

## MINUTES

### SOCIETY OF MODEL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS LTD.

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 11am at  
College Court, Knighton Road, Leicester LE2 3UF (Sat Nav: LE2 3TQ)

Provisional until confirmed at the next Full Council Meeting.

#### PRESENT

Chris Moynihan	Chairman
Ian Pallister	Vice-Chairman
Keith Lomax FSMAE	Honorary Treasurer
Jo Halman FSMAE	Competition Secretary
David Varallo	Technical Secretary
Simon Vaitkevicius	Records Officer
Peter Halman FSMAE	FAI Delegate
Peter Jenkins	East Anglia Area Delegate
Martin Dilly FSMAE	London Area Delegate & RAeC Delegate
Steve Mason	Midland Area Delegate
Tim Haigh	Northern Area Delegate Alt.
Tom Jones	North East Area Delegate
Tony Butterworth FSMAE	Southern Area Delegate Alt.
Duncan McClure	South Midland Area Delegate
Stuart Willis	South East Area Delegate
Phil Durant	Western Area Delegate
Andrew Potts	Mid-West Area Delegate
Peter Disney	South West Area Delegate & RNMAA Delegate
Ian Nelson	RAFMAA Area Delegate
Maurice Doyle	Northern Ireland Area Delegate
Mark Bennis	Free Flight TC Representative Alt
Clive Needham	R/C SFTC Representative
Mike Colling FSMAE	Indoor TC Representative & North West Area Delegate Alt.
Mike Sollitt	Scale TC Representative
<b><u>In Attendance</u></b>	
Linda Harding	Office Manager / Minutes Secretary
Dave Phipps	CEO
<b><u>Visitors</u></b>	
Ken Gale	Helipad Model Club

## 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 ASRC:
  - a If necessary, the election of members to fill ASRC vacancies. (Ref: ASRC ToR item (c))  
*– (Ballot required, CV's will be circulated to Council Members after the December deadline for receipt of applications. Voting will take place on the morning of January Full Council Meeting)*
  - b If necessary, the co-option of the ASRC Delegate to Council (if a Council Member is not already a member of the ASRC). (Ref: ASRC ToR item (a))
  - c Election of the Power or Silent Flight Controller. (Ref: ASRC ToR item (h) (ii))
- 9 Adoption of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017.
- 10 Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.
- 11 To receive a financial report from the Honorary Treasurer.
- 12 International Teams for this year's World and European Championships:
  - a The ratification of Teams (See note appended).
  - b The ratification of Team Managers and Assistant Team Managers (where permitted) (See note appended).
  - c The receipt of declarations that it does intend to send a team from any Technical Committee that has not yet finalised a proposed team.

Cont'd/...

Agenda cont'd/...

- 13 Confirmation of the status of SAA and LMA insurance (Ref General Rule 2.1.6 Entry to Competitions.)
- 14 To receive a joint report from the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer to include the following:
  - a) Co-option of Honorary Secretary.
- 15 To receive a report from the Vice-Chairman.
- 16 To receive a report from the Honorary Secretary.
- 17 To receive a report from the Technical Secretary.
- 18 To receive a report from the Competition Secretary to include:
  - a The receipt and ratification of any late contests for this year's FAI Calendar.
  - b The receipt of this year's BMFA contest fees (See note appended).
- 19 To receive a report from the Records Officer to include the following.
- 20 To receive a report from the FAI Delegate.
- 21 To receive the following proposals:
  - a From Northern Ireland Area that the BMFA agree and permit the Northern Ireland Area bid to hold an F2 European Championship in Belfast in 2019 to go forward as a submission to FAI to be considered and voted upon at the 2017 CIAM Plenary Meeting. The proposal comprises three attached papers: the proposal information; email showing the secured funding confirmed by the High Sheriff of Belfast; the proposed budget.
  - b From Free Flight Technical Committee; A - To decentralise all 'Area Centralised Contests' and introduce a straightforward mechanism for new and alternate venues to be considered. To enable this, a simple guidance note shall be added for consideration and suitability by the FFTC. Generally references to 'Centralised' shall be removed from the General Regulations and Rules Jan 2016 and means of submitting site criteria added;  
B – The proposal to reduce 'Fly-Off' start time from 10mins to 5mins;  
C – The proposal to provide general guidance on how to select a suitable location for a flight line - Refer detailed Sheets attached.
- 22 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)

Cont'd/...

23 To receive any reports from the following Committees (reports should be brief, preferably in writing and in advance):

- a CAA Team
- b Education Working Group
- c University Challenge
- d Computer Sub-Committee
- e Safety Review Committee
- f Achievement Scheme Review Committee
- g BMFA News Publishers
- h BMFA Archivist
- i Club Support Officer

24 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.*

25 Date of next meeting.

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*The Minutes begin below.*

The Chairman reflected on the recent loss of Robin Sleight MBE FSMAE, our Honorary Secretary five weeks ago.

The Chairman welcomed Ken Gale, member of Helipad Model Club, as a visitor to the meeting.

**1075/01/17 (1) Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies were received from Martyn Lynn Northern Area Delegate, David Burstow Southern Area Delegate, Mike Woodhouse FSMAE FFTC Representative, Vernon Hunt CLTC Representative, David Lloyd-Jones NW Area Delegate, Andy Symons Club Support Officer.

**1076/01/17 (2) Request for permission to be absent.**

There were none.

**1077/01/17 (3) To formally receive the following delegates:**

Peter Disney, RNMAA and Martin Dilly FSMAE RAeC Delegate

**1078/01/17 (4) To formally receive the Area Delegates to Council.**

EAST ANGLIA	Peter Jenkins
LONDON	Martin Dilly FSMAE
MIDLAND	Steve Mason
NORTHERN	Martin Lynn
NORTH EAST	Tom Jones
NORTH WEST	David Lloyd-Jones
SOUTH MIDLAND	Duncan McClure
SOUTH EAST	Stuart Willis
SOUTHERN	David Burstow
WESTERN	Phil Durant
MID WEST	Andrew Potts
SOUTH WEST	Peter Disney
NORTHERN IRELAND	Maurice Doyle
RAFMAA	Ian Nelson

**Voting strength of the meeting is 21 at this point in the proceedings and for the purpose of the co-option of Technical Committee Representatives to Council.**

**1079/01/76 (5) To co-opt Technical Committee Representatives to Council.**

FREE FLIGHT	Mike Woodhouse FSMAE
CONTROL LINE	Vernon Hunt
R/C SILENT FLIGHT	Clive Needham
SCALE	Mike Sollitt
INDOOR	Mike Colling FSMAE

Carried unanimously

**1080/01/17 (6) To verify the voting strength of the meeting, including Technical Committee Representative.**

There were 24 members eligible to vote.

