

## MINUTES

### SOCIETY OF MODEL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS LTD.

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at 11am at Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrews Road, Leicester LE2 8RE.

Provisional until confirmed at the next Full Council Meeting.

#### PRESENT

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

#### In Attendance

Linda Harding	Office Manager / Minute Taker
Dave Phipps	CEO
Sian Sargeant	Accounts Manager

#### AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for Absence.
- 2 Request for permission to be absent.

- 3 To verify the voting strength of the meeting.
- 4 Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2009.
- 5 Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2009 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.
- 6 To receive a financial report from the Honorary Treasurer to include:
  - a) The review and approval of the statutory accounts and supplementary information for the financial year ended 31st March 2009.
  - b) Any issues or recommendations raised by the Auditor whilst reviewing the Accounts.
  - c) The receipt and approval by Council of the draft budget for presentation to the AGM.
  - d) The recommendation of the membership fees for next year.
  - e) The ratification of the fees (currently £40) for Associate Bodies for next year.
  - f) [Any proposals from the Treasurer]
- 7 To receive a joint report from the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer to include the following proposal from the Chairman:
  - i. That should two or more members wish to be considered for the post of Alternate to the FAI Delegate and CIAM Education Delegate then, provided that they are properly nominated, Council will decide which shall fill the post by ballot at it's January meeting.
- 8 To receive a report from the Vice-Chairman.
- 9 To receive a report from the Honorary Secretary to include:
  - a Presentation of updates to the Affiliated Club list and adoption of any new clubs.
  - b Annual ratification of Honorary Members.
  - c Proposal from the Honorary Secretary that the South West Area is split into two, County based, sub Areas – essentially one sub Area for the Cornwall clubs, the other for the Devon ones. Each sub-Area to have an interim committee of three as agreed during the July visit of members of the BMFA Executive and their committee then appointed/ratified by an EGM or AGM for each sub-Area. This EGM/AGM to be convened before the end of 2009. Due to the reduced size of these sub-Areas, a quorum for sub-Area meetings will be considered as effective provided that at least three clubs are represented at such meetings. For overall representation to Council it is proposed that one Area Delegate will still represent the South West area i.e. this Delegate will represent both sub-Areas. Each sub-Area may appoint their own Chief Area Examiner for administrative convenience.

Funding for all Areas normally comprises a fixed element plus a sum for each club within that Area. For these two sub-Areas it is proposed that the fixed element (as applicable to the SW Area in total) is allocated 50/50 between the two sub-Areas and each sub-Area will additionally receive funding as applicable to the number of clubs within their sub-Area.

10 To receive a report from the Technical Secretary to include the following proposals:

- i. The 2007 Member's Handbook, page 40, column 1, THE BMFA SAFETY CODE FOR MODEL FLYING DISPLAYS, Organisation, paragraph (c), be modified as follows:

**Delete**

(c) Verification of flyers' competence. The BMFA has a voluntary Achievement Scheme for R/C flyers and it is recommended that this is used to assess competence. Details are included in this handbook.

**Replace with**

(c) Verification of flyers' competence. The BMFA and other organisations have voluntary achievement schemes for R/C flyers and organisers should consider these as they are all guides to the proficiency of flyers wishing to take part in the display or event. Details of the BMFA Achievement Scheme are included in this handbook.

- ii. The 2007 Member's Handbook, page 34, column 2, THE BMFA SAFETY CODE FOR MODEL FLYING DISPLAYS, General, paragraph 8, be modified as follows:

The following minima for sites, distances maintained from spectators and **proficiency** ~~competence~~ standards required from flyers of model aircraft at displays are recommended as a result of many years experience by the BMFA. As there are several different types of model aircraft they each require different facilities and site conditions for safe and effective displays. The different types will therefore be treated separately below.

**Reasons**

On Council's general instructions that the Handbook and other documents should be checked for the use of the word 'competence' and its relevance in context, it is felt that the word 'proficiency' is more appropriate in this case.

- iii. The Technical Committee Terms of Reference be changed to add the following elected post.

**The Rules Officer.**

The function of the Rules Officer will be to ensure that any rules overseen or generated by the Technical Committee or its Specialist Bodies are discussed and minuted by the Technical Committee and supplied to the Technical Secretary in good time to enable the BMFA rule books to be published early in the new year.

The information should be presented as early as possible but no later than mid February.

A return is required from the Technical Committee via the Rules Officer covering every possible rules source, although a 'no changes' response is acceptable.

The Technical Committee or Rules Officer is not required to hold all rule changes and submit them as a block. The sooner any individual changes are discussed by the Committee and then submitted the better.

- iv. The following addition be made to the BMFA Safety Code for Model Flying Displays, Member's Handbook 2007, page 39.

### **Young Pilots**

Whenever a young pilot takes part in a display, it is very strongly recommended that a suitably qualified person is tasked to stand with them as a safety pilot. The legal responsibilities and possible liabilities of young people under the age of 15 are not clearly delineated and the organisation should take great care that no young pilot is allowed to fly unaccompanied by a person known to them as being competent.

- 11 To receive a report from the Competition Secretary to include the following:
  - a Receipt and ratification of any contests for next year's FAI Calendar.
  - b Ratification of fees for FAI Licences for next year. (Present fees: FAI stamp: Seniors £10 & Juniors £5; Booklet: £5; replacement licences including the FAI stamp (ie lost or damaged in the current year): £5.
  - c Receipt of contest fees for Free Flight for next year.
  - d The following proposals from the Competition Secretary:
    - i. That the funding for International Teams remains as it currently is with the additional proviso that the International Teams Budget Holder (currently the Competition Secretary) monitors the entry fees approved by CIAM for each championship and if they appear unreasonable then she may use some of the unused portion of the International Team budget to alleviate the financial burden on the team members.
    - ii. BMFA General Rules: new paragraph 2.3.7 and re-number subsequent paragraphs  

The BMFA complies with the Anti-Doping Rules of the Royal Aero Club which are the UK Anti-Doping Rules and the FAI Anti-Doping Rules.

Currently there are no BMFA sanctions against any flier in BMFA competitions who is tested and has an adverse analytical result. However, competitors are advised that an adverse analytical result could affect their eligibility for international competition.

It is incumbent on any competitor in BMFA competitions and for team managers and support staff to be aware of the anti-doping rules.
- 12 To receive a report from the Records Officer.
- 13 To receive a report from the Public Relations Officer.
- 14 To receive a report from the FAI Delegate, to include:
  - a) The agreement of the CIAM Education Sub-Committee Delegate.
- 15 Next year's Major Events:
  - a To discuss venues.
  - b To accept co-ordinators.
  - c To ratify the Power Nationals Co-ordinator.

