

Corrections marked as follows: Deletions – ~~strikethrough~~  
Inserts – **bold, underlined** (except headings)

## **MINUTES**

### **SOCIETY OF MODEL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS LTD.**

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at 11am at  
College Court, Knighton Road, Leicester LE2 3TQ

Provisional until confirmed at the next Full Council Meeting.

#### **PRESENT**

Chris Moynihan	Chairman
Robin Sleight MBE	Honorary Secretary
Keith Lomax FSMAE	Honorary Treasurer
Jo Halman FSMAE	Competition Secretary
David Varallo	Technical Secretary
Simon Vaitkevicius	Records Officer
Peter Halman FSMAE	FAI Delegate
Nigel Barker	PRO
Peter Jenkins	East Anglia Area Delegate
Martin Dilly FSMAE	London Area Delegate & RAeC Delegate
Neil Cooper	Northern Area Delegate
Tom Jones	North East Area Delegate
David Lloyd-Jones	North West Area Delegate
Jim Wright	South Midland Area Delegate Alt
Stuart Willis	South East Area Delegate
Stuart Simpson	Southern Area Delegate
Phil Durant	Western Area Delegate
Andrew Potts	Mid West Area Delegate
Peter Disney	South West Area Delegate & RNMAA Delegate
Neil Tricker	RAFMAA Area Delegate
<b><u>Maurice Doyle</u></b>	<b><u>Northern Ireland Area Delegate</u></b>
Mike Woodhouse FSMAE	Free Flight TC Representative
Mervyn Jones	Control Line TC Representative
Clive Needham	R/C SFTC Representative
Ian Pallister	Scale TC Representative
Allan Weighell FSMAE	Indoor TC Representative Alt

#### **In Attendance**

Linda Harding

Dave Phipps  
Andy Symons

#### **Observer**

Phil Gutteridge

Office Manager /  
Minutes Secretary  
CEO  
Club Support Officer

East Anglia Area PAS Co-ord

## AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for Absence.
- 2 Request for permission to be absent.
- 3 To formally receive the following delegates:
  - a The RAeC Delegate
  - b The RNMAA Delegate
- 4 To formally receive the Area Delegates to Council.~
- 5 To co-opt Technical Committee Representatives to Council.~
- 6 To verify the voting strength of the meeting.
- 7 To:~
  - a Note names of the Technical Committee Chairmen.
  - b Ratify Alternate FAI Delegate.
  - c Ratify the BMFA Delegates to other organisations.
  - d Ratify Council appointed sub-committees.
  - e Ratify Council appointed posts.
- 8 Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2013.
- 9 Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2013 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.
- 10 To receive a financial report from the Honorary Treasurer to include the following proposal:

That Grants of Area Funding will only be paid to Areas after receipt by the Accounts Manager of Area Accounts that have been audited and approved by the Area AGM, for the year preceding the financial year just ended (i.e. to receive the 2014 payment the accounts for year ended March 2013 and approved at the Area AGM in November/December 2013).
- 11 International Teams for this year's World and European Championships:~
  - a Ratification of Teams, Team Managers and Assistant Team Managers (where permitted) from submitted proposals as follows:
    - i *F1A,B,C Teams – European Championship*
    - ii *Free Flight Team Manager & Ass Team Manager (inc CV) - European Championship*
    - iii *F1D Team and Team Manager(no CV) – World Championship*
    - iv *F1E Team – European Championship*
    - v *F1E Team Manager & Ass Team Manager (inc CV) – European Championship*
    - vi *Space Team – World Championship*

Cont/d...

**Agenda..../cont**

- vii *Space Team Manager & Ass Team Manager (inc CV) – World Championship*
  - viii *F2A,B,C,D Teams – World Championship*
  - ix *F2 Team Manager (inc CV) – World Championship*
  - x *F2 Assistant Team Manager (inc CV) – World Championship*
  - xi *F3A Team – World Championship*
  - xii *F3A Team Manager (inc CV) – World Championship*
  - xiii *F3F Team – World Championship*
  - xiv *F3J Team – World Championship*
  - xv *F5B Team – World Championship*
  - xvi *F5DTeam – World Championship*
  - xvii *F5D Team Manager(CV inc as part of proposal) – World Championship*
  - xviii *F4C and F4H Teams – World Championships*
- b Receipt of declarations from any Technical Committees that has not yet finalised a proposed team that it does intend to send a team ~
- 12 To receive a joint report from the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer.
- 13 To receive a report from the Vice-Chairman.
- 14 To receive a report from the Honorary Secretary to include:
- a Discussion document on the BMFA Areas (appended).
  - b Clarification required to proposal carried at September 2013 Full Council Meeting. (Clarification appended).
- 15 To receive a report from the Technical Secretary.
- 16 To receive a report from the Competition Secretary to include:
- a Receipt and ratification of any outstanding contests for this year's FAI Calendar.
  - b Receipt of this year's BMFA contest fees.~
  - c Proposal from the Competition Secretary:  
That a representative from each of the Radio Control Power Specialist Bodies (RCP SBs) is empowered to vote at Technical Council meetings. The RCP SBs are:
    - AHA - Association of Helicopter Aerosports
    - BMPRA - British Miniature Pylon Racing Association
    - GBRCAA - Great Britain Radio Control Aerobatics Association
    - IMAC - International Miniature Aerobatic Club
    - BWA - British Waterplane Association
    - GTBA - Gas Turbine Builders Association
    - JMA - Jet Modellers Association
- 17 To receive a report from the Records Officer to include the following Record Claims:
- a Ben Jones/Geb Jones – F3D Pylon Race
  - b William Stuart McFarlane – Speed in a straight line
- 18 To receive a report from the Public Relations Officer.

Cont/d...

**Agenda.../cont**

19 To receive a report from the FAI Delegate.

20 To receive a proposal from London Area:

That this Council regards the history of British model flying as an important part of the BMFA's heritage and of British aviation and that significant models, artefacts and documents are worthy of preservation for the benefit of members and for the information of the public.

21 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 Sport + Recreation Alliance (formerly CCPR)
- e General Aviation Awareness Council (GAAC)

22 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/University Challenge
- e Computer Sub-Committee
- f Safety Review Committee
- g Achievement Scheme Review Committee
- h BMFA News Publishers
- i BMFA Archivist

23 Any Other Business.

Please note: Items for Any Other Business should be sent or handed to the Office Manager in writing before the meeting commences. This will be strictly enforced.

Any questions to be asked under AOB that require detailed answers should be previously advised to the Office Manager to allow preparation of replies.