**1081/01/17 (7) To note names of the Technical Committee Chairmen, ratify Alternate FAI Delegate, the BMFA Delegates to other organisations, Council appointed sub-committees, Council appointed posts.**

**a) Tech Committee Chairmen**

FREE FLIGHT	Mike Woodhouse FSMAE
CONTROL LINE	Vernon Hunt
R/C SILENT FLIGHT	Jon Edison
SCALE	Stephen Kessel
INDOOR	Mike Colling FSMAE

**b) Ratify Alternate FAI Delegate**

Council unanimously ratified Jo Halman FSMAE as Alternate FAI Delegate.

**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)	Diana King
General Aviation Awareness Council (GAAC)	Andy Symons, Club Support Officer

**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)  
Specialist from each Technical Committee as required

Awards Committee

Vice-Chairman (Ian Pallister)  
RAeC Delegate (Martin Dilly FSMAE)  
Kath Watson FSMAE  
Robin Gowler FSMAE  
Terry Rounce FSMAE  
Mike Colling FSMAE *(Rep for Tech Council, subject to re-appointment at March 2017 Tech Council Meeting)*  
David-Lloyd Jones *(Rep for Areas Council, subject to re-appointment at February 2017 Area Council Meeting)*

National Centre Steering Group

Chris Moynihan – Chairman  
Ian Pallister – Vice-Chairman  
Keith Lomax FSMAE - Honorary Treasurer  
Jo Halman FSMAE - Competition Secretary  
Dave Phipps - CEO  
Manny Williamson - Development Officer  
Sian Sargeant - Accounts Manager  
Mike Woodhouse FSMAE  
Jim Wright

Education Working Group

Mike Colling FSMAE  
Area Co-ordinators

BMFA News Publishers

Kath Watson FSMAE  
Keith Lomax FSMAE

Areas Council

Members as detailed in the Areas Council Terms of Reference

Technical Council

Members as detailed in the Technical Council Terms of Reference

The Executive

The nine elected Executive Officers  
Chief Executive

Cont'd/...

**e) Ratify Council appointed posts**

<u>PAS Controller &amp; SF AS Controller</u>	Duncan McClure
<u>CAA</u>	CEO, Development Officer
<u>UKRCC</u>	Development Officer
<u>Computer Committee</u>	Dave Phipps – Chief Executive Andy Symons – Club Support Officer Linda Harding – Office Manager Stuart Willis – Council Delegate SE Area
<u>Archivist</u>	Kath Watson FSMAE

**Items c) d) and e) and the names appointed therein were ratified unanimously.**

**1082/01/17 (8) ASRC**

**a) If necessary, the election of members to fill ASRC vacancies.**

*The three members elected as a result of a ballot to fill the vacancies on ASRC are as follows:*

*Chris Bradbury, John Harris, Richard Whitehead*

*The unsuccessful candidates were Chris Bond, Jason Channing, Mick Eames, Ken Gale, Phil Gutteridge.*

**b) If necessary, the co-option of the ASRC Delegate to Council (if a Council Member is not already a member of the ASRC).**

*It is not necessary to co-opt a Delegate to Council.*

ASRC composition for 2017 is as follows:

Existing for 2017	Brian Cooper Peter Willis Terry Rounce Peter Jenkins
Appointed for two years	Chris Bradbury John Harris Richard Whitehead

**c) Duncan McClure was appointed SF AS Controller for two years and continuing in the post of Power AS Controller until January 2018.**

**1083/01/17 (9) Adoption of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2016.**

The following corrections were noted:

Page 1 – Attendance List

David Varallo, Technical Secretary had been inadvertently omitted from the list of attendees.

Cont'd/...

Page 16 – 1064/09/16(12) Records Officer:

i) To adopt a new named trophy (Peter Freebrey Memorial Trophy) for Control Line Oliver Tiger at the Nationals in memory of Peter Freebrey FSMAE who passed away in late 2015. This would replace the Jack Marsh trophy which would be gifted to the Control Line Technical Committee to look after and award to the winner of a non-Nationals competition for Control Line Combat. It is also requested that the historical winners of the Jack Marsh trophy are transferred to the Peter Freebrey trophy.

**Corrected to:**

i) To adopt a new named trophy (Peter Freebrey Memorial Trophy) for Control Line Oliver Tiger at the Nationals in memory of Peter Freebrey FSMAE who passed away in late 2015. This would replace the Jack Marsh trophy which would be retained as an adopted BMFA trophy and be re-allocated to the winner of a non-Nationals Control Line Combat competition. The historical winners of the Jack Marsh trophy will be transferred to the Peter Freebrey trophy.

Page 19 – 1069/09/16 (17) Chairman of the Awards Committee:

**Henry J Trophy (Junior)**

Aaron Cole (age 15 – F3N Heli Euro Champs – 9th + Team Gold) + recommended for RAeC President's Breitling Trophy

**Corrected to:**

Aaron Cole (aged 15 – 2016 F3N Heli Euro Champs Junior Gold & 9th overall in the Senior classification & Senior Team Gold) + recommended for the RAeC President's Breitling Trophy.

**South East Area proposed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2016 be accepted as a true record.**

Seconded by South Midland Area

**Vote: 21 in favour, 3 abstentions**

Council showed their appreciation of the Office Manager with a round of applause for producing an excellent set of Minutes.

**1084/01/17 (10) Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2016 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.**

**ACTION/NOTES**

**Page 6**

- **Matters Arising, second paragraph** – Action Honorary Treasurer to provide Areas with budget and accounts forms. The Honorary Treasurer advised that this is work in progress but he aims to complete it in time for the financial year end which is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

**HON TREAS**

**Page 15**

- **1063/09/15(11) Competition Secretary Report, fourth paragraph** – The Competition Secretary advised that Aaron Cole who won F3N Junior gold at the 2016 F3N Championships and who was not presented with his medal nor an FAI Diploma at the prize-giving ceremony, had still not received these.

Cont'd/...



Matters  
Arising  
Cont'd/...

