

MINUTES

SOCIETY OF MODEL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS LIMITED

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 7th May 2010 at Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrew's Road, Leicester LE2 8RE.

Provisional until confirmed at the next Executive Meeting.

PRESENT

Robin Gowler FSMAE	Chairman
Chris Moynihan	Vice-Chairman
Robin Sleight MBE	Honorary Secretary
Keith Lomax FSMAE	Honorary Treasurer
Jo Halman FSMAE	Competition Secretary
Nigel Barker	PRO
Peter Halman FSMAE	FAI Delegate
John French	Records Officer
Dave Phipps	CEO

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Correction and Adoption of the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 6th March 2010.
3. Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting of 6th March 2010 which are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.
4. To receive reports from the Executive.
5. Safety.
6. Review Full Council Agenda.
7. Club Support Officer. (CEO)
8. Complete Membership Return for Specialist Bodies (*Hon Sec*)
9. Noise (*FAI Del*)
10. Chacksfield House.
11. Any Other Business.
12. Date of next meeting.

MINUTES

E869/05/10 (1) Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Chris Bromley FSMAE Technical Secretary.

Chris is currently in hospital. The Executive send Chris their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

This brought about a discussion concerning the vast amount of work incumbent on the Technical Secretary role and also whether it is necessary to look at possible ways to lessen the burden. There were several offers from members of the Executive to assist in any way they can.

Chris has also volunteered over the years to take on tasks over and above the role of Technical Secretary, which is a testament to his adaptability and capacity for work.

E870/05/10 (2) Correction and Adoption of the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on the 6th March 2010.

Page 6

- **Seventh paragraph, second line** – Replace “invite” with “invitation”.
- **Eighth paragraph, final line** – Complete sentence by inserting “using very small footprint desk tops”.

Page 7

- **Fourth paragraph, final sentence** – Replace “Areas” with “Full” and “June” with “May”.
- **Penultimate paragraph, third line** – Delete “along”.

The Vice-Chairman proposed that the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on the 7th March 2010 be accepted as a true record.

Seconded by the FAI Delegate.

Vote: For: 8
Ags: 0
Abs: 1

Carried by a majority vote.

E871/05/10 (3) Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting of 6th March 2010 which are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.

Page 2

- **Fourth paragraph from the bottom, wildlife study** – The CEO advised that Leo Batten has made the first visit to the Chesham & District Club site. As yet there has been no feed back.
- **Final paragraph, RAeC certificates for British Records** – It will probably be necessary to have a second version of the RAeC certificates for British Records for non-FAI class records. A final agreement for sanction to allow the FAI logo to appear on the certificates is still awaited.

***** **AGENDA ITEM NEXT EXEC MEETING – CEO/OFFICE MGR**

Page 3

- **First paragraph, setting up trust fund for use of bequests to BMFA** – A brief discussion was held which generated the following proposal.

The Chairman proposed that we investigate the setting up of a Trust Fund for the specific purpose of bequests to the BMFA and that the initial setting up costs plus ongoing audit costs come from general funds.

Seconded by the Vice Chairman
Carried unanimously

- **Seventh paragraph, 2010 Flight Challenge** – There is a possibility 2010 Flight Challenge will take place in the autumn. Date and venue to be confirmed.

Page 4

- **Fourth paragraph, action for CEO to look in to the clarification of wording on the member's insurance certificate regarding insurance cover for events organised by affiliated clubs and associations** – The action was overlooked as there was no action against this item in the minutes.

Action: CEO

- **Fifth paragraph, Bowden Trophy replacement bands** – The Records Officer was advised not to proceed with the idea he put to the Executive that he intends to arrange for one of the replacement bands for the Bowden Trophy to be engraved with historical information.
- **Eighth paragraph, Records Officer to provide updates of record claims to the Technical Secretary immediately following the relevant Council Meeting at which the record ratification took place** – The Competition Secretary advised that the updated records list was posted on the website on 8th April.
- **Penultimate paragraph, Action FAI Delegate to provide a formal notice of CIAM Scholarship Scheme** – A notice was posted on the web site and in the BMFA News. It was pointed out however that the notice on the website needed to be more prominent. The CEO would look in to it.

Action: CEO

Page 5

- **Sixth paragraph, Action CEO to look in to whether a facility is available to allow the office staff to enter credit card details directly on to the bank system via the internet rather than the Accounts Manager having to key them all in to the PDQ machine** – Action outstanding.