- 16 To receive a report from the Power Nationals Co-ordinator and the appropriate Technical Committees on the BMFA National Championships held since the last Council Meeting in May.
- 17 To receive a report from the Chairman of the Awards Committee.
- 18 To discuss an application for Specialist Body status for F5D.
- 19 To receive any reports from the following Delegates (reports should be brief, preferably in writing and in advance).
  - a Royal Aero Club (RAeC)
  - b General Aviation Safety Council (GASCo)
  - c Air Prox
  - d Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR)
  - e General Aviation Awareness Council (GAAC)
- 20 To receive any reports from the following Committees (reports should be brief, preferably in writing and in advance):
  - a CAA Team
  - b UK Radio Control Council (UKRCC)
  - c Education Working Group
  - d Flight Challenge
  - e University Challenge
  - f Computer Sub-Committee
  - g Safety Review Committee
  - h Achievement Scheme Review Committee
  - i BMFA News Publishers
  - j Flying Site Adviser's Report
  - k BMFA Archivist Report
- 21 Any Other Business.
 

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

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## MINUTES

### **611/09/09 (1) Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from the following:  
 Howard Menary FSMAE Northern Ireland Delegate, Mike Colling FSMAE Indoor TC & Education Co-ordinator, Martin Dilly FSMAE London Area Delegate & RAeC Delegate, Robin Jones FSMAE, Tom Jones North East Area Delegate.

### **612/09/09 (2) Request for permission to be absent.**

A request had been received from Andy Symons Northern Area Delegate, which was duly granted.

### **613/09/09 (3) To verify the voting strength of the meeting.**

The voting strength with the CLTC Representative out of the room at this point is 24.

**614/09/09 (4) Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2009.**

**Page 5**

- **Sixth paragraph, second line** – Delete the word “Claims”, change “Record” to “Records”.

**Page 11**

- **Fifth paragraph, third line** – Change “2009” to “2010”.

**Page 15**

- **Fifth paragraph from the bottom, last line** – Delete “it”. After “then” add “the Heli ‘B’ Certificate”.

**Page 19**

- **Third paragraph, first line** – Delete “e” from “ewith”.

**FAI Delegate proposed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2009 be accepted as a true record.**

Seconded by R/CPTC

Vote:           For:    22  
                  Ags:    0  
                  Abs:    2

Carried by a majority vote.

**615/09/09 (5) Matters/Actions arising from the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2009 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.**

**ACTION / NOTES**

**Page 5**

- **Fifth paragraph, PAYPAL** – The CEO reported that the frame-work is all set up for PAYPAL but there is still work to be done to integrate the on-line shop. It has not been given the highest priority and we are not exactly sure how long it will take to make it operational.

**Page 6**

**Top of the page, club map reference on website** – The CEO reported that the club map reference system is all set up however it is the view of the Executive that clubs should be offered the facility to opt out of it if they had a site which was considered sensitive and did not want publicising.

To facilitate this, a form was sent out to clubs with the last Club Bulletin enabling them to opt out. We need to evaluate the situation after the deadline of October 16th. The club’s wish to opt out would be honoured if we did go ahead with the scheme.

If a significant number of clubs want to opt out we might have to look at putting something alternative in place.

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**AGENDA ITEM NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING – Update on Club Map Reference.**

**Page 7**

- **Second paragraph, Child Protection Policy** – Work in progress.

- **Third paragraph from the bottom, accreditation scheme for clubs** – Work in progress.

**Page 8**

- **Bottom of page, new office photocopier** – All in place and working.

**Page 11**

- **Top of page, Affiliated Club List** – The queries raised at the last meeting are caused by the database picking up the wrong membership information. This is being investigated.

- **Bottom of page, authority to attend BMFA insured events** – R/C Power enquired as to whether any visits to BMFA insured events had taken place.

The CEO advised that no visits had actually been made however there was an incident at Weston Park Show. The organisers approached the BMFA stand and a BMFA representative working on the stand took charge of the situation. He prepared a full report for the CAA, who were very happy with how the situation was handled.

One point that was taken on board was that concerns have been raised on previous occasions with regard to safety at Weston Park Show.

**Page 13**

- **Second paragraph, IMAC rules** – The Technical Secretary advised that he did eventually receive the IMAC rule changes and they flew to these rules at the Power Nationals.

**Page 15**

- **Fourth paragraph from the bottom, meeting with ASRC & AHA** – R/C Power reported that a meeting between ASRC and AHA regarding the Helicopter 'B' schedule had taken place. The outcome was very positive and an agreement has been reached. Proposals have been put forward to Areas Council at the end of September which will hopefully be ratified.

Peter Christy personally thanked Council for expediting this and calling for a meeting between the two parties. He commented that the matter could have been dealt with a long time ago had a meeting taken place sooner.

The PAS Controller commented that the complaint was made to this Council on the grounds that the AHA had not been consulted from the first instance.

He has compiled a full report in addition to the notes he gave to this Council last time, which he has placed with the Vice-Chairman.

**Page 16**

- **Third paragraph, concerns from Wren Turbines reference JMA/GTBA code of practice for gas turbines** – R/C Power advised that he did consult with the JMA and GTBA and these concerns are now being addressed.

**Page 17**

- **Third paragraph, action for Tech Sec, Comp Sec, Office Manager regarding re-scheduling of Council Meeting dates for 2010** – There has not been an appropriate time to set aside when all three could get together to look at this. The Technical Secretary suggested that the office take it on board because there is very little he or the Competition Secretary can do other than give guidance.

The two dates which need looking at are the January Council meeting and the first Technical Council meeting. The January Council Meeting he feels is too close to the New Year and we should aim to set The Technical Council meeting two weeks before the CIAM Plenary Meeting.

The Competition Secretary advised that the CIAM Plenary Meeting in future years will be taking place later in the year in April, which should give us more flexibility. The date of the 2010 Plenary Meeting is 16/17 April.

**OFFICE  
MGR/CEO**

**Page 18**

- **Top of page, Slope Nationals** – The Technical Secretary commented that he had still not heard any reports on the Slope Nationals or whether it even took place.

Silent Flight advised that all he could report was that the Slope Nationals did take place. He has no other information.

Silent Flight were asked to provide the Technical Secretary and Records officer with the results and copied to the Competition Secretary.

This concluded matters arising.

**616/09/09 (6) To receive a financial report from the Honorary Treasurer.**

- a) **The review and approval of the statutory accounts and supplementary information for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.**

The Accounts Manager provided a run-down of the statutory accounts and supplementary information for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009. Copies of the documents were provided.

The Accounts Manager was applauded.

**The Honorary Treasurer proposed that the Annual Report and Accounts of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 be accepted.**

Seconded by the Vice-Chairman  
Carried unanimously.

At this point the CLTC Representative joined the meeting bringing the voting strength to 25.

b) **Any issues or recommendations raised by the Auditor whilst reviewing the Accounts.**

The only recommendation was that we should rationalise the number of reserve funds we currently have. We are going to centralise them which means they will be reported in the Accounts as one item in future to be known as *the development fund*.

c) **The receipt and approval by Council of the draft budget for presentation to the AGM.**

A copy of the budget had been circulated.