The FAI Delegate explained that having raised the issue at the CIAM Bureau Meeting in December 2016, it was unanimously agreed at that meeting that replacement medals would be purchased immediately and sent to the recipients. At the Executive Meeting yesterday the CEO was requested to write a letter of complaint to the FAI and ask them to expedite this as soon as possible. The Competition Secretary commented that she was very unhappy with the situation and that it was entirely unacceptable.

CEO

This concluded matters arising.

**1085/01/17 (11) To receive a financial report from the Honorary Treasurer.**

The Honorary Treasurer commented that there is was not a great deal to report on as this is a relatively quiet period for him. The Accounts Manager however is busy processing membership payments. It is too early in the season to be able to give an accurate forecast of membership figures.

HMRC had conducted a VAT audit a few weeks ago. Unfortunately, because of changes in HMRC guidance on some aspects of our VAT accounting, the cost of equipment hire for the Nationals will increase as less of the VAT is now reclaimable. An increase in entry fees for spectators and campers is likely, to compensate for the increase.

The HMRC were very reasonable and were reflective conscious of the fact that the accounting is a very complicated system as not all of the activities are subject to VAT. On a more positive note they recommended some changes to how we account for BMFA News to help reduce the VAT burden.

The Honorary Treasurer reported that since the last meeting he had attended the funeral of Robin Sleight MBE who had been the Honorary Secretary. Robin was very passionate about the National Centre and his family thought it appropriate to request donations to the 'National Centre Fund' in Robin's memory. The funeral was very well attended and a substantial donation is expected as a result. It would be appropriate to honour this in some way as a lasting memory at the National Centre and thought will be given to this as the project progresses.

Donations to the National Centre in general terms so far are in the region of £7,500. Also as a new initiative last year, trophy winners were given the option to donate their AGM trophy dinner ticket refund to the National Centre which raised almost £200 towards the fund.

The London Area Delegate expressed his gratitude to the Honorary Treasurer (Keith Lomax FSMAE) and Club Support Officer (Andy Symons), for their efforts to defend the various derogatory comments people have made on some of the modelling forums in relation to the National Centre. The Chairman endorsed this and also thanked East Anglia Area Delegate (Peter Jenkins) for his efforts along with the Honorary Treasurer and Club Support Officer in curtailing the abuse.

**1086/01/17 (12) International Teams for this year's World and European Championships.**

**a) Ratification of Teams.**

The comprehensive list of all Championships, Teams, Team Managers (TMs) and Assistant Team Managers (ATMs) was appended as a separate document with the Agenda. Still to be advised are the two Towmen for F3J. The Competition Secretary will ratify them under the terms of her post as soon as she is notified.

The London Area Delegate questioned why the F1E Team have been appointed an ATM as it is only a three-man team. The Competition Secretary advised that this post is unfunded. It gives greater flexibility on the field or when the TM is also a member of the team. An ATM is permitted by the FAI Free Flight Rules.

The London Area Delegate also questioned why Club information is not listed on several of the Team/TM & ATM applications.

The Competition Secretary explained that she is not prepared to prevent a Team entering a Championship because of the inability of some Technical Committees to provide the relevant information and she is not prepared to expend valuable time on a job that is the responsibility of the Technical Committees.

**b) Ratification of Team Managers and Assistant Team Managers (where permitted) as appended in the Agenda.**

**The Competition Secretary commended the ratification of items a) and b) with the inclusion of F3J Team Manager, Charles Dunster and F3K Team Manager, Mike Fantham FSMAE.**

Seconded by Indoor TC and carried unanimously

**c) Receipt of declarations that it does intend to send a team from any Technical Committee that has not yet finalised a proposed team.**

We have no expectations of any more teams other than those listed under the 'Notes' section on page 5 of the proposal for the Teams/Team Manager appointments.

**COMP SEC  
OFFICE**

**1087/01/17 (13) Confirmation of the status of SAA and LMA insurance.**

The CEO was pleased to confirm that the SAA and LMA insurance is acceptable to us.

**1088/01/17 (14) To receive a joint report from the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer.**

**Chairman (Verbal report)**

The Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting at RAF Cranwell with the CEO and Vice-Chairman to discuss the possible use of RAF Barkston Heath for both the Free Flight and the Power Nationals. It was a very positive meeting which the Vice-Chairman will allude to in more detail in his report.

The Chairman attended the funeral of Robin Sleight MBE FSMAE, at which he gave a eulogy at the request of Robin's family. It was a very emotional day as he had known Robin for over 35 years.

Robin's daughter was unaware of the extent of the importance of the National Centre to the BMFA until Robin's grandson pointed out an article covering the National Centre in a copy of RCM&E magazine. She suggested therefore that it would be appropriate to request donations to the National Centre Fund in memory of Robin, to which the Chairman readily agreed.

The Chairman has had attended a couple of meetings with the CEO on general matters but mostly regarding the National Centre.

The Chairman said he thought the AGM was again a successful event and everything went reasonably well. The MC and everyone involved with the presentations did an excellent job.

However we will endeavour to try and streamline the dinner and presentation ceremony even more as it tends to finish quite late as the dinner is often late in starting or slow to progress. The Chairman would be grateful for any suggestions on how the evening could be improved.

**a) Co-option to fill the vacancy of Honorary Secretary on the Executive Committee.**

It is the wish of the Executive to fill the vacant position of Honorary Secretary as quickly as possible.

Having debated the issue at length at their meeting yesterday, the Executive wishes to put forward to Council the ratification of Mark Bennis as the Honorary Secretary and invited Mark to say a few words.

*Cont'd/...*

Mark provided a general insight into his background covering his interests, modelling activities and associated positions on various committees, his working environment and aspirations for the future of the Society in terms of his role as Honorary Secretary.

Given that this would be an immediate appointment, the Competition Secretary asked whether Mark would be giving up any of his current roles as she is conscious of the fact that he currently holds several important posts including positions on two Technical Committees; is an important member of the National Centre Project and has a demanding full time job. He is both a competitor and the Team Manager for the 2017 F1D European Championships and ATM for the F1 A-B-C World Championships. Mark said that he would need to review the extent of the work involved and if necessary consider relinquishing one or two of the roles, but he needs to fully understand what lies ahead before making a decision.

Council voted unanimously and Mark Benns was duly elected and co-opted on to the Executive as Honorary Secretary for one year, effective immediately.

