robin Jones FSMAE	Western Area Delegate
Keith Barker	Mid-West Area Delegate
Mike Francies	Northern Ireland Area Delegate (Alternate)
Peter Halman FSMAE	Free Flight TC Representative
Les Eagle	Control Line TC Representative
Clive Needham	R/CPTC Representative
Ian Pallister	R/C SFTC Representative
Mike Colling FSMAE	Scale TC Representative
Peter Disney	Indoor TC Representative
	RNMAA Representative

In Attendance

Linda Harding
Dave Phipps

Office Manager / Minute Taker
CEO

Visitor

Michael Brookes, LEMAC

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for Absence.
- 2 Request for permission to be absent.
- 3 To verify the voting strength of the meeting.
- 4 Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10th January 2009.
- 5 Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 10th January 2009 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.
- 6 To receive a financial report from the Honorary Treasurer to include:
 - a The progress towards the year end Accounts.
 - b To receive reduced membership fees from July.
- 7 To receive a joint report from the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer to include the following proposal from the Chairman:
 - a *That should two or more members wish to be considered for the post of Alternate to the FAI Delegate then, provided that they are properly nominated, Council will decide which shall fill the post by ballot at it's January meeting.*
- 8 To receive a report from the Vice-Chairman to include the following:
 - a *Ratify Alan Weighell FSMAE, Gordon Warburton FSMAE, Jim Andrews FSMAE onto the Awards Committee.*
- 9 To receive a report from the Honorary Secretary to include:
 - a To receive the Affiliated Club List.
 - b To receive dates for Council Meetings in the year 2010.
 - c To discuss and agree the processes for the November elections.
 - d *Proposal to modify the text of the proposal bout authority to attend BMFA insured events as per the following words – "That the BMFA Development Officer be given authority himself, or via delegated experienced observers, to attend BMFA Club, Area or affiliated bodies events, where such events are insured by the BMFA, to observe that such events are conducted at a satisfactory level so as to ensure that the BMFA insurance arrangements are safeguarded. The observer should report the findings to the event organisers and to BMFA Executive with any recommendations as appropriate. If of sufficient concern, the observer is empowered to make recommendations to the event organisers while at the event. Such visits may be either with or without prior notice."*
- 10 To receive a report from the Technical Secretary.
- 11 To receive a report from the Competition Secretary to include:
 - a Receipt and ratification of any contests for next year's FAI Calendar.
- 12 To receive a report from the Records Officer.
- 13 To receive a report from the Public Relations Officer.
- 14 To receive a report from the FAI Delegate to include:
 - a The receipt of the report of the recent CIAM Meeting.

- 15 To receive a proposal from
- a *North West Area that if any visits to clubs or flying sites are arranged by Head Office staff on behalf of the BMFA, whether by invitation or otherwise, then the Area Committee concerned should be informed as soon as possible in advance of the visit, unless the club or organisation specifically request otherwise.*
 - b *R/C Power Technical Committee that the Council review the implications of recent changes made to the Helicopter 'B' certificate flying schedule.*
 - c *R/C Power Technical Committee that this Council adopts the JMA/GTBA Code of Practice for the operation of turbine powered models (appended).*
 - d *Keith Miller Fellow that*
 - i) *A regular Archives column be published in BMFA News.*
 - ii) *The Archivist is to be congratulated on the booklet she presented with her first report to the last Council meeting. This evidenced a large number of exhibits which it is understood are stored in various nooks and crannies at Chacksfield House. It is felt that the whole collection should be housed so that it can be viewed as a whole rather than in separate lots. Obviously, considerable funding will be necessary for this and if this cannot be catered for from normal BMFA funds, how about using some of the VAT refund monies? Or, alternatively, perhaps an application for Lottery funds could be considered.*
 - iii) *Prominent aero modellers or their descendants be approached to ascertain whether any modelling memorabilia items, i.e. models or photographs, are available for donation to our Archives*
- 16 To consider Technical Council request to change the date of future January Full Council Meetings from January 2010.
- 17 To receive updated briefings and reports from the Technical Committees & the Power Nationals Co-ordinator for all the BMFA National Championships.
- 18 To receive any reports from the following Delegates (reports should be brief, preferably in writing and in advance).
- a Royal Aero Club (RAeC)
 - b General Aviation Safety Council (GASCo)
 - c Air Prox
 - d Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR)
 - e General Aviation Awareness Council (GAAC)
- 19 To receive any reports from the following Committees (reports should be brief, preferably in writing and in advance):
- a CAA Team
 - b UK Radio Control Council (UKRCC)
 - c Education Working Group
 - d Flight Challenge
 - e University Challenge
 - f Computer Sub-Committee
 - g Safety Review Committee
 - h Achievement Scheme Review Committee
 - i BMFA News Publishers
 - j Flying Site Adviser's Report
 - k BMFA Archivist Report

20 Any Other Business.

Please note: Items for Any Other Business should be handed, or sent, to the Chairman or the Office Manager in writing before the meeting commences.

21 Date of next meeting.

MINUTES

590/05/09 (1) Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from the following:
Martin Dilly FSMAE London Area Delegate, Howard Menary FSMAE Northern Ireland Area Delegate.

591/05/09 (2) Request for permission to be absent.

There were no requests.

592/05/09 (3) To verify the voting strength of the meeting.

The voting strength is 27.

593/05/09 (4) Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10th January 2009.

Page 8

- **Sixth heading, Executive Council** – Replace “Executive” with “Elected”.

Page 10

- **First paragraph, second line** – Replace “Power” with “World Championships 2008”.