The Honorary Treasurer advised that the Accounts Manager took a different approach this year in gathering the budget information. Instead of asking for a full report of budget requirements she asked if they would like to change anything. This simplified the process considerably and she only received about four or five responses.

It was pointed out however that some recipients did not receive the request from the Accounts Manager.

The Honorary Treasurer provided a résumé of the budget.

**The Honorary Treasurer commended the draft budget for presentation to the AGM.**

Seconded by the Competition Secretary

Vote: For: 24  
Ags: 1  
Abs: 0

Carried by a majority vote.

d) **The recommendation of the membership fees for 2010.**

The recommendation is that there is an increase of £1 on all Senior categories. Therefore the recommended fees for 2010 are as follows:

<b>Senior</b>	<b>£29.00</b>
<b>Junior</b>	<b>£15.00</b>
<b>Family Senior</b>	<b>£29.00</b>
<b>Family Partner</b>	<b>£19.00</b>
<b>Family Junior</b>	<b>£11.00</b>

- e) **The ratification of the fees (currently £40) for Associate Bodies for 2010.**

**The Honorary Treasurer recommended that the Associate Body fee for the year 2010 remains the same at £40.**

ALL

Seconded by the Competition Secretary  
Carried unanimously

The Honorary Treasurer and Accounts Manager were congratulated on the excellent work put in to preparing the Accounts.

**617/09/09 (7) To receive a joint report from the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer.**

**CEO**

The CEO reminded Delegates that the deadline for receipt of Annual Reports is Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. ALL

Since the last meeting he has attended the following:

**Free Flight Nationals**

**Flight Challenge** – the Royal Navy were very happy with how the event ran this year and they have indicated that they would be happy to sponsor it again next year.

**University Challenge** – Royal & Sun Alliance have sponsored the event for the last three years and they have indicated that this will be their final year. We are in negotiations with Ace Europe who supply our personal accident cover and they are interested in sponsoring the event in future.

**South West Area meetings**

**Power Nationals** – A delegation from Euro Control attended the Power Nationals. They are involved in the integration of line of sight UAV's into airspace. They were there on the Sunday to see model flying in action and a meeting was held with them on the Monday.

Bingo Lotto starts again this coming Sunday. It will be shown on Virgin 1, the host is Ulrika Johnson. The lottery tickets are on display and sale at all Tesco checkouts. Previously they were only on sale with independent retailers. We are expecting a significant amount of money this time.

He asked Technical Committees to let him have dates for flying at Barkston Heath in 2010 as soon as possible to enable him to arrange the licence.

We have a new telephone system in place, which is quite sophisticated.

He will be publishing to Clubs a notice that Volunteering England are offering free membership to Clubs with a turnover of less than £20,000 per annum.

We had a visit in August from Mike Close who is the President of the MAAA. He came with specific interest in looking at our membership database and how we process membership.

**Chairman**

The Chairman attended most of the meetings mentioned by the CEO. He also makes regular visits to the office to keep abreast with what is going on.

Activities since the last meeting include attending Free Flight Nationals and Power Nationals.

With his wife he had represented the Society at the Queens Birthday Reception at RAF College Cranwell and attended a reception at Lincoln Castle following a Service in Lincoln Cathedral at the invitation of the Chairman of Lincolnshire County Council.

He attended the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace by invite invitation from the Royal Aero Club.

He attended the meetings in the South West Area which the Honorary Secretary will report on in detail.

He attended two GASCo meetings.

He attended the RAFMAA Championships the weekend following the Power Nationals.

He was a member of the FAI Jury for the F4C Scale Championships held in Norway.

The Chairman put forward the following proposal:

**That should two or more members wish to be considered for the posts of Alternate to the FAI Delegate and the CIAM Education Delegate and provided they are properly nominated and agendered, Council will decide who shall fill each post by ballot at the January Council Meeting.**

Seconded by Northern Area

Vote: For: 24  
Ags: 0  
Abs: 1

Carried by a majority vote.

**618/09/09 (8) To receive a report from the Vice-Chairman**

Since the last meeting his activities include chairing the Executive Committee in May; chairin a meeting of the Safety Committee; chairing a meeting of the Awards Committee in August, details of which will be given later in the meeting.

He briefly reported on the Safety Committee Meeting. Also present at the meeting was a representative from our Insurance Brokers who was there to observe and comment as appropriate.

Our insurers are extremely warmed by the very low percentage of claims and our excellent safety record, taking into account there are a possible 1 million flights per year.

Mostly the claims received are for injury to fingers caused by props and rotors and damage to cars. He urged people to be more cautious in these two common concerns.

One of the attendees at the meeting, Bob Smith offered to write an article for BMFA News on the safe use of NiMh batteries. We also now have a section on the safe use of NiMh batteries in the Members Handbook thanks to the Technical Secretary. The Safety Committee are very aware that it is important to provide this information to our members.

The meeting also considered concerns at the recent demise of the specialist body for Electric Flight, BEFA (British Electric Flight Association). The Vice Chairman was charged with preparing a paper to present at the January Council Meeting as to how we should structure, constitute and hold accountable a body of expertise on Electrical matters for the future safety and benefit of our members.

There are significant concerns which were raised at the meeting by the ex BEFA members which need to be addressed.

Northern Ireland raised the issue of water plane retrieval. The Vice-Chairman advised that this was not something that was raised at the meeting and asked Northern Ireland to communicate this to him for consideration.

R/C Power commented that R/CPTC had previously addressed the issue of safe use of Lipo batteries at one of their meetings. The Vice-Chairman said he was hoping that a member of R/CPTC would attend the Safety Committee meeting however the response of the R/CPTC Secretary was that nobody would be attending as they do not have any safety issues to raise with the Safety Committee.

R/C Power would inform the Vice-Chairman what meeting this took place at so that he could refer to the minutes of that meeting to see the R/CPTC recommendations.

R/C Power commented that they too have concerns with the loss of expertise for Electric power.

**619/09/09 (9) To receive a report from the Honorary Secretary.**

- a) **Presentation of updates to the Affiliated Club list and adoption of any new clubs.**

We were unable to produce the relevant information for this meeting. As reported earlier there is a problem with producing club data at present which is being looked into.

- b) **Annual ratification of Honorary Members.**

R Bench, D Bishop, E Clark, M Goldby, Mrs P Gowler, Mrs N Hadlow, D Hardman, K McCormick, Mrs M Nicholls, P Smith, Dr M P Sun, P Valentine, T Watson, J Worth, J French, R Bellingham,...

**Northern Area proposed that the Honorary Members listed above be accepted.**

Seconded by PRO

Carried unanimously

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**APPENDIX A (WRITTEN REPORT)**

The Honorary Secretary referred to the second paragraph in his report pointing out that this is something which will be brought up in the near future by the SFTC, concerning the possibility of shared use of Barkston with the Free Flight Nationals **in and** for the F3K event for 2010.

