

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

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrew's Road, Leicester LE2 8RE.

Provisional until confirmed at the next Council Meeting.

## **PRESENT**

Robin Gowler FSMAE	Chairman
Chris Moynihan	Vice-Chairman
Keith Lomax	Honorary Treasurer
Jo Halman FSMAE	Competition Secretary
Wayne Pendleton	Technical Secretary Alternate
John French	Records Officer
Jim Andrews	FAI Delegate
Nigel Barker	East Anglia Area Delegate
Martin Dilly FMSAE	London Area Delegate
George Maynard	Midland Area Delegate
Gordon Warburton FSMAE	Northern Area Delegate
Allan Weighell FSMAE	North East Area Delegate/Indoor Tech Comm Rep
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
Robin Jones FSMAE	Mid West Area Delegate
Mike Chignell	South West Area Delegate
Dave Clarkson	Free Flight Tech Comm Representative
Mike Goldby	Scale Tech Committee Representative
Steve Ogden	R/C Power Tech Comm Representative
Clive Needham	R/C Silent Flight Tech Comm Representative

## **In Attendance**

Eric Clark	BMFA News Editor
Linda Harding	Office Manager / Minute taker
Dave Phipps	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Sian Sargeant	Accounts Manager

## **Visitor**

Frank Buttery	South West Area Chairman
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## 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 5<sup>th</sup> May 2007.
- 5 Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2007 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 2007.
  - 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.
- 7 To receive a joint report from the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer.
- 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.
- 10 To receive a report from the Technical Secretary.
- 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.
- 12 To receive a report from the Records Officer to include the following:
  - a) British Record Claims:

Name Peter Watt – BMFA No 108095  
Class Indoor Rubber Duration F1L  
Site North Weald  
Date 14<sup>th</sup> July 2007  
Duration 9 min 42 secs

Name M White – BMFA No 124413  
Class Open Indoor HLG  
Site Elms School Colwall Indoor Sports Hall  
Date 30<sup>th</sup> March 2007  
Duration 21.45 secs

b) The Records Officer has been instructed by the Executive Council to place before Full Council for consideration, the following changes to the Awards Diplomas from that previously approved by this Council.

- i) That the legend, in the appropriate colours, Gold Silver and Bronze be replaced by the words First Second and Third in BMFA blue ink.
- ii) That the word "Award" be deleted.
- iii) As these Certificates have been in use for some time now various other changes can be affected ie the re-positioning and the appropriate modernisation of logos as required.
- iv) The changes will become effective from January 2008.

Sample facsimile of the current and changed diplomas appended to this Agenda.

- 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 receive a proposal from Silent Flight Technical Committee that the BMFA Council provide funding for helpers in FAI World Championship events F3B & F3J where a pilot would not be able to compete without such assistance.
- 19 Adoption of Roger Bedford Memorial Trophy.
- 20 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)
- 21 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

22 Any Other Business.

23 Date of next meeting.

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Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## MINUTES

### 472/09/07 (1) Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from the following:

Stuart Marsden	- PRO
Graham Lynn MBE	- Honorary Secretary
Chris Bromley FSMAE	- Technical Secretary
Paul Bellingham	- RAFMAA Area Delegate
Howard Menary FSMAE	- Northern Ireland Area Delegate
Chris Barker	- Control Line Technical Committee Delegate
Mike Colling FSMAE	- Indoor Technical Committee Delegate /Education Co-ordinator

An issue was raised with regard to whether it is in order for Elected Officers to appoint an alternate. In this instance the Technical Secretary had appointed Wayne Pendleton as Technical Secretary alternate.

Chairman said he believed according to our Constitution this is correct. There were some objections raised against the principle that an Elected Officer could appoint an alternate and that Company Law does not allow it. On this occasion Council consented to the appointment and Chairman said he would seek clarification before the next meeting.

**Action: Chairman**

### 473/09/07 (2) Request for permission to be absent.

There were no requests.

### 474/09/07 (3) To verify the voting strength of the meeting.

There were 23 members eligible to vote at this meeting.

Chairman pointed out that everyone had been provided today with a copy of the transcript of the Special Minute from Full Council 5<sup>th</sup> May 2007. He apologised for the delay. He advised that we had only just received permission from our Solicitors to release the Minute.