Page 13

- **Half way down the page Roman numeral iv)** – Add “Val James” after “Team Manager”.
- **Roman numeral v) F2B** – Additional listing after Roy Cherry “Barry Robinson 68248 Shildon”.
- **F2C Team** – Replace “Bollen/Heaton” with “Heaton/Bollen”.

Page 15

- **F1E Team** – Add Reserves John Pope 40644 no Club and B Horsley 76164 No Club.
- **F1E Assistant Team Manager** – Replace “043218” with “64218”.
- **Eighth paragraph, second line** – Replace “a” with “the”.
- **Tenth paragraph** – Add Reserves John Jacomb 108103 and Nigel Bathe 63592

Page 17

- **Fifth paragraph, fourth line** – Replace “Ex” with “X”.

Page 18

- **Penultimate paragraph, second line** – Delete “entrance”.

Page 22

- **581/09/09 (16) b) Receipt of this year's BMFA Contest Fees** – Add list of Contest Fees.

Page 23

- **Seventh paragraph** – Delete last sentence.
- **Ninth paragraph** – Delete sentence.
- **a) Class** – Add C/L; **Speed** – Add after 200.67 “MPH Percentage 101.89%”.

R/CPTC proposed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2009 be accepted as a true record.

Seconded by Vice Chairman

Vote: For: 25
Ags: 0
Abs: 2

Carried by a majority vote.

594/05/09 (5) Matters Arising from the meeting of 10th January 2009 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.

ACTION / NOTES

Page 9

- **Penultimate paragraph, PAYPAL** – The CEO advised that everything is in place for setting up PAYPAL and this will be finalised as soon as we are free of the year end audit.

Page 11

- **Fourth paragraph, action on Records Officer** – The Competition Secretary asked if the Record **Claims** published on the website are all up-to-date. The Technical Secretary advised that they were published two days after receipt of the information from the Records Officer.

Page 22

- **Seventh paragraph, action Comp Sec Tech Sec to amend BMFA General Rules to include World Air Games National Selection Events** – The Competition Secretary advised that the Technical Secretary has incorporated the WAG rules in a revised issue of the General Rules and they will be available imminently.

Page 26

- **Fifth paragraph, action Comp Sec, review of funding for Teams** – The Competition Secretary advised that she would continue analysing the situation and come back probably in time for next year hopefully with a solution, but could give no guarantees.

The Competition Secretary and Vice-Chairman will discuss the matter outside of the meeting and see if they can come up with some ideas.

**COMP SEC
VICE CHAIR**

Page 28

- Fourth paragraph, club map reference on website – The Technical Secretary advised that getting the club map referencing on the website has been slightly delayed due to the urgency of getting the new classified ads section up and running.

He has now though instructed the webmaster to continue with this.

Page 29

- Top few paragraphs, classified ads – The Technical Secretary advised that there had been a complete overhaul of the classified ads website. New software had been incorporated and a new admin team had been appointed.

This is so far proving to be successful and the CEO does not have to deal with as many complaints now.

595/05/09 (6) To receive a financial report from the Honorary Treasurer.

a) The progress towards year end Accounts.

The accounts are basically complete and will show a comfortable surplus. The Auditor will be at the office for three days sometime over the next couple of weeks to do the Audit.

b) To receive reduced membership fees from July.

These were approved by the AGM in November 2008.

From 1st July 2009 for the remainder of the year:

Seniors	£22	Juniors	£12
Fam Partners	£16	Fam Juniors	£ 9

We are doing very well on membership numbers and are about 300 up on this time last year.

596/05/09 (7) To receive a joint report from the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer.

CEO

Subject to agreement of terms and conditions the BMFA will be taking over the secretariat for the Royal Aero Club from 1st June 2009.

It is a fairly small commitment but should generate the BMFA with some money in providing the services.

Bingo Lotto is due to be re-launched in September and we will be signing up to join once again. Hopefully this time round it will be more successful and generate more money for us. The tickets are going to be on sale at 57,900 Tesco checkouts.

There are some criteria applied to what we can use the money for. Looking through the latest information they are little bit more relaxed than first time round. The money from the first round amounted to just over £1000. The plan is to buy some training aircraft which we will make available to clubs to apply for.

The Child Protection Policy is still not finalised. The goal posts are moving continuously. The laws are changing with effect from October this year and there is a new authority coming in called the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA).

The guidance that should have been issued to Sports is now ten months late. With it becoming law in October there is not a great deal of time for them to get the information out and for us to respond to it.

We attended a briefing in Manchester with the CRB and our hope is that when the ISA comes on line that the current recommendations that we have for the majority of clubs can be simplified to some extent and will make life a little bit easier.

For those clubs such as Youth Groups which are principally for the training of juniors, the conditions will perhaps be a little more onerous.

We attended a meeting at Barkston Heath with to make plans for the Free Flight Nationals. It was a very good meeting. There will be some changes this year due to refurbishing of the Control Tower. The focus of the event in the hangar will be moved to the opposite end to where we normally use.

We have a new kit which has been designed by the Development Officer. We have just taken stock of some and they will be available from the office and at shows. The cost is £1.50.

The Executive discussed at the meeting held yesterday an accreditation scheme, which goes a little bit further for clubs than the current affiliation.

One of our clubs approached us and they use a sports facility to fly on. A lot of the other sports that use it had been successful in obtaining funding from the local Council. The funding is only unlocked if they were accredited members of their Governing Body and the current affiliation did not go quite far enough.

We will be exploring the possibility of some form of accreditation scheme for clubs which goes that bit further. The CEO hopes to present further details at the next meeting.