Action: CEO

- **Third paragraph from the bottom, 100th issue of BMFA News, suggestion of providing a voucher to members for discount at the Power Nationals** – The Vice Chairman reported that this suggestion is not being pursued. The CEO advised that members will be receiving a sheet of stickers with the BMFA News 100th issue.

Page 6

- **Fourth paragraph from the bottom, Action Chairman to provide draft update of Council Handbook** – Action outstanding.

Action: Chairman

- **Final paragraph, seeking manufacturers' specification on helicopter metal rotor blades** – The Vice Chairman asked whether it would be possible for the CEO or Development Officer to contact the manufacturer seeking the specification and testing regimes involved in the manufacture of metal rotor blades.

Action: CEO

Page 7

- **First paragraph, ASRC Draft Terms of Reference** – The Honorary Secretary advised that he had produced a final draft which would be put to Area Council for their comments, prior to presenting a formal proposal to Full Council.

This concluded matters arising.

E872/05/10 (4) To receive reports from the Executive.

Vice-Chairman

The Vice Chairman had nothing to report.

Competition Secretary

The Competition Secretary has now formally ratified all eleven of the outstanding ratifications for Team Managers, Assistant Team Managers and Team Members.

PRO

He attended Scale Indoor Nationals at Nottingham University Sports Hall, which was very interesting. Hopefully next year he hopes to run a small stand there.

He attended the annual Rougham Show which was very good and there was lots of interest. The weather could have been better and it was a complete washout on the Sunday.

Records Officer

The Records Officer had nothing to report.

FAI Delegate

The Executive had previously been provided with a copy of the CIAM Report.

In addition to the written report the FAI Delegate reported that Gerhard Woebekking initiated a survey of all the bodies world wide on what they provide for model flyers. A copy of the email containing the information would be circulated to the Executive. It is very interesting to see the variations on what the different NAC's provide for model flyers.

The Competition Secretary explained that the exercise was aimed at gathering data which is hoped would possibly help CIAM be more effective in various areas in the countries.

The FAI Delegate brought to the attention of the Executive something which he picked up on when he read the minutes of the Bureau Meeting. The Bureau Meeting was addressed by the International Jet Modellers Federation who run the World Jet Masters. Their aim is to become more involved with CIAM, one of the reasons being when they hold the World Jet Masters they will get funding from the NAC's to help with the flying. However the implications of this as far as the BMFA are concerned is that the current situation with the World Jet Masters is that there are grandfather rights from the four home countries to send six flyers to World Jet Masters.

This will put us in a position of funding twenty-four people for one competition. It is early days of discussion but it is something we need to bear in mind.

The FAI Delegate advised that he has raised an issue with the FAI with regard to the application for a TUE. The FAI policy now is that you should assume if you do not receive a response within 45 days that the TUE has been approved which he does not agree with. He has written to the FAI Secretary General raising his concerns.

Honorary Treasurer

The Accounts Manager joined the meeting and guided the Executive through the end of year accounts. The Accounts Manager was congratulated on the presentation of the year end accounts.

The Honorary Treasurer had nothing further to report.

Honorary Secretary

Apart from the ASRC ToR which was discussed earlier in the meeting and the Sub-Area proposal which will be discussed at the Full Council he had nothing to report as Honorary Secretary duties.

He did advise however that he had been quite involved in liaising with the Silent Flight Technical Committee with regard to the detailed events schedule for the Silent Flight Nationals, which has now been agreed.

CEO

He attended the Power Nationals planning meeting in March. Confirmation of use of Spitalgate for the Silent Flight Nationals has been received, subject to the usual military proviso that we would have to give up use of the site if it is required for military purposes.

He attended a meeting at Silverstone with the Competition Secretary with regard to the possibility of use of the site for model flying however there is nothing further to report since that meeting.

The Chairman's Conference in Basingstoke was very well received. The plan is to run the conference on a three year cycle to cover North, South and Midlands. We started with the Midlands and covered North last year.

Other functions and meetings he attended include the RAeC AGM and Awards Ceremony, Scale Indoor Nationals, Free Flight Nationals planning meeting.

The honors boards are currently in manufacture.

We have been approached by a Club in Hertfordshire with 120 members. They are interested in becoming affiliated and have requested a club talk.

The CEO congratulated the Technical Secretary on managing to complete the Members Handbook despite being admitted to hospital.

Maintenance work on Chacksfield House continues and the back office upstairs has been re-decorated. The next phase will be to refurbish the Accounts office plus additional shelving in the back room downstairs which is partly used for storing archives.