**475/09/07 (4) Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2007.**

**ACTION / NOTES**

**Page 8**

- **Fifth paragraph, second line** - Change "Secretary" to "Treasurer".

**Page 14**

- **Sixth paragraph, second line** - Add after Comp Sec "in her role as CLTC Sec. **Third line** - Delete "all the time", replace with "frequently"

- **Eighth paragraph, third line** - Delete "This", replace with "A link".

**Page 16**

- **Fifth paragraph, first line** - Change "is he" to "he is".

**Page 17**

- **Insert the following after voting to clarify voting figures** - "Hon Treasurer was out of the room at this point and R/C Power Tech Committee representative had left the meeting."

**Page 18**

- **Fifth paragraph** - Delete whole of paragraph and replace with the following - "Hon Treasurer was back in the room".

- **Sixth paragraph, fourth line** - Change "hardware" to "software". **Following paragraph, second line** - same change.

**Page 20**

- **Second paragraph, second line** - Add after "Comp Sec", "in her role as a member of the CIAM Bureau".

**FAI Delegate proposed that the minutes of the Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2007 be accepted as a true record.**

Seconded by London Area.

Vote: For: 21

Ags: 0

Abs: 2

Carried by a majority vote.

**476/09/07 (5) Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> May 2007 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.**

**Page 10**

- **Third paragraph, LCD display equipment to be used for Control Line Team Race at this years' National Championships** - FFTC asked if Control Line could comment why the equipment was not available for the August Nationals.

Comp Sec, in her role as CLTC Secretary advised that there was a delay in getting the equipment finished. However she hopes to report back to a future meeting that the project was completed successfully and agreed that it was a great pity that it was not available for use at the August 2007 C/L, R/C, Scale Nationals.

**- Penultimate paragraph, consider Silent Flight request to be considered for inclusion in share-out of 'Power Nationals' surplus** - Hon Treasurer advised that there would be a review of Silent Flight contribution towards camping at the Power Nationals before the split is decided.

Comp Sec brought to Council's attention that everybody who enters the Power Nationals pays a £5 registration fee and Silent Flight National competitors did not pay this fee. She feels it would be remiss of the SFTC to be requesting a proportion of the surplus.

Vice-Chairman, in his role as SFTC Delegate, suggested that this information provided by Comp Sec is taken into consideration when the split is considered. **HON TREAS**

Comp Sec also raised the point that Competitors pay a reduced fee for camping and she would question how many Silent Flight people come to the Power Nationals and do not go to the Silent Flight Nationals. The point being until we can ascertain whether a surplus can be determined that is specific to the Power Nationals from Silent Flight flyers, she does not see how they can be considered for part of the Power Nationals surplus.

Chairman commented that we cannot do anymore until we have a breakdown of the figures.

#### **Page 11**

**- Penultimate paragraph, request for input from Tech Comms regarding a fundraising event for teams** - London Area asked if there had been any input from Tech Comms.

CEO confirmed that the only input received was from Scale, who did not wish to participate. It was suggested maybe this is because some of the Tech Comms had not held a meeting since the last Council meeting.

It was noted that two Tech Committees had not held a meeting subsequent to the Council meeting in May.

#### **Page 12**

**- Second paragraph, proposal to look into secure online payment** - London Area pointed out that there was no proposal on the Agenda.

Hon Treasurer advised that he was a little premature in raising this item at the last meeting. This is something the CEO and Tech Sec are looking into incorporating into the new website.

**Page 13**

**- Sixth paragraph, Child Protection Policy update -**

Chairman asked CEO what the position was.

CEO advised that we are awaiting a further response from the CPSU (Child Protection in Sport Unit).

**Page 14**

**- Sixth paragraph, posting competition results on web site**

- Silent Flight said the process for posting results on the website was very longwinded.

Comp Sec explained that Tech Committees should contact the webmaster and ask for a password which will enable them to post the results via the News page. To archive them at the end of the year you need to make a request to the webmaster to do this because at this moment in time Tech Committees do not have the facility to do this. She is however working on this so that the facility is made available.

Records Officer pointed out that Tech Committees are required to submit all results to the Records Officer for archiving purposes as this is part of his job.

**- Penultimate paragraph, posting of results on website -**

London Area asked whether the latest Indoor Championship results had been posted on the website.