The Mid Beds Planning Appeal unfortunately was lost. The basis of the appeal was that planning permission had been refused for a club despite the fact that they more than satisfied the requirements of the noise code in terms of separation distance.

It appeared from the planning decision that the Planning Inspector had disregarded the noise code entirely on the basis that it was out of date and no longer valid.

We challenged this. However the Judge did not agree that the Planning Inspector had not given it consideration. His view was that it had been given consideration but it is only a code and is not binding and can be overruled and ignored.

The only recourse we have is that there were some irregularities in the process that was followed by the Planning Officer within the Council who dealt with it. There may be some grounds to appeal for the local council ombudsman.

He has attended the Indoor Scale Nationals and the RAeC Awards evening.

The new database has opened up lots of possibilities in terms of how we can improve efficiency within the office. We also looked at upgrading the current photocopier with the necessary network connectors and the cost for this would have been approximately £2000.

The current photocopier has churned out approximately 2.8 million copies over the last six years. This combined with the fact that it has been out of commission on and off for the past month adds credence to the fact that it is probably due to be replaced.

We are also considering the possibility of replacing it with a copier with colour capability so that we can improve the presentation of some of our pamphlets and brochures.

We have investigated a few options and the cost to replace the current photocopier with a colour one including office networking is in the region of £16,000.

An outright purchase option is more favourable than hire purchase, which usually costs more in the long run.

The R/CPTC proposed that a new colour photocopier is purchased.

Seconded by the PRO.
Carried unanimously

CEO

Chairman

He has been involved in most of what the CEO has reported, particularly with the RAeC.

He attended the Power Nationals planning meeting. He also attended a Rocket Launch competition at Charterhouse by invitation. It was quite an interesting day.

He attended the RAeC AGM and Council Meeting where we initially discussed taking over the administrative work. He also attended the RAeC Awards evening where four of our members received awards.

He attended a club talk by the Development Officer at the South Norfolk club, which was very well received.

He attended the Scale Indoor Nationals which was a very good day.

He visited the office on two days last week. One was to meet with Mark Benns who is an architect, to discuss the concept of an extension to Chacksfield House.

The second meeting was with Diana King RAeC Secretary to finalise the details of the takeover. A meeting is to be held on 1st June with Diana King and the Chairman of the RAeC to finalise the contract.

The Chairman submitted the following proposal.

That should two of more members wish to be considered for the post of Alternate to the FAI Delegate then, provided that they are properly nominated, Council will decide which shall fill the post by ballot at it's January meeting.

Seconded by Scale Technical Committee

The FAI Delegate proposed an amendment to the proposal to include the nomination of the Delegate to CIAM Education Committee.

There were various suggestions for the wording of the amended proposal. The Chairman asked permission of the Council to withdraw the original proposal, which they agreed and submit a new proposal to the September meeting, along the lines discussed.

**AGENDA ITEM SEPTEMBER FULL COUNCIL MEETING –
Proposal for nomination of FAI Delegate Alternate and
Delegate to CIAM Education Committee.**

OFFICE MGR

597/05/09 (8) To receive a report from the Vice-Chairman.

The main activities since the last meeting have revolved around putting into action the mandate given by this Council some time ago to change the constitution of the Awards Committee. The main thrust of that was to introduce election of three Fellows who sit on the Awards Committee.

As a result of this he informed Council of the Fellows that were to have a place on the 2009 Awards Committee, on the basis that that the term of their initial reflects the seniority of their position as Fellows.

*Allan Weighell FSMAE who will serve for three years;
Gordon Warburton FSMAE who will serve for two years;
Jim Andrews FSMAE who will serve for one year.*

This means the first of the above will come up for election next year. Each year thereafter there will be one Fellow coming up for appointment onto the Awards Committee.

The Awards Committee for 2009 comprises the following:

Chris Moynihan Vice-Chairman, Martin Dilly FSMAE RAeC Delegate, Chris Bromley FSMAE Technical Council Representative, Keith Miller FSMAE Areas Council Representative, Allan Weighell FSMAE, Gordon Warburton FSMAE and Jim Andrews FSMAE.

598/05/09 (9) To receive a report from the Honorary Secretary.

He has attended the various meetings of the Executive. He also attended a recent ASRC meeting. That meeting drafted the text which he wrote to allow the possibility of hand launched gliders being used for the Silent Flight 'A' Certificate for gliders.

He has been involved with a lot of correspondence with the South West Area who are currently without a full Committee to try and seek some clarification as to where we need to go with the South West Area. It is an ongoing process and it is not going to be an easy problem to solve.

He has written to all the Clubs in the South West Area. He has had several replies however there is no clear consensus coming back from the Clubs.

He will be reporting further on the situation at the next meeting.

The Honorary Secretary introduced the following items:

a) To receive the Affiliated Club List

There seemed to be several inconsistencies with the Club List for example Clubs listing 0 members or less than 5 members; Clubs listed in the wrong Area, two new clubs in particular - Furness MFC and Plymouth R/C.

The Affiliated Club list was received. The Office was instructed to check out the anomalies and produce a revised Club list. Copies would be made available to Council members.

MEM SEC

b) To receive dates for Council Meetings in the year 2010.

Copies of the Council Meeting dates for 2010 had been circulated.

The Technical Secretary requested a change to the first Technical Council meeting to move it forward to **Saturday 13th March 2010**.

OFFICE MGR

A request was also made that subsequent revised lists include a revision date in the footer.

OFFICE MGR

c) To discuss and agree the processes for the November elections.

RNMAA Area proposed that we continue with the current election processes for the November elections.