24 Date of next meeting.

*The Minutes begin below.*

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**MINUTES**

Before proceeding with the meeting the Chairman announced that he had received no further nominations for the position of Vice Chairman, other than that of Robin Gowler FSMAE.

Council voted unanimously that Robin Gowler FSMAE is be co-opted as BMFA Vice Chairman for 1 year.

**897/01/14 (1) Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies were received from Marian Ainsworth, Midland Area Delegate; Duncan McClure, South Midland Area Delegate; Robin Gowler FSMAE, Vice Chairman.

**898/01/14 (2) Request for permission to be absent.**

Permission was granted to Mike Colling FSMAE, Indoor TC Representative/BMFA Education Working Group Co-ordinator.

**899/01/14 (3) To formally receive the following delegates:**

Martin Dilly FSMAE, Royal Aero Club  
Peter Disney, RNMAA

**900/01/14 (4) To formally receive the Area Delegates to Council.**

EAST ANGLIA	Peter Jenkins
LONDON	Martin Dilly FSMAE
MIDLAND	Marian Ainsworth
NORTHERN	Neil Cooper
NORTH EAST	Tom Jones
NORTH WEST	David Lloyd-Jones
SOUTH MIDLAND	Duncan McClure
SOUTH EAST	Stuart Willis
SOUTHERN	Stuart Simpson
WESTERN	Phil Durant
MID WEST	Andrew Potts
SOUTH WEST	Peter Disney
NORTHERN IRELAND	Maurice Doyle
RAFMAA	Neil Tricker

**901/01/14 (5) To co-opt Technical Committee Representatives to Council.**

FREE FLIGHT	Mike Woodhouse FSMAE
CONTROL LINE	Mervyn Jones
R/C SILENT FLIGHT	Clive Needham
SCALE	Ian Pallister
INDOOR	Mike Colling FSMAE

Proposed by Chairman  
Seconded by PRO  
Carried unanimously

**902/01/14 (6) To verify the voting strength of the meeting.**

There were 26 members eligible to vote.

**903/01/14 (7) To note names of the Technical Committee Chairmen, ratify the BMFA Delegates to other organisations, ratify Council appointed sub-committees, ratify Council appointed posts.**

**a) Tech Committee Chairmen**

FREE FLIGHT	Mike Woodhouse FSMAE
CONTROL LINE	Peter Halman FSMAE
R/C SILENT FLIGHT	Jon Edison
SCALE	Ian Pallister
INDOOR	Mike Colling FSMAE

**b) Ratify Alternate FAI Delegate**

Jo Halman FSMAE

Proposed by FAI Delegate  
Seconded by PRO  
Carried unanimously

**c) Ratify the BMFA Delegates to other organisations**

Royal Aero Club (RAeC)	Martin Dilly FSMAE
GASCO	Robin Gowler FSMAE
Airprox	Development Officer
Sport & Recreation Alliance (formerly CCPR)	Graham Lynn MBE FSMAE
General Aviation Awareness Council (GAAC)	Development Officer

Proposed by Chairman  
Seconded by Honorary Secretary  
Carried unanimously

**d) Ratify Council appointed sub-committees**

BMFA Safety Review Sub Committee

Vice Chairman  
Technical Secretary  
Development Officer  
Club Support Officer

ESAG (Electrical Safety Advisory Group) Bob Mahoney, Bob Smith, Stephen Mettam  
Specialist from each Tech Committee as required

Proposed by Chairman  
Seconded by Scale TC  
Carried Unanimously

ASRC

Ratify existing members	Mick Eames John Harris Duncan McClure, PAS Controller Bob Mahoney, SFAS Controller
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ASRC

Election of members to fill ASRC vacancies (no ballot required)	Greg Butterworth Brian Cooper Richard Whitehead Peter Willis Terry Rounce
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Cont'd/...

Ratification of Delegates etc.../cont

<u>Awards Committee</u>	Vice Chairman RAeC Delegate Allan Weighell FSMAE Gordon Warburton FSMAE Jim Andrews FSMAE Tech Council Representative ((the <b>(tba)</b> at March 2014 TC)) Areas Council Representative (tbc)
<u>CAA</u>	Development Officer CEO
<u>UK Radio Control Council (UKRCC)</u>	Graham Lynn MBE FSMAE Development Officer
<u>Education Working Group</u>	Mike Colling FSMAE Area Co-ordinators
<u>BMFA News Publishers</u>	Kath Watson FSMAE Keith Lomax FSMAE
<u>Computer Committee</u>	Dave Phipps – Chief Executive Andy Symons – Club Support Officer Nigel Barker – PRO Neil Cooper – Northern Area Delegate Linda Harding – Office Manager
<u>Areas Council</u>	Members as detailed in the Areas Council Terms of Reference
<u>Technical Council</u>	Members as detailed in the Technical Council Terms of Reference
<u>The Executive</u>	The nine elected Executive Officers Chief Executive

The Chairman proposed item 7d) Sub Committee members voted en bloc  
Seconded by Scale TC  
Carried unanimously

#### **e) Ratify Council appointed posts**

<u>PAS Controller</u>	Duncan McClure
<u>SF AS Controller</u>	Bob Mahoney
<u>Archivist</u>	Kath Watson FSMAE

Proposed by North West Area  
Seconded by PRO  
Carried unanimously

**904/01/14 (8) Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2013**

The Chairman advised that we will be sending out Draft Minutes electronically within 16 working days of the meetings and he would like everyone to submit any corrections they spot, within 16 working days of receipt of the Draft Minutes. It should be noted that corrections only apply to typographical **and grammatical** errors and **are** not to be confused with 'Matters Arising', which will still be covered at the meeting. Please email any corrections and refer to page number, agenda item and relevant section of the Minutes. A set of Provisional Minutes incorporating any corrections, which will be clearly marked, will then be sent electronically.

This will hopefully reduce time usually spent on covering corrections at the following meeting.

**Page 6**

- **Third paragraph from the bottom, second line** – Replace “Managers” with “Manager’s”.

**Page 7**

- **Fourth paragraph from the bottom, first line** – Replace “minutes” with “Minutes”.

**Page 9**

- **Third paragraph from the top, second sentence** – Replace “They” with “The intruders”.

**Page 14**

- **Fourth paragraph from the bottom, penultimate line** – Replace “Britian” with “Britain”
- **Fourth paragraph from the bottom, last line x-** Replace “(GBSRAA)” with “(GBSRA)”.