**Note: This brought the Elected Officers up to nine.**

EXECUTIVE  
C'TTEE  
OFFICE

### **UPDATE ON THE BMFA NATIONAL FLYING SITE AND VISITOR CENTRE PROJECT**

The Chairman introduced Manny Williamson, Development Officer and head of the BMFA 'National Centre' Project Team to provide an update on the progress of the BMFA National Flying Site and Visitor Centre.

A 'National Centre' website is currently under construction and will be updated with regular progress reports and will contain calendar, booking and visitor information.

Council showed its appreciation of Manny's presentation with a round of applause.

#### **CEO (Verbal report)**

Most of the CEO's time has been dedicated to 'drone' related matters. See the update on EASA prototype Rules and UK Government Launches Consultation on 'Drones'.

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#### **(APPENDIX A)**

He urged members to respond and that can be done on-line here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/benefits-of-drones-to-the-uke-economy>

The CEO attended the CAA annual model flying meeting which took place on 1<sup>st</sup> December. There are a number of significant changes being introduced into CAP658 which is one of the reasons why there is a delay in the publication of the Members' Handbook.

Cont'd/...

One of the more significant changes is that metal helicopter rotor blades are now approved and the authorisation process has been discontinued.

The CAA are proposing to introduce charges for model displays involving aircraft over 20kgs. The Consultation paper can be accessed through the CAA website. The Consultation is open until 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017. The suggestion is to levy a cost of £122 for the first day and £56 for additional days for a public display involving models weighing over 20kgs. If successful, any agreed charges will be implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.

The Chairman had received an AOB item from East Anglia Area asking when the Members' Handbook would be published. The East Anglia Area Delegate said that he was happy with the explanation for the delay in publication of the Members' Handbook and withdrew the AOB.

It is intended to distribute the Members' Handbook with the June issue of the BMFA News magazine which will be posted to members at the beginning of May.

The CEO attended the funeral of Roger Bellingham Honorary Member and long standing Flying Site Adviser. The CEO was asked to deliver a eulogy by Roger's wife, which he was honoured to do.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of October the CEO attended the inaugural meeting of the European Model Flying Union (EMFU) in Friedrichshafen in Germany. Eighteen nations were represented. The consensus was that they were happy to endorse the work put in so far on their behalf in terms of negotiations with EASA.

There have been several meetings with the Insurers, two of which were held at Buckminster Lodge. The insurance renewal terms for 2017 were reviewed and agreed. The insurers are very interested in the National Centre project and are keen that a large amount of their sponsorship is used to support it.

A saving of almost £6,000 was made this year on the Country Member renewals process by switching the print and postage provider.

The CEO attended a meeting with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman on the 8<sup>th</sup> November at RAF Cranwell to discuss the use of RAF Barkston Heath for both the Free Flight and the Power Nationals and is pleased to report it was a very positive meeting.

The CEO attended the AGM in November and was honoured to receive the Arthur Mullet Trophy. He thought the evening seemed to go very well.

The CEO attended the Drone Show at the NEC on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> December. It was very busy and worthwhile attending.

CEO's  
Report  
Cont'd/...

His final duty of the year was to attend the funeral of Robin Sleight MBE FSMAE. He had worked very closely with Robin during his tenure on some fairly challenging issues including the Huddersfield & DMAC case and the South West Area divide. Robin will be a great loss to the Society.

**1089/01/17 (15) To receive a report from the Vice-Chairman.**

**(Verbal Report)**

The Vice-Chairman was pleased to attend and fulfil his duties as MC at the Annual Dinner and Prize Giving in November. He felt there were too many delays between the serving and clearing of dinner courses and it has been agreed that he will attend the de-brief meeting with the Hotel Management and the Office Manager to discuss how we this can be improved.

The Ray Malmstrom Trophy (awarded for services to model flying outside of the framework of the BMFA) was awarded to the Air Traffic Staff at RAF Barkston Heath for 2016 but unfortunately no-one was able to attend the prize-giving to receive the award. The Vice-Chairman was pleased to report that the award was presented at a small ceremony held at the airfield Air Traffic Control tower at RAF Barkston Heath on 14th December and it was very well received.

The Vice-Chairman will be attending the Electric Indoor Masters this weekend on behalf of the Chairman, to present the trophies to the winners.

The Vice-Chairman reported that the main focus of his efforts during the past few months has been negotiations with regard to the Nationals. The initial meeting held on the 8th November with the Deputy Commandant and the new OC Ops Wing proved very positive. From the outset of the meeting the Deputy Commandant announced that they acknowledge the professional approach to what we do and they appreciate the prestige that the Nationals bring to the area and would like the event to go ahead however there were a few caveats to overcome.

The Vice-Chairman has since been notified by the Deputy Commandant that the Commandant is happy for the Nationals to go ahead subject to the proviso that we obtain the necessary agreement from the Local Council. The relevant paperwork has been submitted to the Engagement Committee at RAF Cranwell and hopefully within the next week we will have confirmation for both the Free Flight and the Power National Championships.

However, the same cannot be said for 2018. Fight training schedules will be much busier in 2018 making availability much less likely and the likelihood is we will need to put contingency plans in place.

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Southern Area asked whether we had any alternative plans for 2018. The Vice-Chairman explained that there is no exact replacement for Barkston Heath. We learnt from 2016, that although not ideal, it is possible to hold separate Nationals. However by 2018 there will be a properly established National Centre and flying site which is a good base from which to start.

Southern Area also asked whether the Airfield Review will have any benefits for us in the future. The Vice-Chairman advised that the likes of Colerne and Spitalgate and a number of other sites due for closure more than likely will be sold to raise cash or for housing and what we have learnt through experience is that it is very difficult to get access for model flying.

The Chairman commended the efforts of the Vice-Chairman in the negotiations with RAF Cranwell to secure the use of RAF Barkston Heath. It is somewhat of a concern about what will happen when the Vice-Chairman retires from his post at RAF Cranwell later this year. Negotiating will certainly not get any easier.

**1090/01/17 (16) To receive a report from the Honorary Secretary.**

No report at this time.

**1091/01/17 (17) To receive a report from the Technical Secretary**

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**WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX B)**

The Rule Books are all completed except for Free Flight, Pylon and Scale.

The Technical Secretary recorded his thanks to those individuals (they know who they are) who provided him with specific information which helped with the review and update of the Members' Handbook.

**1092/01/17 (18) To receive a report from the Competition Secretary to include the following:**

- a) **Receipt and ratification of any late contests for this year's FAI Calendar.**  
Verbal report refers.
- b) **Receipt of this year's BMFA contest fees.**  
Verbal report refers.