Comp Sec advised that the information had been forwarded to the office. This is in accordance with an agreement set up through the PRO with the office for this information to be posted on the web.

CEO advised that he had received a very brief note from the Team Manager, which said that further information would follow but this has not been received.

Comp Sec said that brief details are all we need to post a newsflash on the front page.

CEO would ensure this is on the website. Chairman stressed that it is the responsibility of Team Managers to get this information to the office. It would be posted on the website within hours of receiving it.

**CEO**

**Page 15**

**- Sixth paragraph, confirmation of Honorary Members -**

Chairman pointed out that Keith Miller would no longer appear on the Honorary Member list as he was now a Fellow of the Society.

## **Page 20**

**- Fifth paragraph from the bottom, record information on the website** - East Anglia asked if the Records information had been updated and made available on the website. Comp Sec confirmed that the Records had been updated. There has also recently been a review of the Records Book and an update is currently underway.

Mid West Area pointed out that the Records information should be updated on a regular basis and the information provided on the website.

Comp Sec advised that there are plans to be able to get much quicker updating of those records as they are ratified at the relevant Council meeting.

Chairman said he would be keeping a close eye on this situation to ensure that this is done.

London Area said it would be useful if we could have the same as the FAI do and include pending claims on the website. Comp Sec advised that the FAI include a history of records on their website but not pending claims. She did think it was a good idea though.

Chairman said this would be taken on board.

## **Page 21**

**- Third paragraph, PRO initiative in conjunction with major retailer** - London Area asked if there had been any progress. In the absence of the PRO Chairman advised that he understands the initial interest in getting a retailer on board is dwindling.

**- Third paragraph from the bottom, travelling with model boxes** - North West Area suggested it might be useful to inform the non-competitive members who might not be aware of some of the issues of travelling with model boxes, with any information we can provide particularly in respect of the Goron Olsson site referred to at the last meeting, through the BMFA News.

Comp Sec advised that the information on the Goron Olsson site is not very comprehensive.

London Area commented that information is provided in the Team Managers Guideline booklet.

Hon Treasurer, in his role as BMFA News Publisher suggested that if someone writes an article and submits it to the Editor and the Editor considers it has merit and interest to the membership, he will publish it. We cannot instruct Council to provide that information.

FAI Delegate, in his role as Free Flight Team Manager recommended, based on recent experiences, the best option is to use your National Airline. He receives numerous requests for advice and this is the advice he gives.

**DEV OFFICER**

Scale suggested we request the Development Officer to include something in 'Chacksfield Chat'.

CEO advised that on a fairly frequent basis from the office he provides letters of introduction for people travelling with models for them to give to the Airline.

#### **Page 22**

**- Final paragraph, suggestion to free up time spent on telephone by CEO and Development Officer to spend more time on PR duties** - South Midland Area asked if there had been any progress. CEO reported that having spoken at length with the Development Officer they feel the suggestion by Tech Sec at the last meeting to look at the possibility of a system for forwarding routine telephone calls to volunteers is not something that would be of any benefit to us.

Chairman advised that from November Nigel Barker would be taking up the position as PRO. He conveyed his thanks to Stuart Marsden for the work he has done over the last two years.

#### **Page 23**

**- Penultimate paragraph, closure of on-line forum** - South Midland Area reported that some disquiet was expressed at a recent Area meeting at the way such a drastic measure was taken without consulting with the Areas.

It was felt that since this affected so many of the BMFA members that it would have been more proper to put this proposal in formally as an agendered item so that it could be discussed by Areas before such a decision was taken.

No one is saying that Council did not have the right to take that decision or that a Council member did not have the right to propose it but the Area felt they would have liked to have been consulted.

Chairman commented that the urgency of the matter at the time justified the action taken.

East Anglia said he was not present at that meeting but he would have voted to close the forum. He did not believe the forum had any well defined purpose. Therefore people used it for what they wanted to use it for.

He expressed his dismay however that we have no plans to introduce a targeted and well defined replacement for it because it was fulfilling needs.

Chairman agreed that the general feeling at the meeting was there was value on the forum however the misuse of it far outweighed the value that was there.

The discussion continued and there were arguments for and against having some form of information forum.