Seconded by the PRO
Carried unanimously

d) Proposal from the Honorary Secretary to modify the text of the proposal about authority to attend BMFA insured events as per the following words –

“That the BMFA Development Officer be given authority himself, or via delegated experienced observers, to attend BMFA Club, Area or affiliated bodies events, where such events are insured through the BMFA, to observe that such events are conducted at a satisfactory level so as to ensure that the BMFA insurance arrangements are safeguarded. The observer should report the findings to the event organisers and to BMFA Executive with any recommendations as appropriate. If of sufficient concern, the observer is empowered to make recommendations to the event organisers while at the event. Such visits may be either with or without prior notice.”

DEV OFFICER

The Honorary Secretary explained the reason for the above proposal. He was requested to look at the wording by Areas Council to clarify that the authority was sought specifically for the events that were insured through the BMFA.

Seconded by the FAI Delegate
Carried unanimously

599/05/09 (10) To receive a report from the Technical Secretary.

We are planning for a new issue of the Member's Handbook in 2010. Hopefully there will be a further addendum later this year.

We have been asked to look at the Shared Site leaflet between Slope Soaring and Para-gliders, which we have in hand.

Most of the Rule Books have been issued. R/C Power and Space should be completed within the next few days.

The Technical Secretary reported we are unclear as to the legality of 2.4GHz transmissions from aircraft and we are making official representations to OFCOM to hopefully obtain an official response.

A question was asked whether this would be significant to aerial photography and the possible licensing for data gathering equipment.

The Technical Secretary advised that these are separate issues. There are two different aspects; the CAA point of view is the gathering of the data the OFCOM point of view is the transmission of the data. It might be some time before any licensing laws are agreed.

We will report to you as soon as we know anything from the CAA. Our main concern is the 2.4 GHz issue.

600/05/09 (11) To receive a report from the Competition Secretary.

******* WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX A)**

- a) Receipt and ratification of any contests for next year's FAI Calendar.

Free Flight advised that the Stonehenge Cup and Equinox Cup would be taking place in 2010.

With regard to the written report the Competition Secretary asked that it should be noted in the penultimate paragraph on the first line the word "some" should be inserted before "Technical Committees".

She also pointed out that with regard to the fourth bullet point, there had been an update today to the F3B Team situation and we will not be sending a Team.

The Competition Secretary would provide an amended copy to the Office Manager for publication with these minutes.

The Technical Secretary advised that he would be submitting a proposal to the September meeting to alter the Technical Committee Terms of Reference to include a Rules Officer whose terms of reference will include a specific task to chase the rules from Specialist Bodies.

The Technical Secretary also pointed out the IMAC competition at the Power Nationals this year will probably run to last year's rules because he has still not received this year's rules.

601/05/09 (12) To receive a report from the Records Officer

No report.

602/05/09 (13) To receive a report from the Public Relations Officer

He has attended three shows so far this year. There are lots more scheduled.

He is very keen to talk to Specialist Bodies. If they have ideas on how to further promote the aspects of their sport.

603/05/09 (14) To receive a report from the FAI Delegate.

WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX B)

The FAI Delegate asked that Peter Halman FSMAE is congratulated on being awarded the Alphonse Penaud Diploma.

In the addendum to his report he mentions that a company called "Flying Aces Ltd" gave a presentation to CIAM. They are very keen to film air sports, including aero modelling, mainly at Championships and displays. He was given one of their brochures which he has passed on to the PRO.

604/05/09 (15) To receive the following proposals.

- a) **From North West Area that if any visits to clubs or flying sites are arranged by Head Office staff on behalf of the BMFA, whether by invitation or otherwise, then the Area Committee concerned should be informed as soon as possible in advance of the visit, unless the club or organisation specifically request otherwise.**

Seconded by Indoor Technical Committee

This was debated. Not everyone was in agreement with the sentiment and it was felt the proposal should be worded differently so as not to be too specific.

The Chairman proposed an amendment to the proposal to add the following words "by the host Club" delete "whether" and "or otherwise".

The amended proposal now reads:

That if any visits to clubs or flying sites are arranged by Head Office staff on behalf of the BMFA by invitation then the Area Committee concerned should be informed by the host Club as soon as possible in advance of the visit, unless the club or organisation specifically request otherwise.

Seconded by FAI Delegate

Vote: For: 8
Ags: 15
Abs: 4

Defeated by a majority vote.

Northern Area proposed a further amendment to delete “whether by invitation or otherwise”.

The amended proposal reads:

That if any visits to clubs or flying sites are arranged by Head Office staff on behalf on the BMFA when invited by a club, then the Area Committee concerned should be informed as soon as possible in advance of the visit, unless the club or organisation specifically request otherwise.

Seconded by North West Area

The CEO pointed out that the proposal refers to club or flying site visits. The flying site visits would involve the Flying Site Adviser who is not a member of Head Office staff and the visits he makes are not necessarily arranged by us.

Vote: For: 13
Ags: 8
Abs: 6

Carried by a majority vote.

The substantive motion is as follows:

That if any visits to clubs or flying sites are arranged by Head Office staff on behalf of the BMFA when invited by a club then the Area Committee concerned should be informed as soon as possible in advance of the visit, unless the club or organisation specifically request otherwise.

Vote: For: 10
Ags: 13
Abs: 4

Defeated by a majority vote.

- b) From R/C Power Technical Committee that the Council review the implications of recent changes made to the Helicopter ‘B’ certificate flying schedule.**

The Chairman commented that we have been asked to review something that we have not had any involvement with in the first place.