**Page 18**

- **Fourth paragraph from the top, penultimate line** – Replace “display” with “show”.

**Page 20**

- **First paragraph, penultimate line** – Replace “no where” with “nowhere”.

**Page 21**

- **Second paragraph, second line** – Replace “Judge” with “Judges”.
- **Second paragraph, penultimate line** – Replace “they” with “it”.
- **Second paragraph, last line** – Replace “not” with “no”.

**Page 22**

- **Second paragraph, second line** – Replace “Hobbys” with “Hobby”.

**Scale TC proposed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2013 be accepted as a true record.**

Seconded by Mid West Area

Vote: For: 17  
Ags: 0



Abs: 9

Carried by a majority vote.

**905/01/14 (9) Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2013 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.**

**ACTION/NOTES**

**Page 12**

- Refer to Agenda item 14 b) "Clarification required to proposal carried at September 2013 Full Council Meeting."

The Chairman agreed to accept the following amendment as a Matter Arising.

The proposal in full, including amendment in bold italics:

"That this Council agrees to meetings of the Areas Council no longer being formally scheduled and being called only when there is adequate business to properly justify such a meeting. As and when any such meeting is then called, two month's notice of the intended date of this meeting shall be provided. In particular it is proposed that the September 2013 Areas Council Meeting will not take place.

The ASRC shall nominate a Delegate to Full Council and Council may then co-opt that Delegate as a member of Full Council, ***in the event that the ASRC membership does not already include a Full Council member.***"

Proposed by the Honorary Secretary  
Seconded by the Competition Secretary  
Carried unanimously

**HON  
SEC/ASRC**

**Page 13**

- **885/09/13 (11) Report from Technical Secretary – Deferred proposal that BMFA General Rules sections covering entry to BMFA competitions and events and their publication requirements are modified** – The Competition Secretary informed the meeting that this item will be dealt with at the next Technical Council Meeting.

**Page 19**

- **Penultimate paragraph, action to decide which recipients will be offered re-presentation of trophies at the RAeC Awards evening** – The Chairman and RAeC Delegate were to discuss this during lunch recess. The CEO confirmed that the FAI Aeromodelling Gold Medal awarded to the Competition Secretary would be re-presented at the Awards Evening.

Cont/d...

Matters  
Arising  
Cont'd...

## Page 21

- Fourth paragraph from the bottom, SRC writing to JMA and GTBA re views on general level of competence if someone obtained their 'B' certificate on an Acrowot or the like and then steps up to an ARTF gas or jet turbine powered model – PRO asked if this had been followed through. PRO was advised that this is work in progress, with discussions having taken place between the Chair of the SRC and key members of the JMA on how best to deal with this issue.

This concluded matters arising.

### 906/01/14 (10) To receive a financial report from the Honorary Treasurer.

At this time of the year, in terms of financial activity it is fairly quiet. The Accounts Manager is busy processing membership. At this stage compared to this time last year we are approximately 1300 members down, however we did start processing a week later than last year due to the AGM in 2013 being held a week later. We should have a better idea on figures to report at the May Council meeting.

To consider the following proposal from the Honorary Treasurer:

**“That Grants of Area Funding will only be paid to Areas after receipt by the Accounts Manager of Area Accounts that have been audited and approved by the Area AGM, for the year preceding the financial year just ended (i.e. to receive the 2014 payment the accounts for year ended March 2013 and approved at the Area AGM in November/December 2013)”.**

Seconded by South Midland Area

The Chairman accepted the following amendment:

Proposed by FFTC

**“Following the Area AGM the Area is to submit its ‘Annual Return’ within two weeks. That ‘Annual Return’ is to include the Officers for the subsequent year, its audited accounts and the confirmed Minutes of the previous year’s AGM. Failure to do this means the Area Grant will be withheld, at the discretion of the Honorary Treasurer”.**

Seconded Honorary Treasurer

Carried unanimously

**AREAS/HON  
TREAS/ACCT'S  
MGR**

**907/01/14 (11) International Teams for this year's World and European Championships.**

**a) Ratification of Teams, Team Managers and Assistant Team Managers**

The Competition Secretary implored Technical Committees in future to complete the Team **and** Team Manager proposals properly in order to prevent the problems which she has to highlight today. Missing from some of the proposals were Club names and membership numbers. She has however gathered the information and completed them all now.

It was suggested the proposal forms are returned if they are incomplete. That led to discussion as to whether it is necessary to include Club names. A point was made that Areas need to know what club the members belong to.

The Competition Secretary agreed with the sentiment however it should not prevent the proposal being held up ~~held up~~ **ratified** as the information is not required for administering teams and is something that can be provided at a later date.

The Chairman and Competition Secretary agreed to raise this at Executive for discussion and come back to Council with a view.

**CHAIR/  
COMP SEC**

**The Competition Secretary proposed that proposals i) ii) iv) vii) ~~ix) x) xi) xii) xvi) xvii) xviii)~~ for Teams, Team Managers, Assistant Team Managers as listed on the Agenda to be ratified en bloc.**

Seconded by FAI Delegate

Carried unanimously

The Competition Secretary had made an error when quoting the proposal items above. The Chairman proposed an amendment to replace vii) with viii) in the above proposal.

Seconded by FAI Delegate

Carried unanimously

- i) *F1A,B,C Teams – European Championship*
- ii) *F1A,B,C Team Manager & Ass Team Manager (inc CV) - European Championship*
- iii) *F1D Team and Team Manager(no CV) – World Championship*
- iv) *F1E Team – European Championship*
- v) *F1E Team Manager & Ass Team Manager (inc CV) – European Championship*
- vi) *Space Team – World Championship*
- vii) *Space Team Manager & Ass Team Manager (inc CV) – World Championship*
- viii) *F2A,B,C,D Teams – World Championship*
- ix) *F2 Team Manager (inc CV) – World Championship*
- x) *F2 Assistant Team Manager (inc CV) – World*

- Cont/d...  
Ratification  
of Teams..  
Cont'd
- Championship*
- xi) *F3A Team – European Championship*
  - xii) *F3A Team Manager (inc CV) – European Championship*
  - xiii) *F3F Team – World Championship*
  - xiv) *F3J Team – World Championship*
  - xv) *F5B Team – World Championship*
  - xvi) *F5DTeam – World Championship*
  - xvii) *F5D Team Manager(CV inc as part of proposal) – World Championship*
  - xviii) *F4C and F4H Teams – World Championships*

Proposals iii), v), vi, vii), xiii, xiv, xv voted as separate items as follows.

iii) F1DTeam/Team Manager – As alluded to by the Competition Secretary previously, proposals for Teams and Team Managers should be submitted on separate proposal forms, in case there is a problem with one or the other that would prevent them being voted on.