Chairman said we perhaps need to look at instituting specialist forums but somehow they have got to be regulated in a manner that is going to avoid the same thing that happened which resulted in the closure.

South Midland suggested that as we are in the process of producing a new website it might be an opportunity to reconsider the introduction of a strictly moderated technical forum.

#### **Page 24**

**- Fourth paragraph, publishing Council Minutes and Agendas on the website** - North West said he had been tasked by his Area to complain vigorously that the agreed presentation of the Agendas and Minutes is not happening and when it does you cannot find them.

CEO said he was unaware there was problem. He pointed out that Council tasked us with doing a job within a time frame that frankly was not possible.

There was no facility on the website as it stood to archive the Minutes and Agendas. The only facility we had to post them on to comply with Council's demand was that they get posted on in the News pages.

There will be a feature in the new website for an archive facility for Agendas and Minutes. This was an interim measure to comply with the request at the time.

It was suggested we do not waste any time on the existing website but wait until the new website is on line.

This concluded matters arising.

#### **477/09/07 (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 2007.

Accounts Manager gave a résumé of the Annual Report and Accounts and the Supplementary Information which had previously been circulated.

In her opening statement Accounts Manager reported that for the first time Income has reached the £1million mark.

### **Supplementary Information**

Scale commented on the high expenditure for the Airshow line at the Power Nationals. Accounts Manager explained that Airshow line pilots are refunded their camping fees for taking part in the event. That together with the costs incurred for the marquee, tables, chairs etc.

The following minor amendments would be made to the Supplementary Information document.

Page 1, item 3 - Change heading to R/C, Scale, C/L Nationals.  
Page 5, BMFA News - Advertising figure to state net of sales commission.

Page 3/4 - Commercial traders registration/RCMT - title will be amended to correspond to each other.

The Auditor is very satisfied with the Accounts and they require no alterations.

Hon Treasurer conveyed his sincere thanks to the Accounts Manager for producing the Accounts. They were prepared at very short notice.

This shows that the Accounts Manager has very good systems in place that she has developed over the years. He also conveyed his thanks to the various people operating the budgets for getting the expenses/claims forms in on time, which helps the Accounts Manager in the preparation of the Accounts.

Council applauded the Accounts Manager.

### **Honorary Treasurer proposed that the Annual Accounts are accepted.**

Seconded by R/CPTC  
Carried unanimously

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

There were no changes requested by the Auditor.

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

A copy of the budget was circulated. Hon Treasurer thanked all the budget holders for submitting their budgets on time to the Accounts Manager and also for preparing more realistic budgets. It has made his job so much easier.

Scale commented on the extremely high figure for Indoor Duration Training and Excellence budget. It was deemed appropriate for Hon Treasurer to consult with the Indoor Treasurer to ascertain where the figures came from. He would make the necessary amendments depending on the outcome.

**HON Treasurer**

London Area referred to a proposal on the Agenda today from SFTC recommending funding for helpers in FAI World Championship events.

He asked for assurance that if the proposal is accepted it would not mean that the overall allocation for teams would be reduced. Hon Treasurer confirmed that if the proposal was accepted he would submit a revised figure.

**Post Meeting Note:**

**Indoor Technical Committee have advised that this sum is to cover the possibility of a requirement to travel abroad for training due to the uncertainty of availability of high ceiling venues in the UK.**

- d) Recommendation of the membership fees for next year.

Hon Treasurer recommended an increase of £1 per member across the board.

**Hon Treasurer commended the draft budget for presentation to the AGM and a recommendation to the AGM of an increase of £1 on Senior and Junior membership categories.**

Seconded by London  
Carried unanimously.

**If accepted at the AGM the fees for 2008 will be:**

**Seniors                    £28                    Juniors £15**

**Family Senior           £28**

**Family Partner           £18**

**Family Junior            £11**

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

**Hon Treasurer recommended that the Associate Body fee for the year 2008 remains the same at £40.**

**ALL**

Seconded by East Anglia Area.

Carried unanimously.

**Hon Treasurer recommended to Full Council that a further £2,500 expenditure is made available to the CEO to be spent on office maintenance and repairs. This is in addition to the £5000 which has already been spent.**

**CEO  
ACCT'S MGR  
HON TREAS**

Seconded by North East Area.

Carried unanimously.