R/C Power explained the reasons for the proposal. This prompted discussion with regard to the different perceptions of what the 'B' certificate is; An achievement or a Competence

After a considerable length of time the Chairman called a halt to the discussion and reminded R/C Power that the proposal was to review the implications of the changes to the Helicopter 'B'.

The meeting listened to two very opposing accounts leading up to the situation we are in today from R/C Power also speaking on behalf of AHA, and the PAS Controller.

The Technical Secretary asked R/C Power to explain the reason for the statement from the AHA that it is their opinion the Helicopter 'B' certificate is no longer 'fit for purpose'.

R/C Power responded to say that the hovering section of the test at the moment only involves flying in front of the pilot there is nothing to test for flying backwards and sideways and it is important the pilot is able to control his machine around him.

Control Line commented that the biggest implication of the whole debate is a matter of confidence of the people who are asked to administer the achievements. We have a total breakdown of confidence between the AHA and Area Council which needs to be restored. The implication of this is if we do not restore the confidence then **the 'B' Heli Certificate** has no value.

The Chairman charged the ASRC to call a meeting with urgency with representatives of the AHA to come back to this Council in September with some form of agreement on the content of the Helicopter 'B' schedule which can then be put to Areas Council for consideration.

ASRC

R/C Power thanked the Honorary Secretary for his comments for the fact that Specialist Bodies should be invited to the ASRC meetings when appropriate subject matter is being discussed. He said this has not happened in the past which is why we are in this situation today.

The AHA does not seek a permanent presence on the ASRC but if we are going to be asked to implement the results of their meetings, it is important that Specialist Bodies should have some input into those.

The Chairman said he would communicate with the ASRC Chairman that he would like the meeting brought forward as quickly as possible.

CHAIRMAN

- c) **From R/C Power Technical Committee that this Council adopts the JMA/GTBA Code of Practice for the operation of turbine powered models.**

Seconded by South Midland Area

R/C Power advised that the document submitted for approval today replaces the document which was ratified at the January 2009 Council meeting. It now includes a couple of corrections, which he highlighted for clarification.

Northern Area brought to the attention of the meeting an email he had received late last night from Terry Lee of 'Wren Turbines' which raises a couple of points in relation to the JMA/GTBA document that Terry has major concerns with. Northern Area relayed these to the meeting.

R/C Power suggested they invite Terry Lee to the next R/C Power Technical Committee meeting to discuss it with the JMA/GTBA. Hopefully they could discuss it beforehand and come to the meeting with some idea on how to proceed.

The general consensus was that we should adopt the document as is and allow a process of gradual evolution which will include things such as we have heard today. The Chairman moved to a vote.

Vote: For: 25
Ags: 0
Abs: 2

Carried by a majority vote

- d) **From Keith Miller Fellow that**
- i) A regular Archives column be published in BMFA News.**
 - ii) The Archivist is to be congratulated on the booklet she presented with her first report to the last Council meeting. This evidenced a large number of exhibits which it is understood are stored in various nooks and crannies at Chacksfield House. It is felt that the whole collection should be housed so that it can be viewed as a whole rather than in separate lots. Obviously, considerable funding will be necessary for this and if this cannot be catered for from normal BMFA funds, how about using some of the VAT refund monies? Or, alternatively perhaps an application for Lottery funds could be considered.**
 - iii) Prominent aero modellers or their descendants be approached to ascertain whether any modelling memorabilia items, i.e. models or photographs, are available for donation to our Archives.**

The above three proposals were withdrawn after discussion because we are working towards it anyway. The report from

the Archivist (appended to these Minutes) confirms this.
605/05/09 (16) To consider Technical Council request to change the date of future January Full Council Meetings from January 2010.

Seconded by Competition Secretary

The Technical Secretary explained that this move to re-schedule the January Council Meeting would ease pressure on the Technical Committees to get their meetings in. With an early January Council Meeting it brings Technical Committee meetings into the area before Christmas, which for obvious reasons is not ideal.

13th March Technical Council is the date to work around it has to be that because of the CIAM Plenary meeting is always at the end of March.

The Technical Secretary withdrew the proposal.

The Chairman referred it back to the Technical Secretary, Competition Secretary and the Office to have a look at it and find a possible solution by re-scheduling all of the dates and report back to Council in September.

**TECH SEC
COMP SEC
OFFICE**

606/05/09 (17) To receive updated briefings and reports from the Technical Committees and the Power Nationals Co-ordinator for all the BMFA National Championships.

Free Flight

Free Flight reported that everything was in place. A meeting was held at Barkston last week because there were concerns about the temporary Control Tower but everything has been sorted out.

Power Nationals Co-ordinator

A preliminary meeting was held at Barkston last week. The airfield looked immaculate which means we will have to pull out all the stops to leave it better than we found it this year.

Indications are with regard to the hangar that we should get a good proportion of it. If necessary we will have to arrange for a marquee to have the bar in.

There will be different arrangements put in place this year for the evening free flight sessions. We will be discussing this with some of the free flight marshals.

Silent Flight

Work is still in progress to ascertain if it is possible to hold the event at Cranwell. Alternatively they will be held at Spitalgate.

Indoor

Plans are in hand to hold the event at Digby again this year sometime in September.

Slope Nationals

Not heard anything yet. The event may become more important because F3F Slope Speed may become a World Championship event. We should be looking to encourage more publicity in this field. The Technical Secretary hoped Silent Flight could take this on board.

Indoor Scale

The event was held. Entries were down slightly however they still managed a surplus. Arrangements are in place to secure Nottingham University for the next five years. Provisional dates are booked.

607/05/09 (18) To receive any reports from the following Delegates.

a) RAeC Delegate

WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX C)

The Competition Secretary provided an update with regard to item 2 of the RAeC Delegate report, the FAI database.