The proposal submitted for F1D includes a Team and Team Manager but did not include a CV for the Team Manager.

As she knows the Team Manager and thinks he is more than satisfactory for the job, the Competition Secretary sought Council's acceptance of her recommendation to ratify the F1D Team and Team Manager.

Seconded by Free Flight  
Carried unanimously

v) F1E Team Manager and Assistant Team Manager, (ATM unfunded).

Proposed FFTC  
Seconded Competition Secretary  
Carried unanimously

vi) vii) Space Team, Team Manager/ ~~ATM- Assistant Team Manager~~ - FFTC ~~withdrawing~~ **withdrew these** for the time being, ~~Will~~ **but they may** be submitted to the Competition Secretary for ratification at a later date. As it stands at the moment there are a few small items that need dealing with.

xiii) Competition Secretary proposed ratification of **the** F3F Team ~~with the proviso that~~ **as she supplied the** membership numbers are now provided **as follows** for Messrs Redsell 152465, Thornton 69287, Newnham 24792, Gunning SAA 6202.

Cont/d...  
Seconded PRO  
Carried unanimously

Rat of  
teams/...  
cont'd

xiv) F3J Team – amendment received from SFTC that Kevin Beale is to be replaced as he has been proposed as Team Manager. Substitute Neil Jones, membership number 157900 as Tow Man.

Proposed Competition Secretary

Seconded

SFTC

Carried unanimously

xv) F5B – Venue was omitted on original proposal. The venue is Turnau, Austria.

Proposed SFTC

Seconded Comp Sec

Carried unanimously

Competition Secretary proposed the following Team Managers to be ratified

F3F Jon Edison

Seconded SFTC

Carried Unanimously

F3J Kevin Beale

Seconded SFTC

Carried unanimously

F5B Alan Flockhart

Seconded SFTC

Carried unanimously

Scale has received two applicants each for F4C and F4H Team Managers posts and email discussion is currently in place. The Competition Secretary will ratify them in due course.

**b) Receipt and declaration from any Technical Committee that has not yet finalised a proposed team that it does intend to send a team.**

There are no championships for F3B, F3C, F3N, F3K, F3P In 2014.

**908/01/14 (12) To receive a joint report from the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer.**

**CEO**

Attended AGM and Dinner which went quite well. Slight complication in that the same weekend we also ran a big exhibition at the flying show at NEC, normally staffed by the Development Officer, CEO and Chairman. We did however draft in support from the Coventry Club and it worked very well.

Cont/...

We had a visit from Kevin Dodd, Secretary of the MAAA (Model Aeronautical Association of Australia), in December.

CEO Rep  
Cont/d...

Kevin also attended the indoor flying session at Leicester MAC.

It is always interesting to get ideas and information from other organisations. The idea to change how we operate our insurance came from the MAAA as that is how they operate theirs. They also have a levy on members to provide funding for model flying sites. They now own seven flying sites throughout Australia.

Prior to Christmas there were rumours about the status of BMFA insurance arrangements, suffice to say there was no truth to the rumours. Our brokers have been taken over by an American company (Integro) but there is no **other** change and they will continue to trade as Doodsons for the foreseeable future with no change of personnel. To that end, as we are entering our 3<sup>rd</sup> and final year of the three year deal **and** we are in negotiations about extending that. We have secured pricing for the Legal Liability insurance for the next 3 years. There is a slight increase in Personal Accident cover.

At the previous Full Council meeting an action was placed on the CEO and Club Support Officer to look at the acquisition of a company van for use when we attend shows. A formal proposal will be put together for the Full Council Meeting in May.

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**AGENDA ITEM MAY FULL COUNCIL – Proposal for the purchase of a company van.**

OFFICE MGR

We require an upgrade on some IT equipment. An item will be included on the Agenda for Full Council in May.

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**AGENDA ITEM MAY FULL COUNCIL – IT equipment upgrade.**

CEO/OFFICE MGR

The new website is working very well. A new **Contest and Events** calendar system has been launched whereby contest organisers/event organisers can enter their **competition or** event directly on to the website. The notices require approval before they appear but generally they are listed within 24 hrs of being received.

We had some good news which unfortunately was followed by some very sad news. Our Membership Secretary Helen Feaver, gave birth to Ellie-Mae Lola slightly premature, prior to Christmas and sadly Ellie-Mae died 16 days later. The Minutes record Council's condolences to Helen.

Membership is coming in very well. We are slightly down on the same period last year, only by few hundred, but we were later starting the process. More country members are now using online payment system.

Cont'd/...

Phase two of the system, to have a similar facility for clubs to administer memberships online, will be rolled out to a few

clubs to try this year ~~ready~~ with a view to having ing it ready for renewals next year.

CEO Rep  
Cont/d...

As part of the new website we integrated a survey function. The first survey was in relation to the development of a model flying centre. The CEO He handed over to the Club Support Officer who had collated the results of the survey.

This concluded the CEO's report.

The Club Support Officer provided a power point presentation and guided the meeting through the Survey Results booklet which had previously been circulated. All comments/questions have been logged. There were 1,268 replies in total with very conflicting views. There will be a mention in BMFA News magazine to go to the website for the results.

In order to achieve a better response, Jim Wright proposed we extend running the survey and publish a more prominent notice in BMFA news magazine. It was agreed we would extend it till the end of March 2014 and a notice will be published in the next BMFA News.

CEO/CSO

Thanks were recorded to the Club Support Officer for putting the results together.

#### **Chairman**

Beginning his report, the Chairman sadly announced the death of Ron Firth, Fellow, who died just prior to Christmas. He was 85. The Chairman requested the assistance of any Delegates or Fellows who knew Ron very well to help put together an obituary for the website.

The Chairman attended, in his previous role as Vice Chairman, the AGM and Dinner Prize Giving presentation. He attended two meetings of the Executive one of which was mainly focused on BMFA Strategy.

A further meeting of the Executive will be held to continue discussions on BMFA Strategy taking into account some of the key points and input from the survey and also a paper which the Development Officer is putting together.

We take the feedback very seriously. It is not an easy task but we are making it a prime objective to decide where we are heading as an organisation.

#### **909/01/14 (13) To receive a report from the Vice-Chairman.**

No report - Vice Chairman absent.

#### **910/01/14 (14) To receive a report from the Honorary Secretary.**

- a) Discussion document on the BMFA Areas (appended with Agenda).