The final paragraph of his report relates to an inter club dispute resulting in the club calling a Special General Meeting, which he chaired. He commented that it is a great shame when club disputes get out of hand and feels clubs should concentrate their efforts more on flying than internal squabbling, which unfortunately can escalate out of all proportion.

The Honorary Secretary provided a brief resume of the recent South West Area meetings which he attended together with the Chairman and CEO and is also covered in his report.

The outcome of these meetings was the following proposal from the Honorary Secretary:

**“That the South West Area is split into two, County based, sub Areas – essentially one sub Area for the Cornwall clubs, the other for the Devon ones. Each sub-Area to have an interim committee of three as agreed during the July visit of members of the BMFA Executive and their committee then appointed/ratified an EGM or AGM for each sub-Area.**

**This EGM/AGM to be convened before the end of 2009. Due to the reduced size of these sub-Areas, a quorum for sub-Area meetings will be considered as effective provided that at least three clubs are represented at**

such meetings.

**For overall representation to Council it is proposed that one Area Delegate will still represent the South West Area i.e. this Delegate will represent both sub-Areas. Each sub-Area may appoint their own Area Chief Examiners for administrative convenience.**

**Funding for all Areas normally comprises a fixed element plus a sum for each club within that Area. For these two sub-Areas it is proposed that the fixed element (as applicable to the SW Area in total) is allocated 50/50 between the two sub-Areas and each sub-Area will additionally receive funding as applicable to the number of clubs within their sub-Area.**

Seconded by SFTC  
Carried unanimously

North West commented that although they support the proposal they did have a concern this might set a precedent and other Areas would 'jump on the bandwagon'. The response to that was that County based sub groups is something the Association has considered in the past and this is an opportunity for us to assess whether it is something that would work.

There will almost certainly be issues along the way that will need ironing out but they will only be highlighted once the scheme is up and running.

Both sub-Areas were unanimous in the choice of South West Area Delegate representing both groups at Council, who is Peter Disney RNMAA Delegate.

It was also pointed out that the Chairman and CEO will be attending the respective sub-Area EGM/AGM to offer support and guidance should they need it.

The Chairman will be writing to both sub-Areas to inform them of Council decision. He will report back further in January.

**CHAIRMAN**

**620/09/09 (10) To receive a report from the Technical Secretary.**

The Technical Secretary raised the issue that with the increasing popularity for flying Electric models the need for some form of isolation of the battery from the main systems is causing concern.

Hopefully the Trade will realise something needs to be done and put something out on the market. Until then all we can do is wait.

Unfortunately there is no conclusive advice that we can provide to our members.

The Technical Secretary reported on a couple of issues at the moment concerning a well-known and respected charger manufacturer providing recommendations which are contrary to the advice we provide to our members.

The Technical Secretary will liaise with the CEO with a view to writing to the manufacturer drawing attention to our concerns.

**TECH SEC/CEO**

Council accepted the Technical Secretary's recommendation that the new member's handbook due to be sent out in April/May 2010 should be sent to current members at that time and also to 2009 members.

The Technical Secretary put forward the following proposals:

- i) **The 2007 Member's Handbook, page 40, column 1, THE BMFA SAFETY CODE FOR MODEL FLYING DISPLAYS, Organisation, paragraph, (c), be modified as follows:**

**Delete**

**(c) Verification of flyers' competence. The BMFA has a voluntary Achievement Scheme for R/C flyers and it is recommended that this is used to assess competence. Details are included in this handbook.**

**Replace with**

**(c) Verification of flyers' competence. The BMFA and other organisations have voluntary achievement schemes for R/C flyers and organisers should consider these as they are all guides to the proficiency of flyers wishing to take part in the display or event. Details of the BMFA Achievement Scheme are included in this handbook.**

Seconded by Scale TC  
Carried unanimously

**TECH SEC**

- ii) **The 2007 Member's Handbook, page 34, column 2, THE BMFA SAFETY CODE FOR MODEL FLYING DISPLAYS, General, paragraph 8, be modified as follows:**

**The following minima for sites, distances maintained from spectators and proficiency ~~competence~~ standards required from flyers of model aircraft at displays are recommended as a result of many years experience by the BMFA. As there are several different types of model aircraft they each require different facilities and site conditions for safe and effective displays. The different types will therefore be treated separately below.**

Seconded by London Area  
Carried unanimously

**TECH SEC**

- iii) **The Technical Committee Terms of Reference be changed to add the following elected post.**

**The Rules Officer.**

**The function of the Rules Officer will be to ensure that any rules overseen or generated by the Technical Committee or its Specialist Bodies are discussed and minuted by the Technical Committee and supplied to the Technical Secretary in good time to enable the BMFA rule books to be published early in the new year.**

**The information should be presented as early as possible but no later than mid February.**

**A return is required from the Technical Committee via the Rules Officer covering every possible rules source, although a 'no changes' response is acceptable.**

**The Technical Committee or Rules Officer is not required to hold all rule changes and submit them as a block. The sooner any individual changes are discussed by the Committee and then submitted the better.**

Seconded by the R/CPTC

The Technical Secretary proposed the following amendment to paragraph 1 of the above proposal as underlined:

**The Technical Committee Terms of Reference be changed to add the following elected post to be filled from the elected or co-opted members.**

Seconded by the Competition Secretary

Vote: For: 22  
Ags: 1  
Abs: 2

Carried by a majority vote.

Substantive proposal as follows:

**The Technical Committee Terms of Reference be changed to add the following elected post to be filled from the elected or co-opted members.**

**The Rules Officer.**

**The function of the Rules Officer will be to ensure that any rules overseen or generated by the Technical Committee or its Specialist Bodies are discussed and minuted by the Technical Committee and supplied to the Technical Secretary in good time to enable the BMFA rule books to be published early in the new year.**

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Vote: For: 24  
Ags: 1  
Abs: 0

TECH SEC

Carried by a majority vote.

- iv) **The following addition be made to the BMFA Safety Code for Model Flying Displays, Member's Handbook 2007, page 39.**

#### **Young Pilots**

Whenever a young pilot takes part in a display, it is very strongly recommended that a suitably qualified person is tasked to stand with them as a safety pilot. The legal responsibilities and possible liabilities of young people under the age of 15 are not clearly delineated and the organisation should take great care that no young pilot is allowed to fly unaccompanied by a person know to them as being competent.

Seconded by the CLTC

The Competition Secretary proposed the following amendment to the above proposal as underlined:

**Whenever a young pilot takes part in a display, it is very strongly recommended that a suitable person is tasked to stand with them as a safety pilot. The legal responsibilities and possible liabilities of young people under the age of 15 are not clearly delineated and the organisation should take great care that no young pilot is allowed to fly unless accompanied by a person known to the organisers as being a proficient safety pilot.**

Seconded by the Technical Secretary

Vote: For: 24  
Ags: 1  
Abs: 0

Carried by a majority vote.