The CEO handed round copies of a letter received from Perkins Slade offering to provide a trophy to mark the occasion of 20 years of our association with Perkins Slade. The trophy would be awarded annually. The Executive are very grateful for this kind gesture. Further discussion is necessary to decide what achievement the trophy would be awarded for. The CEO will contact Perkins Slade for clarification of exactly what guidelines we should be working to.

Action: CEO

Chairman

The Chairman attended three funerals since the last meeting Stan Wade Fellow, Betty Moulton the wife of Ron Moulton Fellow and David Boddington.

Attendance at functions, competitions and meetings include Indoor Scale Nationals, RAeC Awards Ceremony, regular meetings with the CEO at the office, GASCo, Power Nationals planning meeting, Chairman's Conference.

The Chairman and CEO will be travelling to Belfast to attend a function in recognition of the resignation of Howard Menary FSMAE as Northern Ireland Area Delegate.

The Chairman was handed a note which had been received from the Technical Secretary which he read out to the Executive.

E873/05/10 (5) Safety.

There is nothing of any significance to note at present. The Records Officer reported that he had spotted in the press notice of a model flying fatality in France.

E874/05/10 (6) Review Full Council Agenda.

Review of the Full Council Agenda was given due consideration.

E875/05/10 (7) Club Support Officer.

The CEO explained the reasons for a recommendation to appoint an additional member of staff. The plan is that this person would principally be located at the office and part of their responsibilities would be flying site advisory but also dealing with issues that arise within clubs and providing support for clubs where required. This would relieve the Development Officer of this workload which will enable him to concentrate on further development ideas. The new incumbent would initially work alongside the current Flying Site Adviser for two-three months to gain some experience of that aspect of the job.

The Executive were fully in agreement with the above recommendation.

E876/05/10 (8) Complete Membership Return for Specialist Bodies.

The Honorary Secretary introduced this item. The Executive discussed the necessity for the requirement for Specialist Bodies to provide a list annually of all members of the sub organisation but concluded that we should not change this.

The Competition Secretary raised a further point with regard to Specialist Bodies. There is currently no requirement for a minimum number of members of a Specialist Body. The Executive concurred that there should be a minimum number of members. A recommendation that the minimum number of members should be five to become a Specialist Body will be put to September Full Council in a proposal from the Honorary Secretary.

The Competition Secretary will draft a proposal for the Honorary Secretary.

Action: Comp Sec/Hon Sec

E877/05/10 (9) Noise.

The FAI Delegate asked for this item to be included on the Agenda. He brought to the attention of the Executive information he had discovered whilst researching noise controls for the CIAM F2 Sub Committee.

The UK legislation on noise control is very fudgy. There is definite legislation throughout Europe on noise control within the environment that will eventually come in to the UK. This is something we need to be aware of so that we can be involved in any discussions that might arise.

The Chairman thanked the FAI Delegate for bringing this to our attention.

E878/05/10 (10) Chacksfield House.

Maintenance work is still in progress. The back office upstairs has recently been re-decorated and plastering on the walls made good.

The Executive discussed the various options of expanding Chacksfield House, purchasing a new property or renting a property. They also considered the possibility of sharing premises with other RAeC Member Associations located in Leicester.

The Chairman and CEO will make a few property viewings and report back at the next meeting. We will hopefully be in a position then to prepare a recommendation for the September Council meeting.

Action: Chairman/CEO

E879/05/10 (11) Any Other Business.

PRO – He would like to see standardised titles on the various leaflets we produce that we hand out at shows. The booklets really could do with some identification at the top of the front cover. This will make it easier to find what you are looking for and take up less space on the stands. The CEO asked the PRO to draw up a spec of what he would like to see and we can arrange for Gemma to produce new covers.

Action: PRO/CEO

Naming procedure for the Council Minutes – The Chairman and CEO will endeavour to check the Council Minutes before they are sent out when they have sight of the draft copy to ensure that the correct naming procedure for Council Minutes is followed consistently.

Action: Chair/CEO

E800/05/10 (12) Date of next meeting.

Hopefully the Chairman is arranging a VIP tour of RAF College at Cranwell to coincide with the next Executive meeting.

The date was set for **Friday 9th July 2010** subject to confirmation from Cranwell.

Transcribed from recording by Linda Harding, Office Manager.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 1800 hrs.

CIRCULATION:

All Council Members
Fellows (Selected)

COPIES TO:

All Area Chairmen
All Tech Comm Chair
Flying Site Adviser
BMFA News Editor
PAS/SFAS Controller