- Cont/d... The Honorary Secretary guided the meeting through the discussion document with the aid of a power point presentation and provided a summary.
- Hon Sec  
Rep  
Cont/d... Comments were forthcoming and the Honorary Secretary asked for those comments to be submitted to him in writing so that he can evaluate and decide on a way forward. **ALL**
- The response from the Area Delegates present was generally negative towards the concept of dissolving Areas.
- b) Clarification **was** required to **the** proposal carried at September 2013 Full Council Meeting. (Appended in full with Agenda).  
This had been covered in Matters Arising.

**911/01/14 (15) To receive a report from the Technical Secretary**

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

It had been a big **steep** learning curve since taking up the post of Technical Secretary.

He is disappointed to report that he only received the Rule Books in updateable format last week. He attended a useful meeting with the Competition Secretary to discuss the way forward.

The Honorary Treasurer commented on the suggestion in the Technical Secretary's written report to remove the 'F' classes from the BMFA rule books. We sell printed copies of the rule books at stands and shows and the option to download ~~different documents~~ **the FAI Sporting Code and he felt that this** would not be acceptable to some people.

**912/01/14 (16) To receive a report from the Competition Secretary to include the following:**

**a) Receipt and ratification of any outstanding contests for this year's FAI Calendar.**

Currently we have ~~eight~~ **seven** UK hosted competitions. F5B in Woodchurch; F5J Ashhurst; F3F Eastbourne; F3J Marsh Gibbon; F1ABCP&Q Andover – Stonehenge and Equinox; F3A Ashford.

Scale - Hoping to run Open International F4C F4H in September, location to be decided.

**There is possible problem with the** venue for Stonehenge, **and the FFTC is** proposing to move it forward by one week. Free Flight will inform the Competition Secretary.

**b) Receipt of this year's BMFA contest fees.**

**FREE FLIGHT**

Juniors: All classes/all events Free

Season Tickets: Not available



	<u>Centralised:</u>	Site Access Charge	£6
Cont/d...		1st Class	£4
		Subsequent classes	£2 per class
FF Contest Fees	<u>Area Centralised:</u>	Site Access Charge	As set by Area
Cont/d...		1st Class	£4
		Subsequent classes	£2 per class
	<u>Team Selection:</u>	Seniors	£25(pre-entry mandatory) for the single meeting spread over two weekends. One fee enters all 3 classes.
	<u>Nationals:</u>	Airfield Pass:	£10 for three days £5 for one day
		1st Class	£10 For Championship events
		1st Class	£5 Non Championship Events
		Subsequent classes	£10 For Championship events
		Subsequent classes	£5 Non Champ
	<u>Events</u>	Unlimited classes	£45
		Pre-entry requested for all events. On field entry at 50% surcharge.	
	<u>F1E Meetings</u>	Same as Area Centralised	
	<u>FAIR</u>	Site charge only for all meetings including trials	

\*\*\*\*\*

## **CONTROL LINE**

~~To be confirmed.~~

**Post Meeting Note: Information subsequently provided by CLTC Secretary as follows:**

### **CL Entry Fees**

#### **Centralised Competitions including Team Selection:**

- **Speed** £20
- **Aerobatics** £20
- **Team Race** £25
- **F2D** £20
- **Juniors half the entry fee**

**No season tickets**

### **CL Nationals Entry Fees**

#### **Speed:**

- **Handicap Speed** £15
- **Vintage Speed** £15
- **Weatherman Speed** £15
- **No reduction for subsequent classes**
- **Juniors half the entry fee**
- **OTD Entries double normal fee**

#### **Aerobatics:**

- **F2B** £25

- Vintage/Other £15
- No reduction for subsequent classes
- Juniors half the entry fee
- OTD Entries double normal fee

Cont/d...  
CL  
Contest  
Fees  
Cont/d...

**Team Race:**

- F2C £15
- All other Classes £15
- Battery Man £ 5
- No reduction for subsequent classes
- Juniors half the entry fee
- OTD Entries double normal fee

**Combat:**

- F2D £18
- First class £18
- Second Class £14
- Third Class £10
- Fourth Class £5
- Juniors £5
- OTD £20

**Carrier:**

- Basic and Class 1 £8 (if only one class is entered)
- Second Class £5
- Junior entry fees £5

\*\*\*\*\*

**INDOOR**

- Single event
  - Senior pre-entry £10 per day single event - £2 per additional class flown
  - Senior on the day £15 per day single Event - £3 per additional class flown
  - Junior pre-entry £5 per day single event
  - No class charges
- F1D Senior Team Trials
  - Entry Fee £25 per day
- F1D Junior Team Trials
  - Entry Fee £10 per day

\*\*\*\*\*

**SILENT FLIGHT**

- Fees for all events/contests with a Team Selection element – Including all entrants – F3B/F3J/F5B/F3K/F3F. CD's will set a daily Entry fee which could vary with site overheads **but must generate A a £5/day excess to be paid to the SF TT fund. NB Juniors are free in all contests.**
- Fees for all other non-TT competitions F5J, eSoaring, 100S etc **£7 NB Juniors are free in all contets.**
- No Season Tickets

Cont/d... - Nats TBA

Contest  
Fees  
Cont/d...

### RADIO CONTROL POWER

	<b>BMPRA</b>	<b>GBRCAA</b>	<b>AHA</b>
<b>Classes</b>	Pylon IC & Elec	Aerobatics	Heli Aerobatics
<b>Juniors</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Season</b>	None	None	None
<b>Centralised</b>	None	None	£10
<b>Team Selection</b>	£40 F3D & F5D	£26 per class	£10
<b>Nationals</b>	£25 all classes	£30 per class	£20
	<b>IMAC</b>	<b>FUN FLY</b>	
<b>Classes</b>	Aerobatics	Aerobatics	
<b>Juniors</b>	£15 all classes	Free	
<b>Season</b>	None	None	
<b>Centralised</b>	None	None	
<b>Team Selection</b>	None	None	
<b>Nationals</b>	£35 all classes	£20 per class	

**Note:** *IMAC & Fun Fly are Nationals entry fees only*

\*\*\*\*\*

### SCALE

Centralised	RC	£15
	Season Ticket	£70
	CL	£11
	FF	£3
	Indoor	£15 registration – no class fee
Nationals	RC	£30
	CL	£16
	FF	£12
	Indoor	£16.50 registration plus £3.50 per class
	Helicopter	<del>No change for last year??</del> <b>£20</b>
Team Trials	F4B,C,H	£20 per class
Juniors (under 18)		Free for all events