Substantive proposal as follows:

**The following addition be made to the BMFA Safety Code for Model Flying Displays, Member's Handbook 2007, page 39.**

#### **Young Pilots**

**Whenever a young pilot takes part in a display, it is very strongly recommended that a suitable person is tasked to stand with them as a safety pilot. The legal responsibilities and possible liabilities of young people under the age of 15 are not clearly delineated and the organisation should take great care that no young pilot is allowed to fly unless accompanied by a person known to the organisers as being a proficient safety pilot.**

Vote: For: 24  
Ags: 1  
Abs: 0

Carried by a majority vote.

**TECH SEC**

**621/09/09 (11) To receive a report from the Competition Secretary.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**NB WRITTEN REPORT TO FOLLOW.**

The Competition Secretary highlighted some points from her report.

The following Championship medals have been achieved:

Individual European Scale Champion Peter McDermott FSMAE.

Team Gold – Scale European Championships – Peter McDermott FSMAE, Dave Womersley, Mick Henderson.

F1C World Champion Peter Watson. This is quite an achievement as it has been about 30 years since the UK last had a World Champion in F1C.

Unfortunately F2A and F2C events classes were cancelled three weeks before the event began. It has been agreed with the organisers to refund all the BMFA monies paid to them. There are also some uninsured losses such as flights etc. The Competition Secretary is currently in the process of collating this information and will be submitting the information to the organisers to request a refund.

The FAI will debate this debacle and the consequences of this issue at the December Bureau Meeting.

The Competition Secretary continued with the following agenda items:

a) **Receipt and Ratification of any contests for next year's FAI Calendar.**

The Competition Secretary had received three application forms for the 2010 FAI Calendar, as follows:

The Stonehenge Cup, The Barton World Cup, The Equinox Cup.

**OFFICE MGR/  
ACCTS MGR**

There were no further submissions put forward for the FAI Calendar.

b) **Ratification of fees for FAI licences for 2010.**

Council were in agreement with the recommendation of the Competition Secretary that the fees remain the same as at present:

**FAI Stamp: Seniors £10 & Juniors £5; Booklet £5; replacement licences including the FAI stamp (ie lost or damaged in the current year) £5.**

**COMP SEC  
ACCTS MGR  
OFFICE MGR**

c) **Receipt of contest fees for Free Flight for 2010.**

Free Flight advised that these are usually set at the first meeting of the Tech Committee. It looks likely though that there will be no change to contest fees except for the Nationals. Free Flight will confirm this to the Competition Secretary in an email.

**FREE FLIGHT**

There was some uncertainty as to why Free Flight is being asked to provide the information at this meeting now it always used to be required for the January Council meeting. The Technical Secretary explained that Free Flight in general is the only Technical Committee that has Season Tickets and a lot of Free Flight members wish to pay their Season Ticket money with their membership fees. Therefore the amount needs to be known by the end of November.

The Competition Secretary put forward the following proposals:

- i) **That the funding for International Teams remains as it currently is with the additional proviso that the International Teams Budget Holder (currently the Competition Secretary) monitors the entry fees approved by CIAM for each championship and if they appear unreasonable then budget holder may use some of the unused portion of the International Team budget to alleviate the financial burden on the team members.**

A drafting amendment was agreed, sixth line after "then" "budget holder" replaced "she".

Seconded by Scale TC

Vote: For: 23  
Ags: 1  
Abs: 1

**COMP SEC  
ACCTS MGR**

Carried by a majority vote.

- ii **BMFA General Rules: new paragraph 2.3.7 and re-number subsequent paragraphs.**

**The BMFA complies with the Anti-Doping Rules of the Royal Aero Club which are the UK Anti-Doping Rules and the FAI Anti-Doping Rules.**

**Currently there are no BMFA sanctions against any flier in BMFA competitions who is tested and has an adverse analytical result. However, competitors are advised that an adverse analytical result could affect their eligibility for international competition.**

**It is incumbent on any competitor in BMFA competitions and for team managers and support staff to be aware of the anti-doping rules.**

Seconded by FAI Delegate  
Carried unanimously.

**COMP SEC  
TECH SEC**

**622/09/09 (12) To receive a report from the Records Officer.**

The Records Officer gave thanks to the CD's at the Power Nationals for prompt return of the results sheets. This enabled him to prepare the compilation sheets that he sends to the Editor.

The relevant process for checking the results was carried out by him together with the CEO before sending them off to the Editor, as per Council instructions.

The Records Officer gave credit to staff member Helen Taylor who spotted a crucial error with the BMFA News Proof of the results which he managed to verify and correct in time.

He will very soon be sending out requests for return of trophies in preparation for engraving in readiness for the Annual Prize-Giving in November.

He made his usual request to Area and Technical Committees for their assistance where possible with arrangements for getting the trophies back to the office.

He reported that he had still not received the results of the Free Flight Nationals. The Technical Secretary and Competition Secretary also said they had not received a copy.

Free Flight apologised but could not provide an explanation at this time. The Chairman instructed Free Flight email the results as a matter of urgency to the Technical Secretary, Competition Secretary and Records Officer.

**FREE FLIGHT**

It was pointed out to Free Flight that it does state in the General Rule Book that it is incumbent of the relevant Technical Committee to make sure the relevant Officers receive copies of the results.

He was asked to take this information back to the Technical Committee to ensure the proper procedure is followed in the future.

**623/09/09 (13) To receive a report from the Public Relations Officer.**

He attended the following shows with the BMFA stand: Free Flight Nationals, Weston Park, Cosford, SAM 35, Power Nationals, Teeside Show. He also intends to visit Hop Farm with a view to attending with the BMFA Stand next year.

By nature of attending the various shows it means he is in contact with many model flyers. He also keeps a close eye on the various modelling forums and responds to posts where necessary.

He made a plea that if anyone has anything they want to say they need to contact him.

**624/09/09 (14) To receive a report from the FAI Delegate.**

The FAI Delegate reported that the FAI still do not have a replacement for Max Bishop the Secretary General.

The general feeling on the competition circuit is that they object to the anti-doping rules.

**625/09/09 (15) Next year's Major Events.**

a) **To discuss venues.**

The CEO reiterated that he requires dates for 2010 for use of Barkston Heath as soon as possible.

Scale advised that the Scale Indoor Nationals will be held at Nottingham University again in April 2010. The Director of Sport at the University died suddenly shortly after the event this year but he has had an undertaking from their administrative manager that they will continue to support us for forthcoming years.

Scale also advised that the Indoor Duration Nationals are being held at RAF Digby this coming weekend. There is also a licence for four events for 2010. The cost of the licence has increased significantly, however compared to commercial rates it is still very good value.

The Technical Secretary asked to receive information on any of the Nationals events for 2010 even the briefest of details

as long as he has something.  
He would like to get the information in the calendar as soon as possible.