North East referred to the decision taken before the AGM last year to agree to an initiative put forward by our insurers Royal Sun Alliance and asked if there was any indication of it's success or otherwise.

CEO advised that we should get some indication of how it is progressing within the next six weeks or so when we commence our negotiations with the insurers for next year.

Vice-Chair asked if there had been any relevance in terms of claims handling. CEO advised that as far as he is aware there is no difference to those submitting a claim in the way it has been handled and dealt with. In actual fact a lot of the claims that had been submitted had been handled probably more quickly than recent years.

**478/09/07 (7) To receive a joint report from the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer.**

**CEO**

CEO announced that regarding the issue raised earlier of the Agendas and Minutes being published on the website, he has since found out that the News Pages on the website are down temporarily because a hacker has been placing Trojans on them. It is currently being investigated by the webmaster and the hosts.

East Anglia commented that the issue of security of our website has been raised before and this was inevitably going to happen because we did nothing about it.

Hon Treasurer suggested it might be appropriate to ask a question of the webmaster or hosting company whether this is part of a concerted attack on various websites that are hosted or maintained respectively by those people or is it a one-off, as far as they know.

East Anglia suggested we might also find that there is someone within the BMFA who would volunteer to do a security audit on the site and warn us about other opportunities for exploitation, before we get hit again.

CEO reported that he has been advised that the new website will be up and running by the end of October.

The Executive agreed at their last meeting for some expenditure to upgrade the office computer system. This is currently in hand and it means we will be running a server system rather than peer to peer networking. The server will be professionally maintained for us on a service contract. If anything goes wrong with it, it will be up and running again within eight hours.

In changing the computer hardware and the software that goes with it, it gives us a lot more flexibility and opens up a lot of possibilities for additional features in the new database. The new database is due to be installed in the next few weeks.

With reference to the Special Minute at the beginning of the meeting, CEO informed Council that in the last few days our Solicitors have been notified by the Solicitors of the individual concerned, to take legal action against us.

CEO reported that he had attended several events since the last meeting, including Flight Challenge, Wings and Wheels, 3D Masters, Power and Silent Flight Nationals.

He has attended several meetings at RAF Barkston Heath in relation to some issues following an incident earlier in the year, which hopefully is now all resolved. It focused a lot of attention on the use of Barkston, in particular co-ordination with other users.

That in turn has focused attention on what we do centrally, requiring detailed risk assessments and so on, which have required a fair amount of time but we have received very good co-operation from Cranwell.

CEO informed Council that he subsidised the exhibition put on by Free Flight at the Power Nationals in August from his PR Shows budget. He felt it would be good PR for the Society.

He would be happy to do the same for other Tech Committees if they wished to exhibit next year.

There are currently two members of staff who are about to embark on training courses. Julie Coe is undertaking a course in typing and word processing and Gemma Sargeant on a Quark graphic design course.

CEO conveyed his thanks to David Lloyd-Jones for his initial input in producing the 2007 R/C, C/L, Scale Nationals programme and also the Development Officer assisted by Gemma Sargeant who saw it to its conclusion. We even managed to make a small profit.

London Area stressed that we must ensure that a similar programme is produced for every R/C, C/L, Scale Nationals in future.

South Midland commended the Development Officer for his efforts in producing an excellent programme and in such a very short space of time.

CEO reported that the Development Officer had very recently visited the Meon Valley Club and they will be coming on board in January with approximately 200 new members.

CEO reported that unfortunately insurance claims are up on last year. The biggest proportion of claims is still damage to third-party vehicles. There is also an increase in third-party injuries.

The Safety Review Committee Chairman will be convening a meeting in the immediate future to discuss the matter.

North West suggested if we increase the insurance excess on car damage claims this might make people think again where they park their car.

### **Chairman**

Chairman reported he has had a very busy summer. He attended Free Flight Nationals and got soaking wet. He was also invited to attend the SAA Airshow. Again it was very wet. The second day was cancelled at 9am in the morning. The caravans had to be towed off site.

He attended Cosford show and again the event was cancelled at 9am on the Sunday morning. He attended Flight Challenge, a highly successful event organised by Development Officer.

He attended University Challenge at Elvington, which was also organised by the Development Officer.