**Proposal from the Competition Secretary that a representative from each of the Radio Control Power Specialist Bodies (RCP SBs) is empowered to vote at Technical Council meetings. The RCP SBs are:**

- AHA - Association of Helicopter Aerosports
- BMPRA - British Miniature Pylon Racing Association
- GBRCAA - Great Britain Radio Control Aerobatics Assoc
- IMAC - International Miniature Aerobatic Club
- BWA - British Waterplane Association
- GTBA - Gas Turbine Builders Association

JMA - Jet Modellers Association

(Tech Sec left the meeting, voting numbers 25)

- c) The Chairman accepted an amendment to the wording of the proposal which now reads:

**“That whilst the RCPT is suspended, a representative from each of the Radio Control Power Specialist Bodies (RCP SBs) is empowered to vote at Technical Council meetings. “**

**TECH SEC/  
COMP SEC/  
OFFIC MGR**

Seconded by Silent Flight  
Carried unanimously.

**913/01/14 (17) To receive a report from the Records Officer.**

- a) The Records Officer commended the following Record Claim:

Ben Jones/Geb Jones (89029)/(85217)  
F3D Pylon Race – 7/9/13 at St Martin le Beau, France  
Heat: 0 mins 57.29 secs

**RECORDS  
OFFICER/  
OFFICE**

Seconded RNMAA  
Carried unanimously.

- b) William Stuart McFarlane – Speed in a Straight Line.

Because of the incomplete nature of the claim it has been withdrawn and will be dealt with at the March Technical Council Meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

**AGENDA ITEM MARCH 2014 TECH COUNCIL – Record Claim William Stuart McFarlane 14/9/13**

**OFFICE MGR**

**Records Officer Verbal Report**

He was very pleased that he managed to get through his first Awards ceremony without any catastrophes. Before the event all of the trophies except one were returned to the office, photographed, cleaned and then back in circulation for presentation. Repairs to some of the trophies and boxes were also necessary.

Work in populating the trophy database is still ongoing.

He will undertake a review of all the trophies and allocation of the trophies and will be writing to Technical Committees accordingly.

Indoor provided an update on the commission of a new trophy in memory of the late Laurie Barr FSMAE whose family donated a substantial amount of money for this. Indoor have commissioned Ian Dowsett to produce the trophy. It will be in the form of a scale model of Cardington, ~~the model~~ in which which will be hung ~~inside is a miniature F1R model 35cm scale F1R scale model of an F1R, which is 35cm F1D.~~ It will hopefully be completed in time for display and adoption

ratification at May Full Council and will then be ready for being awarded for the F1R Class at 2014 Indoor Nationals.

\*\*\*\*\*

**AGENDA ITEM MAY FULL COUNCIL – Adoption  
Ratification of F1D Trophy**

OFFICE MGR

**914/01/14 (18) To receive a report from the Public Relations Officer.**

The London Model Engineering Exhibition is taking place this coming weekend and the Electric Indoor Masters at the start of February in Barnsley. He will be attending both events. If any help/assistance is required then please contact him and he will help if he can.

**915/01/14 (19) To receive a report from the FAI Delegate.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX B)**

In addition to his written report the FAI Delegate advised that he recently did some investigation on carriage of lipo batteries. With the increase in the numbers of people flying Electric it is important to understand what you can and cannot do with lipos when travelling on an aeroplane.

Essentially you can take two lipo battery packs up to a certain capacity and certain kilowatt grading in your hand luggage, you cannot carry them in the hold luggage at all.

Details will be published in the BMFA News magazine and on our website.

As always the best advice is to contact the airline beforehand so they can provide the relevant paperwork to get through Security.

FAI Delegate also reported that Red Bull Races are back on in 2014 and there will be an event in the UK at Ascot Race Course 16/17 August. He has suggested ~~to~~ that the CEO ~~to~~ investigate s having some software written for the event for use on our simulator, for the public to 'have a go'.

An issue was raised with regard to the exclusion of model flying on some travel insurances. The CEO advised that we are looking in to this.

CEO

**916/01/14 (20) To receive the following proposal:**

**From London Area that this Council regards the history of British model flying as an important part of the BMFA's heritage and of British aviation and that significant models, artefacts and documents are worthy of preservation for the benefit of members and for the information of the public.**

Seconded by North West Area

The consensus was that the proposal is ~~ill-conceived~~ conceived and superfluous. It effectively endorses what it already says in the Articles of Association to carry on doing what we are already doing.

The proposal does not require any action and it seems

Cont/d... pointless to pass a resolution which replicates what is already in the Articles of Association.

London  
Area  
Proposal  
Cont/d...

The CEO commented that we have shown commitment and are working in this direction. We have a permanent facility and allocated permanent space in Chacksfield House and a team of volunteers come in every week to work on historical archives. If there are artefacts of potential value and importance we will not turn them away, we will find somewhere to store them pending a decision on a longer term facility.

In light of the above comments and response from the meeting, London Area withdrew the proposal.

#### **917/01/14 (21) To receive any report from the following Delegates**

- \*\*\*\*\*
- a) **Royal Aero Club Delegate (RAeC)**  
**WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX C)**
  - b) **General Aviation Safety Council (GASCo)**  
Nothing to report.
  - c) **Air Prox** – Nothing to report.
  - d) **Sport + Recreation Alliance (formerly CCPR)**  
Nothing to report.
  - e) **General Aviation Awareness Council (GAAC)** – Nothing to report.

#### **918/01/14 (22) To receive any reports from the following Committees.**

a) **CAA Team**

The annual meeting was held at the end of November, attended by the CEO, Development Officer and Honorary Secretary, in his capacity as BARCS rep.

It is always a very worthwhile meeting and on this occasion the BMFA led on most agenda points. The **M**inutes are available on the BMFA website.

The CAA will be inspecting three shows in 2014 and we have specifically asked them to attend the Power Nationals.

Various aspects were covered including metal helicopter blades on Scale models. Concerns were raised arising from the availability of increasingly cheap and fast turbine powered models and more work is required in this area.

Some revisions to the exemption relating to FPV were agreed. FPV were represented at the meeting.