The Free Flight **and Space** Nationals will take place as usual over the May Bank Holiday at Barkston Heath and the Power Nationals over the August Bank Holiday at Barkston Heath.

b) **To accept co-ordinators.**

Free Flight **and Space** Nationals – Mike Woodhouse FSMAE  
Scale Indoor Nationals – Ian Pallister

c) **To ratify the Power Nationals Co-ordinator.**

**R/CPTC proposed that Chris Bromley is appointed Power Nationals Co-ordinator for 2010.**

Seconded by the FAI Delegate  
Carried unanimously.

**626/09/09 (16) To receive a report from the Power Nationals Co-ordinator and the appropriate Technical Committees on the BMFA National Championships held since the last Council Meeting in May.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Free Flight  
WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX B)**

It was worth waiting two years to get some good weather. It was a very successful Nationals.

The incorporation of SAM 35 event at the Free Flight Nationals went very well.

With regard to earlier mention of the possibility of incorporating Silent Flight Nationals, it would cause some difficulties with two lots of radio with Space Modelling and SAM 35.

**Power Nationals**

Friday set up weather was abysmal. The Power Nationals overall was very good. The competitors did suffer though and had very strong winds to contend with.

There were some problem areas which have been noted and in most cases action has already been taken to address the issue for next year. These include:

- Holding areas.
- Camping around the Control Line cages.
- Some problems with the toilet contract, which we will be discussing with the supplier. We will possibly be looking at increasing the shower units.
- We will look at reviewing the operational order and re-wording in places.

The IMAC spectator shuttle worked very well and he is pleased to say that the marshalling was very good. Following a suggestion from GBR/CAA it has already been decided that the crossing point will be moved next year near to pylon.

It will be a continuous road-way across so that people can drive across whenever they want to. There will be a marshal at each end of the road-way and one on the way into the compound. There will be no pedestrians whatever.

The GBR/CAA take off point is 200 metres from this road-way and the marshal will be instructed that nobody goes across when a pylon race is imminent or taking place. That covers us from a legal point of view with regard to endangering and also gives free access to IMAC. That is all assuming they want to fly in the compound again.

The main Staff have already indicated they will be coming back next year. The process is well under way for next year.

It was pointed out that comments were made by spectators that better signage of the whereabouts of the different flight lines is required.

The Technical Secretary said this is something that has been discussed previously. Just having thirty or so signs would not have a big enough impact because of the size of the airfield it would require two hundred or so.

The PRO places large A2 size maps of the layout of all the flight lines, in strategic places, which worked well. The Technical Secretary said he would order more for next year.

The PRO suggested flight lines might consider having banners.

Details of numbers through the gates were on the pre-booked camping, competitors and day passes was slightly up. Day Gate was slightly up. Camp gate was up considerably equating to an extra 300 people on the airfield.

Special mention was given to the roping crew who did an exceptional job this year.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Control Line - WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX C)**

Control Line highlighted one of the points in the report that there is a growing problem with the east/west runway where the Control Line competitions are flown. The runway surface is in very poor condition and it will not be long before it becomes unusable.

#### **R/C Power**

Show line ran very smoothly. No reports of any problems from Fun Fly. Helicopter struggled with the wind conditions.

The trial Scale Helicopter competition was very successful. It was very popular and drew a lot of spectators. There was only one minor infringement from Scale but given the weather conditions was understandable.

Swap meet went very well and there was a small increase in profit.

Cliff Hyatt the former American World Champion paid a visit to Helicopter flight line on the Saturday. He was in England on business. He seemed very impressed with what he saw.

### **Scale**

There were again a large number of entries. Flights were limited on the Saturday and Monday due to weather conditions but everything got finished.

There were comments over the weekend that the PA System was not very effective.

### **Silent Flight**

Entries were slightly up. The main issue is the ground at Spitalgate is very uneven. It is just about useable. Signage was a problem but the Technical Secretary advised that this was noted and will be addressed.

The Vice-Chairman commented that he is in discussion with the CEO and work is in progress as a matter of urgency with regard to seeking alternative sites for hosting the Silent Flight Nationals.

## **627/09/09 To receive a report from the Chairman of the Awards Committee.**

The Awards Committee met on 15<sup>th</sup> August. The Awards Committee currently comprises Chairman Chris Moynihan, Martin Dilly FSMAE RAeC, Keith Miller FSMAE Areas Rep, Chris Bromley FSMAE Technical Committee Rep, three elected Fellows – Gordon Warburton, Allan Weighell and Jim Andrews.

The Vice-Chairman commended the outcome of the Awards Committee Meeting as follows:

### **The Vice-Chairman proposed that Keith Lomax be recommended to the AGM for a Fellowship Award.**

Seconded by Scale TC

Vote: For: 24  
Ags: 0  
Abs: 1

Carried by a majority vote.

**OFFICE MGR  
VICE CHAIR  
ACCTS MGR  
RECORDS OFF**

### **SMAE Fellowship**

Keith Lomax

**Arthur Mullet Trophy**

Mick Lewis

**BMFA Certificate of Merit**

Peter Bailey

Walter Hodgkinson

Gordon May

Brian Lever

**Andrei Tupolev ~~Diploma Medal~~**

Peter Watson

**RAeC Bronze Medal**

Brian Lever

**The Vice-Chairman proposed that the above recommendations by the Awards Committee are accepted en bloc.**

Seconded by R/CPTC

Carried unanimously

OFFICE MGR  
VICE CHAIR  
ACCTS MGR  
RECORDS OFF

**628/09/09 (18) To discuss an application for Specialist Body status for F5D.**

The Chairman advised that he had received an application for Specialist Body status for F5D, which has not been formally submitted in a proposal and therefore can only be discussed at Council today.

The Technical Secretary advised that when F5D discipline was transferred from Silent Flight to R/C Power Technical Committee they were told quite clearly that their route through Technical Committee was through the existing Pylon Race Specialist Body BMPRA.

Peter Christy R/C Power commented that his understanding of the situation is that BMPRA are not prepared to represent the Electric side of Pylon flying because it is outside of their experience. We need access to Electric expertise on R/C Power.

Control Line pointed out that the reason F5D were moved from Silent Flight to R/C Power is that the flying of it was very similar to F3D.

The consensus of opinion is that we will not be considering F5D as it stands at the moment for Specialist Body Status.

The Chairman will write to F5D to inform them of Council's decision.

**CHAIRMAN**

**629/09/09 (19) To receive any reports from the following Delegates.**

- \*\*\*\*\* a) **Royal Aero Club – WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX D)**
- b) **GASCo** – The Chairman reported that he did raise an issue at the last GASCo meeting in relation to the intrusion to the Rocket Flying event at Elsworth in May. This was a series of full-size aeroplanes towing gliders from Gransden airfield straight through a notamed area where UKRA were flying.
- Fortunately there was no incident however the main point is that the notam was ignored. The Chairman complained immediately and the following Monday the CEO received an apologetic telephone call from the BGA.
- c) **Air Prox** – No report.
- d) **CCPR** – No report.
- e) **GAAC** - No report.