Cont'd/...

Comp Sec's  
Report  
Cont'd/...

### **Competition Secretary (Verbal report)**

The Competition Secretary reported that eight UK hosted FAI World Cups had now been registered with the FAI for 2017. If any Technical Committee or RCP Specialist Body wished to submit any other UK hosted FAI competitions then, given that we are well into January already, this should be done promptly. She emphasised that any submission could only be for an Open International competition.

The eight UK hosted FAI World Cups are:

- 2 x FF: Equinox & the Stonehenge Cups
- 1 x F3A: RC Aerobatics World Cup
- 2 x F3: Slope Soaring: North of England Open & the Welsh Open
- 1 x F3K: Hand Launched Glider EuroTour
- 1 x F5B: Eclectic Multi-Task Glider EuroTour
- 1 x F3J: Glider Duration BARCS Interglide

As can be seen from the Agenda, she had gathered and checked all the data for the Teams, Team Managers and the BMFA Contest Fees and prepared the documents and appropriate proposals for this meeting.

The Competition Secretary had also updated the Team Manager Guidelines & Financial Regulations for 2017. She had checked, updated where necessary, and prepared ready for the office to process, all the rest of the documentation (of which there is a great deal) for the Team Managers.

She has arranged to hold two Team Manager Briefing meetings this year as not all the Team Managers could attend just one meeting.

Because the F1D Indoor Duration European Championships are taking place early this year – March – she has already ratified the Team and the Team Manager.

The first 2017 FAI Championship, the F3P Indoor Aerobatics World Championship, takes place in Strasbourg in four weeks.

Under item b) of the Agenda, the Competition Secretary directed the meeting to the 2017 BMFA Contest Fees document which was received without comment or correction.

### **1093/01/17 (19) To receive a report from the Records Officer.**

The Records Officer reported that this time of year was a fairly quiet period for him. He was pleased to report that all trophies were presented to those who were able to attend the prize-giving in November and alternative arrangements were made where necessary to ensure that the recipients who were not able to attend the prize-giving received their trophy.

Cont'd/...



The Records Office was also pleased to report that he thought the dinner and prize-giving went very well and he had received several compliments regarding how good the trophies had looked.

Many of the trophies were refurbished in 2016 and the refurbishment will continue for 2017 so that hopefully all of the trophies will be of the same standard in time for the 2017 dinner and prize-giving.

The Records Officer recorded his thanks to Jo Halman FSMAE, Competition Secretary and to his team comprising, Julie and Andy Coe, Helen Feaver, Keith and Christine Lomax who help make the presentation of trophies run smoothly and without whose help his job would be almost impossible.

At the Executive Meeting yesterday it was agreed that trophies will no longer be shipped to recipients who do not attend the prize-giving. If they would like to receive the trophy then they must make alternative arrangements for collection, either through their Area contact who attends Council Meetings or someone else who is attending the prize-giving and can collect the trophy on their behalf.

It is a very expensive exercise for us to arrange a courier to deliver a trophy and the risk of damage in transit increases.

The Records Officer will inform trophy winners in writing of the new procedure.

The Records Officer had attended the funeral of Robin Sleight MBE FSMAE, which was a very sad day.

#### **1094/01/17 (20) To receive a report from the FAI Delegate.**

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#### **WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX C)**

The FAI Delegate reminded anyone from Technical Committees there are a limited number of Technical Meetings at this year's CIAM Plenary Meeting. He will be in contact with the Secretaries of the relevant Technical Committees in the next few weeks so that they can submit a request to send a representative. He is mindful of the fact that costs in Switzerland are rising all the time. Hopefully everybody can be funded but there is a budget limit and costs are 25-30% higher than they were a few years ago.

The CIAM Plenary Agenda should be published in time for the Technical Council Meeting in March.

Currently the FAI is very focused on 'drones' almost to the extent that they seem not to be concerned about any other form of model flying. The FAI will organise a World Championship for FPV Drone Racing this year but the name of the company who will be sponsoring the competition is still unknown.

**1095/01/17 (21) To receive the following proposals:**

***i) From Northern Ireland Area that the BMFA agree and permit the Northern Ireland Area bid to hold an F2 European Championship in Belfast in 2019 to go forward as a submission to FAI to be considered and voted upon at the 2017 CIAM Plenary Meeting.***

Seconded by the Competition Secretary

The Northern Ireland Area Delegate provided background information to the proposal.

A few discrepancies in the published Budget Plan were highlighted which were duly explained and corrected accordingly.

**Council voted unanimously to approve the Northern Ireland Area bid to go forward as a submission to the FAI.**

NI AREA  
FAI DELEGATE

***Northern Area Delegate left the meeting.  
Voting figures are now 23.***

**1096/01/17 (22) To receive any report from the following Delegates**

- a) Royal Aero Club Delegate (RAeC)  
\*\*\*\*\* WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX D)
- b) General Aviation Safety Council (GASCo)  
No report.
- c) Air Prox  
No report.
- d) Sport + Recreation Alliance (SRA and formerly CCPR)  
No Report.
- e) General Aviation Awareness Council (GAAC)  
No report.

**1097/01/17 (23) To receive any reports from the following Committees.**

- a) CAA Team  
Covered earlier in the meeting.
- b) Education Working Group  
\*\*\*\*\* WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX E)  
Cont'd/...

Item 23  
Cont'd/...

**c) University Challenge**

The Development Officer reported that the 2017 University Challenge was launched in September 2016 and will take place in June this year, with the date and venue to be confirmed.

Several teams have registered already including a repeat entry from China plus a new entry from China. The competition is strong and is going from strength to strength.

There is a possibility that we will hold the event at our National Centre but a final decision will be made in the next few days. It makes sense in many ways not least because it would be more cost effective.

**d) Computer Sub-Committee**

**Stuart Willis Computer Sub-Committee Member (Verbal Report)**

As reported at the last Council meeting the current BMFA BESYS membership system is working but starting to show signs of its age along with problems in keeping two databases synchronised. Therefore we need to look into a new system.

Pure Systems, the company that currently maintains the BESYS system, were asked to look into and quote for such a system, however they seem to be less than interested in this so the project is either bigger than they can handle or simply not an area in which they have an interest.

