

MINUTES

SOCIETY OF MODEL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS LIMITED

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 9th July 2011 at Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrews Road, Leicester LE2 8RE.

Provisional until confirmed at the next Executive Meeting.

PRESENT

Chris Moynihan	Vice-Chairman (Acting Chairman For the meeting)
Robin Sleight MBE	Honorary Secretary
Peter Halman FSMAE	FAI Delegate
Chris Bromley FSMAE	Technical Secretary
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 20th May 2011.
3. Matters/Actions Arising from the Meeting of 20th May 2011 which are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.
4. To receive reports from the Executive.
5. Trust Funds.
6. Code of Conduct.
7. Update on Museum (*Jim Wright.*)
8. Life-time achievement Award (*AOB from May 2011 meeting.*)
9. Top Gun (*AOB from May 2011 meeting.*)
10. RAeC Certificates for British Records.
11. Devon Sub-Area.
12. Safety.
13. Chacksfield House.
14. Any Other Business.
15. Date of next meeting.

In the absence of Robin Gowler FSMAE BMFA Chairman, Chris Moynihan Vice Chairman stood in as Chairman of the meeting.

MINUTES

E952/07/11 (1) Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Robin Gowler FSMAE(Chairman), Jo Halman FSMAE (Competition Secretary), Nigel Barker (PRO), Keith Lomax FSMAE (Honorary Treasurer).

E952/07/11 (2) Correction and Adoption of the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on the 20th May 2011.

Page 3 – Fifth paragraph, Action

- Insert “& Jim Wright”

Page 5

- Fourth paragraph, first line – Insert “Council” after “draft”.
- Eighth paragraph, first line – Delete “new cap”, Insert “revised CAP”.
- Trophy induction guidelines, new wording – “The Records Officer is happy to guide and assist the donor through the induction process”.

The Records Officer proposed that the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on the 20th May 2011 be accepted as a true record.

Seconded by the CEO

Vote: For: 5
 Ags: 0
 Abs: 1

Carried by a majority vote.

E953/07/11 (3) Matters/Actions Arising from the Executive Meeting of 20th May 2011 which are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.

RECORDING STARTED.....

Page 5 - Records Officer report

Action – Records Officer, CEO & Tech Sec

To produce a document ‘Guidelines for Trophy acquisitions’ to be made available for download on the website and from the office; publish in BMFA News; include a ‘Trophies’ reference in the handbook and refer to the document and where it can be obtained.

Action – Tech Sec to produce a list of trophies to be included in the document.

Perkins Slade Trophy – Will be available for presentation at the AGM & Prize giving.

Page 6 – CEO report

RAF Cottesmore is confirmed as the venue for the 2011 Silent Flight Nationals. The meeting Chairman thanked the CEO for his efforts and endeavours to secure a venue for the Silent Flight Nationals.

Action – Chris Moynihan to liaise with Mike Proctor FSMAE overall event organiser for Silent Flight Nationals to agree a change of date on the entry form to 19th August as the deadline for entry and spectators.

Action – Records Officer will contact Mike Proctor FSMAE overall event organiser for Silent Flight Nationals to obtain details of individual flight line CD's.

Page 7 – Chacksfield House

May Council Meeting held at Premier Inn Hotel, Leicester – A vote was taken at the Full Council meeting in May whether we continue to hold the Full Council meeting at Chacksfield House or the Premier Inn. The result, by a very small majority was in favour of continuing to hold the meeting at Chacksfield House.

The CEO suggested as another alternative venue that might be suitable but at half the cost of the Premier Inn, would be the Gliding Centre at Husbands Bosworth, which he will look in to.

Action - CEO

This concluded matters arising.

E954/07/11 (4) To receive reports from the Executive.

Vice-Chairman

Meetings have been arranged for the Awards Committee and Safety Review Committee.

The Vice-Chairman pointed out that the web site has not yet been updated with details of the current Silent Flight AS Controller and asked if the CEO could look in to it.

Action - CEO

Honorary Secretary

The Honorary Secretary had produced a written report which had been circulated to the Executive.

Points to note:

The Council Handbook has been completed.

He is currently working on the revision of the Articles of Association.

FAI Delegate

He attended a meeting called by the RAeC, attended by Delegates from other Associations, to discuss the current status of the FAI and what we believe they should be doing for our Associations. It was an interesting meeting.

Records Officer

He has been busy producing the NCR sheets for recording results at the Power Nationals.

With regard to the notification that the F3C contest has been withdrawn from the Power Nationals the Records Officer felt strongly that the Competition Secretary was wrong in her decision to agree to the cancellation of the event.

It was argued that if it is the considered opinion of the Technical Committee which is empowered to run and organise events at the Nationals that it is not feasible to run the contest, it is not in the gift of anybody else to come to a different view.

The Records Officer passed on details to the CEO for consideration from a Trader who had been in touch with him enquiring if it would be possible to hand out promotion leaflets of his products at the main gate at the Power Nationals.

CEO

Negotiations are continuing with regard to insurance renewal.

The search continues for a new web site designer/manager/co-ordinator.

In a couple of weeks time he will be attending a meeting with various Leicestershire based air sport Associations including British Parachute Association, British Gliding Association, British Hang gliding and paragliding Association with a view to forming an alliance, working more closely in the future and possibly sharing resources.

The recommendation as a result of a recent fire audit was that we should install a fire alarm system including wired smoke alarms rather than the current battery alarms. This would probably cost in the region of £3,000.