**630/09/09 (20) To receive any reports from the following Committees.**

a) **CAA**

A meeting took place at the Power Nationals with three people from an organisation called Euro Control. They are tasked with the framing of European legislation covering visual operation of UAV's.

The reason for their visit was that Graham Lynn MBE had been talking with them from a European Air Sports point of view and had realised they were beginning to frame legislation which was based on model flying but they had no idea how model flying took place and the skills involved, which is why he invited them to the Nationals.

They went away with a very clear idea how model flying takes place. We got them to agree that the way we fly model aircraft is not how UAV pilots will want to operate. Hopefully they will go away and frame this visual UAV legislation in terms that are not applicable or are taken from model flying. They realise that the two sets of skills are very much the same but they are applied in totally different ways.

It was a very important meeting and well worth taking four hours out to accommodate them.

The CEO reported that we have just received notification from the CAA they have prosecuted a model flyer in relation to falsification and forgery of documentation.

- b) **UKRCC** – No report.
- \*\*\*\*\* c) **Education Working Group – WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX E)**

- d) **Flight Challenge** – Nothing further to report.
- e) **University Challenge** – Nothing further to report.
- f) **Computer sub committee** – Nothing further to report other than the issue in relation to the Club list data, mentioned earlier in the meeting.

R/C Power drew attention to the fact that there is no straightforward link on the web site when looking for Council Minutes and Agendas. This was noted and will be addressed.

**TECH SEC/ CEO**

- g) **Safety Review Committee** – Already reported.
- h) **ASRC** – A number of proposals have been put forward to Areas Council for consideration.
- i) **BMFA News Publishers** – Nothing to report.
- j) **Flying Site Adviser** – Report previously circulated to Council by email
- \*\*\*\*\* k) **BMFA Archivist Report – WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX F)**

**631/09/09 (21 Any Other Business)**

- a) **Request from South Midland Area – North London MFC asking to move from the South Midland Area to the London Area.**

Approval has been given by both Areas for this change to take place.

The Chairman reminded London Area however that the Membership Secretary had not received a response to the letter she sent regarding this change.

**South Midland Area proposed that North London MFC move from the South Midland area to the London Area.**

Seconded by R/CPTC  
Carried unanimously

**SM AREA  
LONDON AREA  
MEM SEC**

\*\*\*\*\*

- b) Item for discussion from Silent Flight Technical Committee.

Silent Flight feel that in light of the ever increasing costs of sending teams to World and Euro Championships an effort should be made to raise funds by means of voluntary contribution from the membership.

To this end SFTC request than an appeal should be made via the membership renewal forms, either to individual members and/or the block renewal made by Club Secretaries. To make the admin costs worthwhile a minimum of £1 per member should be suggested.

Action on FAI Delegate to raise the issue with the FAI/CIAM that fees are becoming disproportionate and we should wait to see what the outcome is before discussing whether we

need to take any action.

A comment was made that the Free Flight Technical Committee and the AHA manage to raise funds quite successfully for their respective bodies. The Power Nationals also generates a significant amount of money which is transferred to Team Travel Funds.

The Technical Secretary made the point that there is the likelihood that if CIAM are not able to do anything it is inevitable the Championships will move to a four year cycle.

**634/09/09 (21) Date of next meeting.**

This was confirmed as **9th January 2010** at 11am.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.55pm.

Linda Harding, Office Manager  
19<sup>th</sup> September 2009

**Circulation:** All Council Members

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

## Hon Secretary's Report for Sept Exec and full Council meetings

The issues with the South West Area have moved on. As will be reported by Robin Gowler and David Phipps, all three of us met with first the Cornwall Clubs and then the Devon Clubs. The latter meeting was very fractious and a key issue behind the discord in the Area has been the use (supported by the few people left on the Area committee) to use Area funding to maintain Little Haldon as a flying site. This disused airfield is in the Exeter locality and is thus of no interest to North and West Devon clubs and even less so for the Cornwall clubs. We told the Area officials that we saw this use of funds as inequitable and, while we wholly supported the site being maintained fit for flying, some way should be found to ensure that those who used it, paid for it. The Area officials remain hostile to this suggestion. The outcome of these meetings is the proposal from me for Council, to create two sub areas.

Although I personally spent most of my time at the 2009 Nationals at Spittlegate, I did visit Barkston on the Saturday afternoon and all the inputs I got were very positive about how well it was being run. On the Silent Flight side, the F3K (discus launched mini glider) community, who generate a lot of internet text, complain that the SF Nats are a poor relation. Whilst a matter for the SFTC to discuss, the F3K flyers may seek to share Barkston with Free Flight at the FF Nationals for 2010.

Finally, at the request of the cub in question and the Development Officer, I recently attended and chaired a Special General Meeting of the Blackdown Model Aircraft club. This, North Devon based, club enjoys an excellent (365 days per year) flying site but were embroiled in a major internal dispute. Essentially one member wrote an email circulated on the club "email ring" which was somewhat critical of the club committee. The Club Secretary (at the committee's request) wrote back being critical of the member and the two sides then continued to get further apart. The original member finally invoked his right, under the Club's constitution, to call an SGM. This was the meeting I chaired and, (hopefully) as it resulted in a large majority vote in favour of three resolutions effectively backing the committee the issue has now been fully aired and the members can move on and concentrate on their flying.

Robin Sleight, 8 Sept 2009

### **2009 Free Flight & Space Model Nationals**

In 2007 and 2008 the weather for the Free Flight Nationals had been very poor. In 2009 all this changed and we had a perfect weekend for Europe's premier free flight event. The weather came good late on the Friday and closed in again on the Tuesday!

The Free Flight Technical Committee always looks to improve and develop the Free Flight Nationals. SAM35 are now represented on the FFTC and thus some SAM35 events, in what was titled as "SAM35 at the Nationals" were added. The SAM35 events as well as being free flight included some control line and a RC assist classes, we hope to develop this aspect of the Free Flight Nationals in the coming years.

As well as all this competitive activity there are those who come along either to watch, fly their sport models or simply be there. In this way we have both the "Grand Prix" and "Classic Car Rally" aspect of our pastime represented.

Financially 2009 broke even. The main income is from the competitors who come for the weekend and pre-enter and pay prior to attending. This pre-entry system ensures that we can cover our costs and we pitch the fees accordingly. So regardless of weather the event is sustainable. The participation levels have plateaued in recent years. However costs continue to rise and thus margins have been eroded. For 2009, we held, or reduced our fees this was done to recognise the effect of the previous two years weather on those we wished to attract. We wanted to encourage our clientele to come along in 2009. Part of the consideration for 2010 will be the need to increase to our fees to cover the increasing costs. We will continue to closely monitor numbers participants and income.