He attended the Queens Birthday reception at RAF College Cranwell at the invitation of the Commandant. It was a very pleasant evening with the beating of the retreat and sunset ceremony by the central band of the RAF.

He attended the Lincolnshire County Council Chairman 'Service of Dedication' followed by a reception in the grounds of Lincoln Castle. Whilst there he was fortunate enough to meet the Station Commander of RAF Digby who mentioned that his airfield was being cleared of all the aerials and incumbencies there and suggested it might be a good flying site for us in the future. This will be followed through.

He attended the Power Nationals which was highly successful. He managed to organise a Battle of Britain flight which was excellent and provided more than we requested.

### **479/09/07 (8) To receive a report from the Vice-Chairman.**

Vice-Chair reported that he has attended two of the Executive Council Meetings since being co-opted in May.

In supporting the Silent Flight Nationals he was CD for the 100S event and help CD the HLG event. He also participated in three of the classes over the weekend.

It falls to him as Vice-Chairman to Chair the Safety Review Committee. He believes as a matter of principle, we should be reporting on safety at the AGM as well and should also form a standard item on every Executive and Full Council meeting.

Because of the growing incidents mentioned by the CEO he has called a meeting of the Safety Review Committee for Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

They will review these claims to see if there are any trends emerging or any recommendations we should be making to try and stem the flow of particularly personal injuries.

He has a little more time on his hands at the moment as the recent 'foot and mouth' outbreak has forced the closure of his Club flying site. It is quite an abrupt end to what has been a very poor season weather wise.

**480/09/07 (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.

The List of new Clubs and amendments to existing Club information were circulated prior to the meeting.

Chairman reported several items on behalf of Hon Secretary.

Copies of a letter to Hon Secretary from FFTC had been circulated prior to the meeting. This was in response to a meeting attended by Hon Secretary, Robin Gowler, Mike Woodhouse, Chris Strachan, Jo Halman to discuss the integration of FAIR into the Free Flight Tech Committee.

The letter was a letter of acceptance from Free Flight Tech Committee as a result of that meeting.

This means from here on in FAIR will come under the jurisdiction of FFTC. UKRA will remain directly responsible to the CEO.

Free Flight Representative asked for formal acceptance of the letter, which includes a number of conditions, (The standard conditions laid down in the Specialist Body Guidelines).

**Council accepted the letter and conditions therein which forms the agreement that FAIR come under the banner of Free Flight Technical Committee.**

Chairman read out the list of names of Honorary Members. This is an annual ratification. The only opportunity to do it before December 1<sup>st</sup> when they are automatically updated for the following year, is at this meeting.

Reg Bench, Dave Bishop, Eric Clark, Mike Goldby, Poppy Gowler, Nikki Hadlow, Derek Hardman, Graham Lynn MBE, Maureen Nicholls, Phil Smith, Dr Mike Sun, Peter Valentine, Terry Watson, John Worth, John French.

This item will in future form part of the standard Agenda for September Full Council.

**OFFICE MGR**

**Northern Area proposed that the above list of Honorary Members be re-confirmed for 2008.**

Seconded by Vice-Chairman.

Carried unanimously.

**481/09/07 (10) To receive a report from the Technical Secretary.**

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

**482/09/07 (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.

There were two applications received for World Cup

Competitions as follows:

Free Flight Stonehenge Cup

Control Line World Cup to be held at Barton Control Line site.

- b) Ratification of fees for FAI Licences for next year.  
(Present fees: FAI stamp: Seniors £10 & Juniors £5; Booklet £5; replacement licences including FAI stamp (ie lost or damaged in the current year) £5.

Comp Sec recommended FAI Licence fees remain as listed above.

- c) Receipt of contest fees for Free Flight for next year.  
Comp Sec advised that Free Flight are currently undergoing a re-assessment of contest fees and propose to provide the information to the January Council.

Comp Sec reported that she attended the Free Flight Nationals and was honoured to be asked to present the trophies.

She also was heavily involved in the Power Nationals in August.

Comp Sec provided the following Championship results:

Team Silver - F1D Team comprising Derek Richards, Bob Bailey and Mark Benns, Team Manager Nick Aikman.

F1D Individual Silver - Bob Bailey.

Team Gold - F2A Team comprising Peter Halman, Ken Morrissey and Paul Eisner, Team Manager John James.