A system specification to document the current system and processes, along with required improvements/modernisation and possible future requirements will now be produced. This will be integrated into a specification document that software vendors will be invited to review and submit tenders. We do not envisage that the system would be online until the membership renewals of 2018.

**e) Safety Review Committee**

The Vice-Chairman (Chairman of Safety Review Committee) reported that the Technical Secretary brought it to his attention that the section in the Member's Handbook covering the use and care of batteries is due for review for inclusion in the new issue.

At a meeting of the SRC the Electrical Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) was tasked to look at the current advice in the Member's Handbook and the 'Battery Book'. The SRC Chairman will follow this up with ESAG after this meeting to see if there has been any progress.

The SRC Chairman advised that he was not aware of any new safety issues. He is looking in to a question raised by the Chairman of ASRC in relation to the ageing and fatigue of glass fibre propellers for electric flight which he will also be covering in the column he writes for BMFA News magazine.

Cont'd/...

**CHAIRMAN OF SRC**

**f) Achievement Scheme Review Committee**

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Item 23  
Cont'd/...

**WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX F)**

The ASRC Controller touched on a few points in his written report.

The Scale Representative commented that he finds it difficult to measure the success of the Achievement Scheme. The AS Controller provided a broad outline and details of current trends in relation to the Achievement Scheme. He also commented that communication is the key and we always strive to get news and information of the scheme out to members, especially Examiners/Chief Examiners in the form of the BMFA News member's magazine but unfortunately not everyone chooses to read it.

The Chairman commented that the Executive is fully supportive of the work of the ASRC and endorse everything that the Achievement Scheme is about, especially in terms of interfacing with the CAA, who hold the BMFA Achievement Scheme in very high regard. We have proven that the BMFA is a responsible, well managed, safety aware organisation which also has major influence in the negotiations with EASA on the impending European regulations.

Southern Area asked if there was any correlation with regard to the number of incident claims received and how many of the pilots at fault were certificated. The CEO advised that this is not current practice but it would not be difficult to ascertain the information. There is no requirement on the insurance for members to take a proficiency test.

CEO

**g) BMFA News Publishers**

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**WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX G)**

Keith Lomax FSMAE, Assistant BMFA News Publisher, highlighted a significant point from the written report by Kath Watson FSMAE BMFA News Publisher where we had put out for tender the production and mailing of the BMFA News magazine. Mortons Print, who currently produce the magazine successfully secured the renewal of the contract, at a reduced price, and which will be reviewed again in twelve months.

Keith congratulated Kath Watson FSMAE in negotiating the new contract and also to the Office Manager for her efforts in re-sourcing the mailing for the magazine, which has also reduced the distribution costs.

**h) BMFA Archivist**

\*\*\*\*\*

**WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX H)**

**i) Club Support Officer**

No report.

**1098/01/17 (24) Any Other Business**

There was none.

**1099/01/17 (25) Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting was confirmed as **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017**.  
Venue to be confirmed.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 3pm.

RATIFIED

Update on EASA Prototype Rules and UK Government Launches Consultation on 'Drones'

European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) Prototype Rules

The second of four scheduled EASA 'Expert Group' meetings to discuss and refine the 'Prototype Rules' took place in Cologne on 14<sup>th</sup> December. Areas covered included possible differentiation of commercial/recreational operations, requirements for registration, electronic identification and age restrictions. The next meeting will take place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> January and will focus on the requirements for operations within their proposed 'Open Category' (for aircraft operating within strictly defined product specifications and operational parameters, but not requiring an authorisation by an Aviation Authority).

EASA are aiming to publish their proposed rules (taking into account the input from the 'Expert Group') for formal consultation by the end of March 2017. Feedback received will be collated into a CRD (comment review document) and will be taken into consideration in drafting the final version of the rules.

At this time, EASA has yet to be granted the competence to regulate small unmanned aircraft but it is envisaged that the changes required to the EASA Basic Regulation to facilitate this will be approved by the European Parliament and European Council in September 2017.

UK Government Launches Consultation on 'Drones'

At the end of December, the UK Government (through the Department for Transport) launched a public consultation on drones. The stated objective is to 'introduce new measures to ensure the successful uptake of drones is matched by strong safeguards to protect the public'.

Potential measures proposed within the consultation include:

- mandatory registration of new drones
- tougher penalties for illegal flying near no-fly zones and new signs for no-fly zones at sensitive sites such as airports and prisons
- making drones electronically identifiable so the owner's details can be passed to police if they are spotted breaking the law

The consultation is aimed primarily at the aviation industry and stakeholders, including general aviation and model aircraft flyers and associations. You can read the consultation document and find a link to respond online here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/benefits-of-drones-to-the-uk-economy>

The Government's assumption is that the large majority of breaches of safety, privacy and data protection laws happen because some 'leisure' drone users are unaware of the laws that apply – but they also recognise the good practice and standards that most model aircraft and drone groups advocate amongst their members.

The majority of the consultation relates primarily to 'drones', but there is a specific question relating to excluding model aircraft from proposed registration requirements:

*6.14 Model aircraft. This registration policy could also apply to model aircraft weighing 250g and over. There could also be an option within the registration policy to exclude model aircraft and their owners from the requirement, perhaps by exempting those belonging to model aircraft flying clubs from the requirement, as they have a recognised and long standing safety culture.*

*Consultation Question 27. Do you support registration requirement not applying for certain owners of model aircraft below 20 kilograms in weight? Why?*

The argument put forward by the UK model flying Associations is that our members are effectively already registered and given the excellent safety record established by model flyers over the last century, there is no safety case for imposing a duplicate registration system.

The BMFA is in discussion with the DfT and will be meeting with them directly in the near future (along with representatives from other UK model flying Associations) to re-iterate the case for ensuring that model flyers are not subjected to unnecessary and disproportionate regulations.

The feedback received during the consultation process will be used to help 'shape' future Government Policy and I would ask all members to provide their own feedback directly to the DfT (with an emphasis on retaining the established rights of model flyers!). The consultation is open until 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

**David Varallo**  
**BMFA Technical Secretary**

**Report to Full Council - 14/01/2017**

## **1. Contest Rule Books.**

Section 1/2 General Rules. Complete to date but awaiting the outcome of the current proposal to Council.

Section 2a/2b Records. I have now re-formatted the list of records (2b) into a much more easy to read format. The record holders and their records now stand out better from the main text. This also makes it easier for the Records Officer to update with less likelihood of errors.