The FAI is running a little behind. The database should have been fully tested by selected NACs and up and running by 1st January this year. However they only did a live test in April with uploading proper data by password control from two selected NACs. She had hoped BMFA would have been one of them but it was not to be.

BMFA database information is ready. The Competition Secretary has been working in conjunction with Julie Coe in getting this information together and congratulated Julie for the exceptional work she has contributed.

b) GASCo

No report. The Chairman will be attending a meeting of GASCo in the next week.

c) Air Prox

No report.

d) CCPR

No report.

e) GAAC

No report.

608/05/09 (19) To receive any reports from the following Committees.

a) CAA Team

No report.

b) UKRCC

A meeting is scheduled for next month. There is increasing concern over nickel metal hydride Batteries because of the

fact that they are far more fragile than most people realise. If you Google them and read the Manufacturers instructions you will see that if you leave a NiMH on trickle charge once it has been fully charged it is quite likely to damage the cell. Also on very high current drains the whole battery switches off. It is quite rare but there have been instances where it has happened.

It is well known but ignored that nickel metal hydride can lose 40% of their capacity every month. A pack that has been taken down below 1 volt per cell is quite likely to be damaged. You can get from a fully charged pack down to 1 volt per cell in six months. Anything that comes with a radio set, any batteries brought off the shelf from a shop possibly may be damaged before you have even used it.

It is a very tricky circumstance with a lot of complications but you should check the Manufacturers recommendations.

It was also pointed out that because the cells tend to be higher capacity than Nicad cells of the same physical size people tend to use smaller packs. It is often a mistake because the current handling capacity is dependent on the physical size not the rate of capacity of the cell.

If we were to make a recommendation it would be that you use a specialist charger to charge them and not a standard charger.

Andy Symons provided some information on buddy box and 2.4 GHz. There was some concern raised at the Technical Council meeting in October that there had been reports of some delay between Futaba 2.4GHz sets.

He offered to do some testing and report back. The testing concluded the delay was when the control was passed to the slave. It took about 1 second for the control to arrive at the slave but control was still with the master during this time lapse therefore it should not cause a problem provided that you are aware of it. As soon as you release the switch you have instant control back at the master. He did this with a number of slaves.

Peter Halman FSMAE also provided further information on the subject. He too had arranged for various tests. The 6EX takes about 900 milliseconds from when the instructor hands over to the pupil. On the return there was no delay.

The other sets the T4, T6, T7, T8, T9, T12 is less than a 100 milliseconds between switching from the master to the pupil.

c) Education Working Group

We are doing very well with kit production at the moment.

d) Flight Challenge

The CEO provided copies of the leaflet provided by the Royal Navy. The date is Saturday 20th June at Duxford.

Any help on the day would be gratefully appreciated. Contact the Development Officer if you would like to offer assistance.

e) University Challenge

Everything is in hand. The date is 13th /14th June.

f) Computer Sub-Committee

The database is up and running. There are only minor issues that need addressing. Overall we are very happy with it.

g) Safety Review Committee

Nothing to report since the last meeting. In light of the fact that it proved difficult to arrange a mutual date with the Insurance Brokers for the meeting last year, the Vice-Chairman asked if we could look at fixing a date with them now for a September meeting.

DEV OFFICER

h) ASRC

A meeting was held in April. There are several proposals to Areas Council, one of which starts the process of divorcing the 'B' Certificate from displays in the definitions.

We started work on an Indoor Aerobic 'A' certificate which looks potentially quite interesting. Indoor aerobics has been very informal in the past but it is becoming more formalised. It was felt it was probably time that an Indoor certificate was initiated.

More details will be published as and when it is progressed.

i) BMFA News Publishers

The new Editor is in post. His first issue will be going to press on 19th May. This issue contains the entry forms and camping for the Power Nationals.

j) Flying Site Adviser's Report

This had previously been circulated to Council Members by email.

******* k) BMFA Archivist Report
WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX D)**

609/05/09 (20) Any Other Business.

There was none.

610/05/09 (21) Date of next meeting.

This next meeting was confirmed as **Saturday 12th September 2009.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 15.56pm.

Linda Harding, Office Manager 25th May 2009

Circulation: All Council Members

Copies to:

All Area Chairmen	Selected Area Officer R Allam
All Area Secretaries	Power & SF AS Controllers
All Technical Committee Chairmen	Chief Executive
All Technical Committee Secretaries	Development Officer
SpaceCom Secretary	Office Manager
Selected Fellows	Accounts Manager
BMFA News Editor	Honorary Solicitor
Flying Site Adviser	

Ratified

Competition Secretary's Report to the May 2009 Council Meeting

International Teams

- In February I received the final team selection results and a unanimous recommendation from the Indoor Technical Committee for the F1D team and team manager and so, on behalf of Council, I ratified on 24th February the following F1D Team:

Bob Bailey, Mark Bens, Derek Richards

- There have been some changes of ratified personnel in the F2D (Combat) team, the F3J (Thermal Duration Gliders) team and the Space Modelling team.
- On 2nd April I ratified the two F3J towmen that were notified to me as a unanimous decision from the Silent Flight Technical Committee (SFTC).
- I have not yet received notification from the SFTC of the recommended team members, (pilots & winch managers) or team manager for the F3B (Multi-task Gliders) team. In Organiser Bulletin 1, the deadline for the preliminary entry form was 31st March and for the official meals and accommodation was 30th April. The deadline for the final entry form and receipt of fees is 30th June. The Accounts Manager has informed me that, according to her records, no preliminary entry form has been sent.