Michael J. Woodhouse

Report to the Council Meeting 12/09/09 on the 2009 British National Championships from the Control Line Technical Committee.

The Control Line National Championships were successfully held at Barkston Heath during the August bank holiday weekend. Twenty five of the twenty six classes were flown and all finished on schedule. The weather this year was extremely difficult, the high wind on Saturday caused a severe delay in starting most events because it was too dangerous to fly. Aerobatics had to be cancelled for the whole day. Fortunately Sunday and Monday were slightly less windy and we were able to complete our schedule on time.

Access to the airfield was not possible until late afternoon on the Friday, Despite the wind and rain, all three cages were at least partially erected on the Friday. The final assembly and the safety roping was finalised on Saturday morning. The Aerobatics area was modified from 2008 in order to give larger safety areas for the judges. The Team Race cages were more secure this year because the bottoms of the nets were tied down using the new orange rope.

For 2009 the CLTC once again supplied the new design glass trophies for all podium places. The trophies were organised by Mick Lewis, who finalised the artwork for each of the designs and arranged for their production. The trophies were graciously presented by the BMFA Chairman at the end of the contest. The Chairman led a minuet's silence to remember Denis Ward, Andy DGLISH and Marlene May the wife of Gordon May who all passed away this year.

There is a growing problem with the east/west runway where the Control Line competitions are flown. The runway surface is in very poor condition and it will not be very long before it becomes unusable. Control Line contest directors have to do a FOD plod before they start to fly in order to remove all of the loose pieces of tarmac from the runway! There were no other problems at the Control Line flight lines and the CLTC would like to thank all the contest directors, timekeepers scores and tabulators for their efforts during the championships.

P Halman  
Council delegate CLTC  
5th September 2009.

**ROYAL AERO CLUB DELEGATE'S REPORT - July 2009**

I represented the BMFA at the July 14<sup>th</sup> RAeC Council meeting, the first attended by Daev Phipps as Gen.Sec. and Linda Harding as minute-taker since their appointment. Much of the discussion and business involved manned aviation but the following matters may be of BMFA interest.

- 1) HRH Prince William had been offered honorary membership but he has declined this until after his qualification as a military helicopter pilot.
- 2) The continuing work on archiving the RAeC historical material at Hendon has been continued by NAFDAS and they have been invited again this year to the Power Nats as appreciation.
- 3) An editor is required for future RAeC Awards Ceremony brochures. This is a once a year job, but the brochure is a prestigious publication and, from my own experience, requires very careful proofreading and some effort in keeping contributors to deadlines.
- 4) The 2009 grant from Bingolotto is expected to be higher than in 2008. Since member associations will have made their own applications, any funding received by the RAeC will be used for specific RAeC projects, rather than being disbursed to associations.
- 5) It was decided that the anti-doping rules to be adopted by the RAeC are those published by the Drug-Free Sport Directive of UK Sport. It also adopts the FAI's similar rules; in case of conflict the FAI's will prevail. The BPA, BMAA and BHPA were against but the vote was carried.
- 6) The RAeC has endorsed a project primarily sponsored by the Air League in which a team of 16 year olds will build a PW-5 glider from a kit and be trained to solo standard to fly it.
- 7) The RAeC has allocated £1500 to house various historical sports aviation items in the entrance hall of RAF Hendon. I suggested that there might be an opportunity to include some graphics showing the action in current branches of air sport to bring it all up to date.
- 8) 22 RAeC Trust bursaries varying between £500 and £1500 were awarded to young people between 16 and 21 this year out of 36 applications. Two of these were to enable model flyers to upgrade their aircraft for national and international competition.

Martin Dilly

RAeC Delegate

15-7-09

## Education Working Group Report to BMFA Full Council meeting 12<sup>th</sup> September 2009

As you know I have sent my apologies for absence as I am travelling up to Aberdeen to run FunCopter workshops at the TechFest event. Since the last report to the full council meeting in May, there have been the two finals of the events that the BMFA run. I refer to the University Challenge and the Schools (and Youth Groups) Flight Challenge. Needless to say both events were run well and were a great success.

This years University Challenge, the 16<sup>th</sup>, saw two separate contests being run. Eleven teams competed in the final two tasks of the Heavy Lift event and five teams competed in the Electric Contest. Saturday evening saw all 16 teams give their presentations in one of the Elvington museum buildings. At the end of the flying part of the contest, four teams failed to get a score in the Heavy Lift event and one team failed to get a score in the Electric Contest. This years Heavy Lift Contest was won by Strathclyde University's "B" team with a payload lift of 6.1 Kg giving a final score of 235.11 points. The Electric Contest was won by St Josephs SHINOFLY team with a total of 171 eggs being transported in two given time slots.

The 11th BMFA Flight Challenge was held at Duxford the week after the University Challenge. I understand that the numbers competing in this event were up over last year. I feel that the space that was given to us for running the event was close to capacity. It has been encouraging how a good number of clubs and individuals have helped in the running of this extremely important event. It was also good to see the enthusiastic presence of our new sponsors, the Royal Navy, at this event.

Since the last Full Council meeting in May, the BMFA Education stand has been at three venues flying the flag for the BMFA.

At the D & T Show at the NEC in November it is hoped to launch our latest, and most ambitious model, the SkyDart. This is a radio controlled electric powered aircraft that has been specifically designed by Paul & Gordon Cook of Flight Line Plans. The plans for this model can already be obtained from Micron Radio Control.

Exhibition space has already been booked for the Association for Science Education event to be held at the Nottingham University on the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of January. If any one would like to volunteer helping to man this stand please contact me.

Mike Colling  
Education Working Group.

**ARCHIVISTS REPORT TO THE FULL COULCIL MEETING**

I am continue to collect and archive memorabilia as usual, I am also in the process of giving each item it's own identification number so that it can easily be found by future researchers. It would be appreciated if, when items are removed. they are returned to exactly the same place. I recently went in to do some work only to be faced with having to get the step ladders out to replace items, this is not my job and we do not want to get to a situation where you can only access the archive when there is someone there to retrieve and replace them for you.

A meeting of the Archive group took place at the R/C, C/L & Scale Nationals.

We set out our aims as follows:-

To collect items for archiving and arrange suitable storage for them.

To have a BMFA model flying museum.

It was agreed that any items given to us as members of the group are the property of the BMFA. (At this stage no items would be accepted as on loan, as we have limited space available)

We will continue to produce articles for the BMFA News to encourage members to donate for the archives/ museum.

The response from the recent appeals in the BMFA News has been good, quite enough to keep me busy, one very useful one was a complete collection of the New Model Flyer, we only had three issues out of a possible fifteen.

Kath Watson, FSMAE.  
Vice President & Archivist  
4<sup>th</sup> September 2009

**NOTES**

Ratified

**NOTES**

Ratified