Section 3 Free Flight. This is awaiting the outcome of the Proposal to be presented to Full Council by the FFTC to remove references to Centralised Area Contests from the General Rules (Section 1 & 2). If this is successful then there will need to be additions made to Section 3.

Section 4 Control Line. This is complete and ready for publication.

Section 5 R/C Power. This is complete except for Pylon Racing. In this section there has been a rather late agreement that F5D Electric Pylon Racing be moved from Section 7 Silent Flight to where it also appears in this section 5. This means combining the two entries, which is now progressing. This section should be available for publication shortly.

Section 6 Scale. I am informed the final version of this section will be with me on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Jan. It has been delayed by last minute queries over the use of gyros and automated flight.

Section 7 Silent Flight. This is complete and ready for publication.

Section 8 Space. This is ready for publication.

## **2. Members Handbook.**

I am pleased to report that the 2017 version of the Handbook is now almost ready for publication. I am only awaiting a re-written Insurance section that I felt should be written by a specialist (our own CEO). I initially attempted a complete re-write (several times) of the whole book but in the end decided not to re-invent the wheel and have instead edited the existing book. I have deleted sections that are best covered by separate (available) booklets such as the Achievement Scheme and simply made reference to them instead. I have edited those areas that were out of date and included new developments such as Multirotors, and developments in fail safes.

There remains some editing to do and some rationalising of sections but this is for the coming year.

**DV – 11/01/2017**



FAI Delegate Report January 2017 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 2013 Plenary meeting.

I am proposing that Jo Halman be appointed as the alternate FAI delegate for 2017.

The 2017 Plenary meeting will have scheduled technical meetings for F1, F3 Aerobatics, F3 Soaring F3 Pylon F3 Helicopter and Education. I will advise the Technical Committee secretaries as soon as the agenda is published. I would like to remind all Technical Committees that although I am keen to have representatives at all of these Technical Meetings the budget is limited and with the rising cost of travel to and accommodation in Lausanne it may not be possible to fully fund all representatives who would like to go.

I attended the meeting of the CIAM Bureau which took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016.

The major thrust of activity within FAI seems to be directed at Drone Airsports with FPV racing to the fore. FAI not CIAM is organising a World Championships for drone racing in 2017.

The F3A World Championship was awarded by the CIAM Bureau to Argentina following the withdrawal of the bid from Qatar.

Peter Halman

FAI Delegate 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**ROYAL AERO CLUB DELEGATE'S REPORT – September 2016**

I attended the RAeC Council meeting on Sept. 27th and the following points may be of BMFA interest.

1) The topic for the next RAeC conference will be youth and education. No date or venue are yet decided, but this is clearly of considerable relevance to our own sport, so BMFA members will be welcome to learn and contribute to the discussions.

2) The RAF centenary in 2018 will be an opportunity for collaboration with organisations like the RAeC, the Air League, and the RAEs, but the RAF will be contacted first to explore the possibilities.

3) The provisional date for next year's RAeC Medals & Awards evening will be May 18<sup>th</sup>.

4) There has been extensive activity in Brussels by the Europe Air Sports lobbyist in connection with the proposals on regulation of unmanned aerial systems, which at present appears to be including model aircraft while prompted by the irresponsible use of 'drones'.

5) There are well over 500,000 model flyers in Europe and there will be a meeting to launch a European Model Flying Union at the end of October. This may be rather late to do much to counter the current rushed proposals that currently are threatening our sport, but it is important to have a coordinated voice. The BMFA (through Europe Air Sports) and the FAI (Secretary General and CIAM President) are active in the defence of model flying. However, at a recent EASA meeting there were around 100 representatives of various commercial 'drone' organisations with just three, including Dave Phipps as EAS's Aeromodelling Technical Officer, putting the case for model flying. Much of the discussion revolved around matters like geo fencing and on-board height restriction systems which are not relevant to the types of aircraft that we currently fly. One possible definition that would exempt most current model aircraft would apply only to systems carrying a camera.

6) There is currently a 72 page EASA prototype document on 'drone' regulation that would have a serious affect on current types of model aircraft. To counter this the aim is to establish definitions that would allow model flying to continue, possibly with national association members to be treated as a special case and exempt from restrictions aimed at 'drones'.

There is a website: [www.easa.europa.eu/easa-and-you/civil-drones-rpas](http://www.easa.europa.eu/easa-and-you/civil-drones-rpas) where the proposed rules can be viewed and comments on the proposals can be submitted to: [UASPrototypeRule@easa.europa.eu](mailto:UASPrototypeRule@easa.europa.eu). This needs to be done sooner rather than later.

7) A partnership with DHL, though not financial sponsorship, may well have major benefits from the point of view of transport of national teams' models to Championships.

8) Doping testing took place at the recent World Microlight and Para-motor Championships at Popham with several flyers tested; the funding for this came from the IOC rather than the FAI.

9) The Popham airfield manager pointed out the financial and environmental problems that resulted from holding major events on the limited number civil airfields left in the UK. In his case the World Championships resulted in a £15,000 loss of fuel sales compared with a normal similar period. The new National Model Flying Centre generated some interest amongst the Association involved in full-size flying.

Martin Dilly  
RAeC Delegate

28-9-16

## Education Working Group Report BMFA Council 14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017

As you know I am usually absent from this months meeting due to attending the **Association of Science Education's** annual meeting, this year held at Reading University. This event was held last week. In past years this venue has been good as regarding interest in the BMFA Education Programme particularly the University and Schools Payload Challenges however the year it appeared to be a little quieter.

I have been informed that entries are doing well for this years University and Schools Payload Challenges. The Flying part of the Challenges will take place on 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> June 2017 venue to be decided.

The Development Officer and myself are looking to revamp the Education Programme to bring it in line with modern education and manufacturing developments.

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 304,760 of which 151,779 are BMFA Darts. 9,081 kits were produced in 2016, this was a decrease of 3964 on 2015.

It may be interesting to note that in 2016, 29.3% of all production was sold via the BMFA Office, 70.8% of production went directly to schools, 29.3% of production went directly to youth organisations and the remaining 2.8% to private individuals. Comparing this with 2015 figures the number of kits sold to schools has gone up by 20.5% whilst the kits sold to youth organisations went up 13.1% and kits sold to the BMFA Office went down by 2.9%. Sky Hi Products sent kits and materials to service 47 schools and universities in 2016 and sent kits and materials to five other countries including Finland and Hong Kong. Make of this what you will.