We looked at failsafe settings for multi rotor aircraft. New

technology is evolving all the time and our current recommendations may not be the most appropriate so there is work to be done there.

b) **UKRCC** – Nothing to report.

c),d,) **Education Working Group/Flight Challenge/University Challenge**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX D)**

e) **Computer Sub-Committee** – Covered earlier in the meeting.

f) **Safety Review Committee** – Nothing to report. It was noted that there is a correction to the Safety Report meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> September 2013. The correction was to delete where it is mentioned in the report that Andy Sephton was CD at the Scale Nationals.

g) **Achievement Scheme Review Committee** – No report.

h) **BMFA News Publishers**- The current Editor was originally appointed for two issues. There will be a meeting with the Editor, CEO and Kath Watson FSMAE Publisher to discuss future arrangements. **CEO**

i) **BMFA Archivist**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX E)**  
London Area was asked by the Archivist to highlight the penultimate paragraph. The Archivist is concerned that we are very short of space now.

j) **Club Support Officer**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX F)**  
Club disputes are hopefully settling down. There are a few concerns regarding loss of club sites. The advice to Clubs is that they should contact us immediately with any noise or planning related issues. **ALL**

### **919/01/14 (23) Any Other Business**

There was none.

### **920/01/14 (24) Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting was confirmed as **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014**, at College Court Conference Centre, Knighton Road, Leicester, starting at 11am.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.55pm.

## Report to Full Council – 11/01/2014

### By Technical Secretary

Having taken up the post from the 30<sup>th</sup> of November last, and learnt that my first job is to update the Rule Books, I am very disappointed to report that to date no significant work has been done in this regard. This is due to not having a copy of the books in Word format until the evening of Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> January

However I have had a very useful meeting with the Competition Secretary and the Chief Executive at which the future of the rule books was discussed and several conclusions reached. The important ones being the intention to remove the 'F' classes from the books where they are a straight copy of what is in the CIAM rule books, and the longer term intention to re-format the books at A5 (currently at A4) so that overly small typefaces are avoided when the books are reduced to A5 in PDF format.

To date I have received copies of the following rule changes:

Free Flight  
Club 2000 Association  
Fun Fly  
IMAC  
GBR/CAA

Also I am in communication with both the AHA and Control Line with their rule changes due shortly.

I would ask all other disciplines to let me have their changes as soon as possible.

David Varallo



FAI Delegate Report January 2014 Council Meeting.

The October Technical Council meeting reviewed a number of rule change proposals which were subsequently submitted to the FAI for consideration at the 2014 Plenary meeting. I would like to remind all technical committees that they must submit FAI rule changes to the BMFA office in time for them to be included in the agenda.

I am proposing that Jo Halman be appointed as the alternate FAI delegate for 2014. Jo already attends Bureau and Plenary meetings with her travel and accommodation funded by CIAM so there would be a financial benefit for the BMFA. More importantly there would be the added advantage to the BMFA because this would give the BMFA an official voice at Bureau meetings.

The 2014 Plenary meeting will have scheduled technical meetings for F1D, F2 Control Line, F3F and F3J Soaring F5 Electric Flight F4 Scale and Space Modelling, plus the annual Education Meeting. I will advise the Technical Committee and R/C Specialist Body secretaries as soon as the agenda is published. I would like to remind all Technical Committees that I am keen to have representatives at all of these Technical Meetings. If representatives do not attend them we minimise our chances of getting good rule changes.

I attended the meeting of the CIAM Bureau which took place on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December 2013. I attended the meeting in order to present my report as F2 (control line) World Cup coordinator, I took the opportunity to discuss the current regulations about maximum entry fees which can be charged by organisers. The current regulations are outdated, opaque make it almost impossible for a high cost country such as the UK to bid for Championships and they waste hours of time at the December Bureau meeting. I am working with Narve Jenson on a proposal to address this problem which will be on the 2014 Plenary agenda.

The F2C silencer problem is still not completely resolved; the Bureau has allowed the F2 sub committee to make a late submission of a rule change which will take into account proposals from USA and Italy which propose a solution that does not involve using a silencer.

Peter Halman

FAI Delegate 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014

**ROYAL AERO CLUB DELEGATE'S REPORT – Jan. 2014**

I attended the RAeC Awards Committee and Council meetings on Jan. 22nd and the following points may be of BMFA interest.

1) For the first time for many years there were no nominations for RAeC awards received from the BMFA. The RAeC Awards Eveining will take place at the RAF Club, Piccadilly on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

2) There was discussion of the *quid pro quo* of the Breitling sponsorship and the need to provide the company with something more positive at the Awards Evenings and elsewhere. It was agreed that the reading of long citations detracts from the evening (as is the case at the BMFA dinner) and in future perhaps only the major awards will have citations read, with other awards presented with a standard form of words. Full citations will still appear in the printed programme. Other ideas for improving the evening are sought.

3) A style guide has been produced relating to the use of the RAeC logo on letterheads, publications and websites. On our own website it would be useful to identify the RAeC logo by name.

4) Associations are to ask permission for the use of the RAeC logo on their publications and in connection with activities and events.

5) There is a very small increase in RAeC subscriptions this year, around 2.5%.

6) In view of the heavy load of new airspace legislation expected in the near future an airspace strategy manager has been appointed to ensure minimal restrictions for all UK airports. It is uncertain how long the post will be needed, but the initial funding for this year will come from RAeC reserves. Future funding may be necessary.

7) It is expected that within the year there will be travel insurance tailored for members of RAeC associations. Several BMFA members have noticed that their own insurance specifically excludes model flying while abroad and this is of particular concern to national team members.

8) The new improved RAeC website is up and running. The events listing is notable for the almost complete absence of BMFA events, and it is to be hoped event organisers will use this facility to promote our sport.

9) Political problems in the aero clubs of Spain and Portugal have resulted in those nations leaving Europe Air Sports. This may necessitate an increase in subscription from the other NAeCs that EAS supports.

10) It has become apparent that airlines are becoming concerned at the ability or otherwise of flight deck personnel to fly an aircraft, as opposed to simply monitoring instruments. Alan Cassidy of the BAeA is on a working group involved with addressing this concern.

11) The FAI has appointed a new secretary-general, Susanne Schödel, who is a glider pilot and past winner of the Womens' World Gliding Championships. It is to be hoped that having an active competition airports person running the FAI will result in a much-needed improvement to the way the Federation operates.

12) The Red Bull air race will be at Ascot on Aug. 16/17<sup>th</sup>

13) While the FAI has to conform to the WADA requirements regarding drug testing, the arrangements it has come to for out of contest testing of selected competitors will result in minimal intrusion on their lives.

14) There is at present no venue for the proposed 2015 World Air Games.

15) No event has been selected this year for the award of the Queen's Cup.