Team Managers' Guidelines

I revised this publication in January to make it easier to access the information and to incorporate new information. The revised edition was issued to all 2009 Team & Assistant Team Managers. However, a further revision will be necessary to incorporate the new FAI anti-doping requirements.

Anti-Doping Policy (Competitions)

All the team members, including reserves and team managers, have been issued with full information and a number of Therapeutic Use Exemptions applications have been submitted to the FAI. With the help of the team members and managers involved, I am monitoring the application procedure.

Pressure of work has prevented me from drafting anti-doping rules for the BMFA General Rule book but this will be ready for the agenda of the September Council Meeting.

FAI NAC Nominated Judges

An FAI Judges card is available for any judge who has been nominated by, in our case, the BMFA and appears on the current FAI Judges List. The BMFA intends to make this available to those judges whose names were submitted by the BMFA and who are currently on that FAI Judges List. Details of the application procedure and whether there will be a small charge are still to be finalised. It is intended that this information shall be sent to Technical Committees and, perhaps, published on the BMFA website.

BMFA Rule Books

I remain concerned over some Technical Committees not providing agreed & minuted rule changes to the Technical Secretary in a manner that permits the timely publication of those rule books. We are into the second week of May and the 2009 Silent Flight rule book is only now almost ready to be published and rules for the RC Power books are still outstanding.

Nationals Entry Forms

The Radio Control and Scale Nationals entry form required some updating for 2009 and both this and the Control Line entry form were sent to the new BMFA News Editor last month.

Jo Halman, FSMAE, 9th May 2009

CIAM Meeting Lausanne, Switzerland 2009 FAI Delegates Report

The usual travel by "Easy Jet" and train and I again stayed at the Hotel Du Port. Unimaginative, but expensive food, the hotel has the advantage of being closer to the Museum than other hotels of comparative price. There is a decent restaurant almost next door to the hotel. On my return I thought I was suffering from a very bad cold, often referred to as "man Flu" but it transpired that I had picked up a viral infection probably from the aircraft air conditioning, apparently quite common.

This year I was accompanied by Mike Colling, who is a permanent member of the Education Committee, Mike Francies the new FAI Alternate Delegate and Clive Needham of Silent Flight as there were several items on the agenda important to silent flight. The RCPTC had asked that they be allowed to send a helicopter representative as there were matters important to that discipline, I agreed that the helicopter representative should attend, but two days before the meeting he withdrew.

This year CIAM returned to the Olympic Museum, Lausanne. A very suitable venue. During the Plenary Meeting I was flanked by the two Mikes who were a very great help in assuring that I gathered correct information.

On the evening previous to the Plenary I was approached by Gerhard Woebbecking (chair of the Education Committee and a Vice President) who told me that he had raised the matter of a scholarship award by CIAM in 2008 but it was defeated, and he said, by the UK Alternate who speaks loudly and with apparent authority. I agreed to give the proposal consideration when it was formed. Friday I attended the Education meeting and listened to and contributed to the discussion concerning the scholarship. A workable proposal was written and later accepted by CIAM.

Earlier I attended the F/F sub committee and was surprised to find that the proposals within the ABR section 4B that the UK had asked me to vote against were accepted with only one vote against, the UK's! As the meeting was coming to an end the New Zealand delegate asked the Chairman (Ian Kaynes) if running a non FAI event concurrently with an FAI event was permitted by the FAI, he said the BMFA proposed doing this with the Stonehenge Cup, a World Cup event. The Chairman said this was not allowed and was well documented to that effect. The N.Z. delegate asked that this conversation not be minuted. *(Since returning home I have ascertained that the FFTC had secured the agreement of the FF chairman before deciding to hold the two events)*

After lunch the Plenary meeting proper gets under way and there is always a great deal of business. This was the first year that the new Chairman (Bob Skinner) had chaired the meeting; his predecessor had 40 years experience in the job and usually just managed to finish in the allotted time. Bob over ran and the Plenary was evicted from the Museum on Saturday evening at 6 o'clock and reconvened in one of the local hotels to complete the business, this was not really satisfactory.

The minutes of the meeting will be published and all the voting results will be given in that document.

The meeting starts with the voting for the awards. This year there were 4 nominations for the Alphonse Penaud Diploma and it was awarded to the UK's Peter Halman. The only other award that was contested was the FAI Aeromodelling Gold Medal. There were 6 nominees and one of them was Sandy Pimenoff, no contest there! The nominees present withdrew their nominations.

The Bureau officers were all re-elected unopposed. Sub committee chairmen of FF, RC Soaring and Helicopter were re-elected. RC Aerobatics had 5 nominees and Michael Ramel was elected, RC Pylon was contested, I think by 2 nominees, and Metkey Ueber (my apologies to all pylon fliers for that spelling) was elected

During the first afternoon tea break the Swedish delegate, who chairs the control line committee, approached me and asked me to withdraw two of the UK's C/L proposals that were described as clarifications and in his opinion they were really rule changes. The proposals had quite involved wording and the word duplex was used, this has the alternative meaning of deceitfulness. It is, therefore understandable, that delegates may have misunderstood the meaning. I was able to take the advice of our Competition Secretary who is also the Bureaus Technical Secretary, and she spoke to the UK's C/L Council Delegate and they made the matter very understandable to me and told me that the CIAM C/L Sub committee had voted 12 for and 1 against these proposals. In the event at the Plenary I refused to withdraw the proposals but with sub committee apparently against we were defeated on the matter of time keepers and judges with 3 votes for, 13 against, 14 abstentions and 14 non voting.