As announced at the last Council meeting the production of the Sky Hi Educational kits will be transferred to the BMFA hopefully by the end of this financial year.

Mike Colling  
Education Working Group.

**Achievement Scheme Review Committee  
Report to Full Council Meeting  
14<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

The committee would like to formally thank and recognise the invaluable long term contribution that Terry Rounce has made to the work of Achievement Scheme. Terry has served on the ASRC for nearly twenty years, seventeen of which have been in the role of ASRC Chairman. Although Terry will continue as an ordinary member of the committees for 2017, he has indicated that he does not wish to be considered for the role in 2017, and hence the committee would like to thank him for all his sterling work in the past, steering the committee through some very interesting times and significant developments.

The committee would also like to thank Chris Bradbury and Richard (Dick) Whitehead, both of whom have attended meetings during the year in a voluntary none-voting capacity. Dick has significant silent flight expertise and has diligently proof-read all of the new and revised ASRC materials. Chris has provided invaluable input and assistance with the production of the Multi-Rotor tests and also significantly, the draft Multi-Rotor guidance video – mentioned in later items.

The ASRC met three times in 2016, the last meeting being in November, when all of the scheme documentation for 2017 was agreed. With the exception of the previously notified FPV extension certificates, the ASRC are not proposing any changes to scheme materials for 2017. The focus for 2017 will be on communication and promotion of the scheme, and contact with the grass-roots examiners and instructors, who are vital to the promotion of the scheme.

Key developments within the period include:-

- To support the theme of communication and promotion of the scheme, the ASRC have organised two one day Achievement Scheme Conferences – along the lines of the recent Chairman's conferences - to 'spread the word' around the country and give examiners and instructors the opportunity to hear the whys and wherefores of the various developments at first hand, as well as the chance to be able to ask questions and provide feedback.

The dates for the first two of these conferences have been set for Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February, at the Brighthouse Sports Club (HD6 4LX), and Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March, at the Angel Hotel, Royal Wootton Bassett (SN4 7AQ). The venues have been chosen to give a reasonable national spread, but additional events and locations will be considered, if there proves to be sufficient additional demand. Full details of the events, including content, have been published in the BMFA News and on the website. Content covers such items as; guidance on running examiner/instructor workshops, new AS materials (the BPCs, FPV extension etc.), Screening of the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the Multi-Rotor examiners guidance video, the Mandatory Questions and a Q&A Session.

- The draft of the Multi-Rotor video guidance has also been posted on YouTube and the Achievement Scheme website. A significant volume of very positive and encouraging feedback has been received to date. The video can be viewed at :- [www.achievements.bmfa.org](http://www.achievements.bmfa.org).

- Early efforts in 2017 will focus on the development of an ASRC Communications Strategy. The aim of this will be to aid both understanding and promotion of the scheme and the intention is to ensure consistency with any broader BMFA PR initiatives.
- The Scheme Controller has prepared a one side of A4 guidance note for all Examiners, which details and provides useful background information on the recent developments within the Scheme. This has been published on the New Achievement Scheme website. In addition, the office is also including a copy of this letter with the documentation that is returned to examiners after every successful test. Furthermore, an article advertising the new Achievement Scheme Handbook and explaining the rationale and philosophy behind the new 'Basic Proficiency Certificates' and the mandatory 'legal' questions has been published in the BMFA News. It is hoped that this will provided a useful mechanism by which to communicate important information to the membership.
- The **Basic Proficiency Certificates** appear to have been well received by clubs, and a number of certificates have already been awarded.
- The committee has assisted the Tech. Sec. by collating and providing input for the Multi-Rotor section for the new edition of the Member's Handbook.
- The FPV Extension Certificates for both FW and Multi-rotor have been published. These are available to any BPC or 'A' Certificate holder. The draft schedules for the tests were posted on the website in December for comment and the tests 'went live' on 1<sup>st</sup> January this year. As is standard practise with all the Achievement Scheme materials, the ASRC remains open to feedback (especially for new material) and will keep these tests under close review during the coming year.
- Work on the new RC Rotary Wing flight training manual, which has been awaiting comments and feedback from the committee and AHA, will be progressed early in 2017, once the scheduled conferences mentioned above have been delivered.
- An additional on-line quiz, aimed primarily at FW BPC and 'A' certificate candidates, has been added to the Achievement Scheme website, following the popularity of the quiz on the mandatory questions, which to date has registered over 7000 attempts. The intention is to continue to develop this feature in the future, to include quizzes appropriate to the various tests.
- The Scheme Controller has completed the compilation of all ACE / ACI 2017 ratification returns from the Areas. The office will be issuing the 2017 certificates shortly. The certificates this year will be different to those issued previous. The new format will be a single certificate listing all relevant disciplines, as opposed to multiple certificates as issued in the past. Delegates are asked to feed this and all the other information contained in this report back to their co-ordinators and committees.

Duncan R McClure  
ASRC Sec. and representative to Council  
January 2017

**BMFA News report to the Full Council Meeting January 2017**

I requested quotes for the production and mailing of the BMFA News from seven companies including Mortons. All returned quotes and these were carefully studied and analysed with a consultant in purchase, supply and contracts. (With no charge to the BMFA).

Mortons put in the successful quote and a new and revised contract has been agreed. Which will commence from the March 2017 issue.

There is a reduction in the Morton charges who have agreed to hold the prices for the next twelve months.

Mailing has been reviewed and we will now be with POSTCOM which should show considerable reduction in our postage charge.

My sincere thanks must go to our Office Manager Linda Harding for her considerable work with this project.

Kath Watson, Fellow.  
Vice President  
Publisher BMFA News

**ARCHIVISTS REPORT TO THE FULL COULCIL MEETING**  
**January 2017**

Archiving continues it's never ending way through time, with archives being produced as you progress through your meeting today.

Due to health and family matters I was not able to get in on my usual days for a couple of weeks before the end of the year.

We have received large amount of archive material from John O'Donnell  
And a few items from others, these are taking a long time to record and store.  
This has resulted in the work like the photograph albums and badge collection being put on hold for a time.

Thank you to the BMFA staff for their help and guidance, it has been invaluable.

I have asked the CEO in May last year for a member of staff to be made aware of the archives so should I sadly 'pop my clogs' it needs someone to know their way around the archives and listings. Due to their work load this has not happened yet.

Kath Watson, FSMAE.  
Vice President & Archivist  
January 2017