Martin Dilly  
RAeC Delegate

23-1-14

Education Working Group Report  
BMFA Council 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014

As you know I have sent my request for permission to be absent as I am on the BMFA Education Stand at the Association of Science Education annual meeting this year held at the University of Birmingham. This is the best place to come in to contact with up to 5,000 science educators of all levels. This year Dean Mosley, Mid-West Area, Education Co-ordinator, has volunteered to help me run the stand. I have increased the stand space by 25% (the extra cost being borne by Sky Hi Products) to give more impact.

I was asked by Manny if I could help out a Primary School in Burton on Trent running a 'Fantastic Forces' week and wondered if we could help them with some resources or ideas to help give a wow factor. This event week started the day before the ASE exhibition so I agreed to attend on my way South. I will give a full report at the next council.

My wife was delighted to receive the Ray Malmstrom award for her contribution to the Education Programme and the trophy now has pride of place in our living room. She has asked me pass on her thanks to Keith Miller for the nomination and to Council for agreeing to the award.

This years University Challenge is progressing well with a new time table to cope with the expected numbers of entrants. The final will be run at Elvington on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> June 2014. Any one wishing to help please contact Manny Williamson.

The 2014 Flight Challenge is to be launched soon. Please look at [www.flyyourplane.com](http://www.flyyourplane.com) for more information.

As we are at the beginning of a new year it may be of interest to look back over the last 12 months at the BMFA's Education Programme in terms of kits sold. I can only look at kits produced by Sky Hi Products but it should give an indication of the Education Programme's success. Total production of education kits produced by Sky Hi Products has reached 279,636 of which 139,719 are BMFA Darts. 9,600 kits were produced in 2013, this was a decrease of 3000 on 2012 and is probably due to some extent to the recession. It may be interesting to note that in 2013, 39.6% of all production was sold by the BMFA Office, 52.2% of production went directly to schools, 4% of production went directly to youth organisations and the remaining 4.2% to private individuals. Comparing this with 2012 figures the number of kits sold to schools has gone down by 14.1% whilst the kits sold to youth organisations remained about the same and kits sold to the BMFA Office went up by 12.7%. Make of this what you will.

Mike Colling  
Education Working Group.

**ARCHIVISTS REPORT TO THE FULL COULCIL MEETING**

Eric Clark, Terry and I continue to attend Chacksfield House on most Monday mornings to record and store the BMFA archives. The latest project is to identify, record and store the large collection of photographs we have.

If anyone feels they could help identify any of them and would like to look through the many, as yet, unidentified photographs, please contact me and I will arrange for them to be left out for you when you next visit the office.

With regards to the London Area proposal regarding our history and the archives, I fully support this proposal.

I have been doing this job for the past twelve years now, it has only been in the past five years, with a few (about three) members and considerable help from the office staff particularly the CEO. That the archive situation has moved from two shelves in the back office to its original planned place, The Tom Whittle Library.

We are kept very busy there and still have a considerable amount of material to archive however, very soon we are going to run out of space and Council really does need to take this important subject nearer the top of the list of priorities.

May be we will not have a museum in our lifetime, but we should ensure that when and if it does happen that we have preserved the history in a tangible form.

Kath Watson, FSMAE.  
Vice President & Archivist  
January 2014

## Club Support Officers Report January 2013

### Club Matters

The reviewed Club Constitution which is now available on the website and the notice regarding this that was published in the last edition of the BMFA news has generated a number of requests from clubs to review and advise on improvements to their constitutions. The importance of a comprehensive club constitution cannot be overstated and I would strongly advise all clubs to take a close look at theirs.

There are a number of ongoing planning issues, of interest is the ongoing application for a Certificate of Lawful use for Hayling Helis, they operate on a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and there was considerable opposition to the award of the certificate from various "conservation" bodies such as the RSPB, Natural England and the Wildlife Trust who all stated the activity was damaging to wildlife, however they have not managed to show any evidence to back this up nor indeed appear to have carried out any studies, whereas studies commissioned by the BMFA show there to be no detrimental effect on wildlife. The council have sought legal opinion which appears to have shown that these objections are immaterial to an application for a CLU and the objections have been withdrawn. I am hopeful the certificate will be awarded however there may be ongoing issues with Natural England etc. It may be worth considering commissioning a study at this site, perhaps in conjunction with Natural England.

Just before Christmas I received a telephone call from the secretary of a club in the North West area who had applied for planning permission (I will not name the club to save their blushes), unfortunately they did not consult with us on the application and the telephone call was two days before the decision day, they were concerned the application would be refused after the environmental health department objected on noise disturbance grounds, highways also objected due to their opinion that the site entrance was dangerous. After a number of phone calls, emails and letters to the EHO and planning department the EHO objection was dropped. Sadly the application has been rejected on the grounds of the highways objections. The club will be submitting a second fee free application with our help from the beginning which hopefully should gain approval.

Clubs should remember to contact us before submitting planning applications, we can help!!

### HS2 and Wind Turbines

I have had the first notification from Banbury club whose site is under threat from HS2. I have also been working with Chris Anderson at Retford Club where a planning application is under consideration for 3 wind turbines that will have a very severe effect on their operations. Chris has done a great deal of excellent work on behalf of the club and I am reasonably confident the application will be rejected. If it is, the club should perhaps consider putting Chris forward for an award!!

### Aldershot Model Club

Council may recall in previous reports I have mentioned the issues the club face with a particularly "unreasonable" and litigious neighbour who despite environmental health not upholding noise complaints has taken out a private action against the club. Our insurers have appointed a firm of solicitors to the club who are confident of defeating the action. Sadly this was not the only point of attack against the club, the neighbour in question also instigated a judicial review in the high court in to the awarding of the clubs certificate of lawful use based on three challenges. Sadly the awarding of the certificate was quashed, but only on 1 of the three possible grounds. Hopefully a re-application will be successful, to that aim we have instructed a specialist aviation planning consultant to assist the club.

### Website and Online presence.

The revamped website went live on 1<sup>st</sup> October, there hasn't been too much feedback (I take that to be a positive sign) but what we have received has been mostly positive. The online events calendar went live in November and it is proving exceptionally quick and easy to get events on to the calendar.

The facebook page is also proving a very popular and quick way of disseminating information and I would suggest tech committees and specialist bodies should make more use of it.

### Electric Indoor Masters

Will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> February, everything is in place, sadly Horizon are not supporting the event to the same level this year however the venue is slightly cheaper and we have made a few other adjustments and I am confident of another successful event.

Andy Symons  
Club Support Officer