The wildlife study recently commissioned is now complete and the CEO has received the final document.

Technical Secretary

He is currently working on putting together an addendum sheet for the Members Handbook. Hopefully this should be ready for distribution towards the end of the year.

At a recent UKRCC meeting a major culpability implication was highlighted in respect of grey imports. If you import personally anything from outside the EU you take full responsibility for the technical performance of that equipment. The CE mark is not covered. If you buy it from somebody who has imported it already, they become responsible for the technical performance of the equipment.

It became obvious at the meeting that that this implies to everything you may import not just transmitters and receivers. It applies to kits, batteries, leads, etc. This is born out by an incident that happened at an R/C car event and the individual concerned was presented with the bill from the insurers for the damage caused.

The FAI Delegate reported that he has been made aware of an issue with regard to interference problems relating to 2.4GHz in some telemetry systems. The interference only affects JR and Spectrum because of how the channel hopping works.

The Technical Secretary commented that if this is the case it is an OFCOM problem and we need to make them aware of it.

The FAI Delegate said he would let the Technical Secretary have sight of the notification he had received. The meeting Chairman also asked to have sight of the notification.

Action – FAI Delegate

E955/07/11 (5) Trust Funds.

The CEO advised that he had a meeting recently with a company called Computastat who he has had dealings with over the years.

They work with a number of Associations on legacy programmes and some of them are so consistent in terms of the money generated each year that they incorporate a figure for it in the budgets and they believe we are missing out on a significant amount of money each year.

They think the establishment of the Trust Fund sub-committee was a very positive move. We still need to agree the terms of the Trust and what its objects are to be. This is something the Trust Fund sub-committee will need to consider when they meet to discuss the furtherance of the Trust Fund.

Action – CEO to arrange a meeting of the Trust Fund sub committee and to also invite a representative from Computastat to attend.

E956/07/11 (6) Code of Conduct

Work in progress.

Action - Vice Chairman to liaise with Ian Duff to try to get something together to present to the Executive at their next meeting.

E957/07/11 (7) Update on Museum.

A written update by Jim Wright BMFA Museum Liaison Officer, previously circulated, was reviewed by the Executive. The Executive were in agreement that Jim should be guided to pursue negotiations with RAF Cosford rather than RAF Hendon.

Action – CEO to convey thanks from the Executive to Jim Wright for his efforts so far.

E958/07/11 (7a) Strategic Plan.

The Honorary Secretary guided the Executive through the projected plan he had prepared comprising the role and function of Areas and possible sites of interest as a 'National Flying Site/Headquarters'. The Executive debated the suggestions therein accordingly which in turn generated more interesting points for consideration.

Conclusions:

Organisational – look at the County issue and revise thoughts on organisation in line with the Sports Council;

Take guidance that we feel any future flying field thoughts should be focused towards an airfield and not a farming site;

Use the renewal membership scheme as a basis for a survey of membership;

E959/07/11 (8) Life-time achievement Award.

We do not currently have anything that caters for people who have spent a lifetime helping, not doing any major specific tasks but generally being very useful and helpful and committing their lives to helping other model flyers to achieve the things they have achieved.

We need something that is specifically aimed at a life-time achievement in whatever format that might be.

The Vice-Chairman requested that the Competition Secretary puts together a more focused proposal, which he will present to the Awards Committee for discussion.

Action – Comp Sec

E960/07/11 (9) Top Gun.

The decision has been made that the Top Gun event would not be run at the Power Nationals. The Executive believe the R/C Power Technical Committee are best placed to decide and let us know whether they want to continue to run such an event as long as they are aware of the decision that it cannot be held at the Power Nationals.

Action – Tech Sec to advise Power Technical Committee Secretary to seek the Power Tech views on the future of the Top Gun event.

E961/07/11 (10) RAeC Certificates for British Records.

The Records Officer now has the information he requires and will pass on the relevant details to the RAeC to progress the RAeC Certificates.

Action – Records Officer

E962/07/11 (11) Devon Sub-Area.

The Honorary Secretary provided a written précis and of the current disharmony that has arisen within the Devon Sub-Area.

The Executive discussed the situation and agreed that we recommend to Full Council the suspension of the Devon Sub-Area until such time that a more permanent solution is found.

Action – Honorary Secretary to submit a proposal to Full Council.

E963/07/11 (12) Safety.

Damage to cars and fingers in props still continue to be the main issue in relation to model flying incidents. The Technical Secretary advised that he has included a section in the member's handbook to cover awareness of use of pegboards whilst flying is taking place on both 2.4 GHz and 35 MHz.

The annual Safety Review meeting will be taking place on September 9th.

E964/07/11 (13) Chacksfield House.

Some remedial work has been done to smarten up the outside of the building and car park area. The approximate cost to integrate a wired fire alarm to our current alarm system, which was the recommendation of recent fire safety audit, is £3,000. The CEO will be seeking alternative quotes.

Options are still being looked at with regard to the feasibility of extending the existing conference room. The CEO is obtaining quotes.

The CEO was asked to provide details of cost to hold the Full Council meeting at Husbands Bosworth Gliding Centre.

Action - CEO

E965/07/11 (14) Any Other Business.

There was none.

E966/07/11 (15) Date of next meeting.

The next meeting is confirmed as **Friday 9th September 2011** at 11am.

Transcribed from recording by Linda Harding, Office Manager.

CIRCULATION:

All Council Members
Fellows (Selected)

COPIES TO:

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