Following the rule change proposals voting takes place for venues for World and Continental Championships.

2010 World Championships needed only one site and that for F4B & F4C (electric soaring and pylon) this was taken up by the USA

2011 World Championships required several votes and successful countries were Argentina for F1A, B&C (Free Flight). F1E, Serbia (Magnetic steering). F3B (Thermal Soaring) Spain dropped out and this event was taken over by China. F3K required a vote and Sweden won this event. The deciding factor was the cost of entry down to 160 euros.

There are three years to decide the remaining Championships.

During the meeting our Competition Secretary asked me to place tentative bids for 2012 World Championships for F2 A, B, C&D (control line) and F4B&C scale. These bids were accepted. They are tentative and we have ample time to withdraw them, if we must.

Many delegates are now expressing their concern at the high costs of entering Championship events. As china has now decided to hold contests the costs are unlikely to decrease.

J C Andrews FAI Delegate 26 April 2009

Addendum to FAI Delegates CIAM report.

First errata, thanks to the eagle eyes of Gordon Warburton I need to correct the statement to the effect that USA have taken on the F4B & C World Championships in 2010, that should read F5b and F5D, sorry about that and thank you Gordon.

Two matters raised at the CIAM meeting but not rule changes may be of interest.

The first concerned the "FAI Anti-doping Rules & Procedures". I gained the impression that many delegates were not aware of this publication, if they were they had not read it.

Alternately they thought it did not concern aeromodellers. The BMFA Executive had in fact considered the document (aided greatly by a précis produced by our Competition Secretary) and taken the requisite action.

Time was given to a company called "Flying Aces Ltd.", they are the "official media partner of the FAI". The intention is that they will film air sports, including aeromodelling, mainly at Championships and displays thus giving a great deal of publicity to the sport. They have already had a series on television that included space modelling, Mike Francies appeared in that issue.

Flying Aces we site is www.flyingaces.co.uk and their address is :-

Flying Aces Ltd.
271 Regent Street
London W1B 2ES

ROYAL AERO CLUB DELEGATE'S REPORT - April 2009

The RAeC AGM and a subsequent Council meeting were held on April 7th. The following points may be of BMFA interest.

- 1) At the AGM there were no changes to the RAeC's elected officers. In his report the chairman referred to the continuing very heavy workload resulting from legislation proposals; fortunately for model flying, most of this involves such matters as flight crew licencing, airworthiness and EASA. He also mentioned the excellent international competition results achieved in 2008 by associations, including the BMFA. The RAeC's involvement, via the CCPR, with Bingolotto had resulted in £1K coming to the Club in 2008; the 2009 figure is likely to be higher. There has been a 5% rebate on the FAI subscription.
- 2) From this year all those competing internationally must be on the FAI database; associations have until the end of May to ensure that the correct details have reached the FAI office.
- 3) The grant from UK Sport to offset some of the expenses of RAeC members on international commissions has been reduced. (This refers to commissions like CASI and CIMA, rather than the airport commissions such as CIAM).
- 4) The development and up-dating of the RAeC website is still ongoing. It was agreed that an effective website is probably the most important part of an association's publicity arsenal.
- 5) Some comments have been received regarding the record certificate and a few changes may result, e.g. the substitution of United Kingdom for Great Britain, as the RAeC is the Royal Aero Club of the United Kingdom.
- 6) HRH Prince William has been offered an honorary membership of the RAeC.
- 7) The present RAeC secretary, Diana King, will be retiring in May, after five years in post. Pending final contract signing, her work will be taken on by Dave Phipps, with Linda Harding acting as minute taker at RAeC meetings. The BMFJA office will provide admion. Support. Diana, who is a lawyer and has important contacts within DCMS, UK Sport and elsewhere, will continue to advise and assist where appropriate.
- 8) Next year's Europe Airsport subscription is likely to remain as 2009.
- 9) There had been proposals from EASA that any airfield, including farmers' strips, would in future require full security; this would have serious implications for those sites shared with model flying. After highly effective lobbying by Europe Airsports it had now been agreed that this would apply only to commercial airports, or those with instrument approach facilities or runways over 800 metres.
- 10) The 2009 Awards Evening will be held on April 21st at the RAF Club, with HRH Prince Michael as guest.

Martin Dilly
RAeC Delegate

8.4.09

ARCHIVIST'S REPORT

Since my last report to you things have moved on at quite a pace. All archived material has been moved into the downstairs office, I might add not by me, but by the staff lead by the Chief Executive, who I understand came in over a weekend to do the work. My grateful thanks to all of them. Well done.

I attended a recent Elected Officer's meeting where they approved the setting up of an Archive Team consisting of fellow Vice President Ron Moulton, Fellow, Allan Weighell, Fellow, Eric Clark, retired BMFA News editor, Tom Jones North Eastern Area, Ted Fuller, Melton Mowbray Club (both Tom and Ted have wide experience in seeking and obtaining funding and grants) and myself.

The main aim of the team is to explore ways to find a permanent home for our archive collection, where it can be displayed and researched for the benefit of our members.

There will be an article in the next edition of the BMFA News asking that members who would be willing to donate material either now or in the future to let us know what they would be willing to donate. This may give us some idea of what we are dealing with.

There is still a lot to do with the archives we currently have and I am continuing to work to record and store them with the help of the team and staff members.

I would like to express my thanks to Keith Miller, Fellow for putting forward the proposals on the agenda today and would add my full support to them. Eric Clark has agreed to do an article for each edition of the BMFA News should you so wish.

Kath Watson, FSMAE
Vice President & Archivist.
May 2009

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Ratified

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Ratified