F2A Individual Silver - Peter Halman

Comp Sec announced that this is the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that the F2A Team has taken Team Gold in World and European Championships.

**483/09/07 (12) To receive a report from the Records Officer to include the following:**

a) British Record Claims

Name Peter Watt - BMFA No 108095  
Class Indoor Rubber Duration F1L Catt II  
Site North Weald  
Date 14<sup>th</sup> July 2007  
Duration 9 min 42 secs

Free Flight complained that the category was incorrectly listed on the official Agenda item. This was accepted as an oversight. For future Agendas the Office Manager will liaise with the Records Officer to ensure the correct category is listed.

**RECORDS  
OFFICER  
OFFICE MGR**

**Records Officer commended the above British Record Claim for ratification.**

Seconded by Northern Area  
Carried unanimously

**OFFICE MGR**

Name M White - BMFA No 124413  
Class Open Indoor HLG  
Site Elms School Colwall Indoor Sports Hall  
Date 30<sup>th</sup> March 2007  
Duration 21.45 sec

Scale raised an issue with regard to some of the information provided in support of the above claim, which the Records Officer had circulated during the meeting. The point was clarified however Scale expressed dissatisfaction in the way the paperwork had been presented.

**Records Officer commended the above British Record Claim for ratification.**

Seconded by East Anglia Area.  
Carried unanimously.

**OFFICE MGR**

b) Consider changes to the Award Diplomas to become effective from January 2008.

Two versions of the Award Diplomas had been circulated round the room. The Diploma which is currently in use. Revised Diploma with the word "Award" taken out; Gold, Silver, Bronze replaced with First, Second, Third; a line included under First, Second, Third which could be used to personalise the Diploma with a name; provision for the Class added.

Comp Sec expressed her dissatisfaction that what had been agreed at the meeting that took place between her and the Records Officer to discuss the Diplomas, was that the Records Officer would arrange to present a more professional looking "mock up" of the revised Diploma.

The one put forward today is the revised copy she quickly put together on the day of their meeting and does not reflect how it should look.

Scale asked what the reason for the change was. Comp Sec explained the reasoning behind it was because she does not think that an Award is an appropriate certificate to give to a competition flyer, who had just won first place or taken second or third place in a BMFA competition. An award is something in recognition, a first, second or third place is something achieved by a competition. It is not just endeavour, it is competition endeavour and she felt that Council might like to support the idea of BMFA Certificates handed out at BMFA competitions, to reflect more of the competition element rather than the award element.

The various options were discussed and the general consensus was to retain Gold, Silver, Bronze. Some also agreed the word "Award" should be taken off.

The following proposals were put forward:

**London Area proposed that the word "Award" is removed from the Diplomas.**

Seconded by Comp Sec.

Vote: For: 12  
Ags: 2  
Abs: 9

Carried by a majority vote.

RECORDS  
OFFICER

**Northern Area proposed that Gold, Silver, Bronze is retained; "Class" is added plus a line inserted for personalisation.**

Seconded by Scale Tech Committee.

Carried unanimously.

RECORDS  
OFFICER

It was debated when to introduce the inception date for the new Diplomas and the following proposal was put forward:

**Scale proposed that we continue to use the existing Diplomas until the existing stock has run out.**

Seconded by Northern Area

Vote: For: 19  
Ags: 3  
Abs: 1

Carried by a majority vote.

RECORDS  
OFFICER

R/C Power Tech Committee asked the Records Officer for clarification of the criteria for awarding of trophies at the Power Nationals, specifically the Windsock Trophy.

Records Officer explained that it is the responsibility of the CD to make sure the trophy is available at that time. It is not the responsibility of the Records Officer to have them available.

The Records Officer's responsibility begins at an AGM and ends at an AGM. In between time somebody signs for it and they hold it for that period of time.

**484/09/07 (13) To receive a report from the Public Relations Officer.**

No report.

**485/09/07 (14) To receive a report from the FAI Delegate.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX B)**

He reiterated a point he makes regularly that he implores aeromodellers to go for more World Records.

North West Area suggested it might be worthwhile listing the various Records on the website or in BMFA News, to generate some interest.

- a) The agreement of the CIAM Education Sub-Committee Delegate.

Full Council agreed that **Mike Colling FSMAE** continue as CIAM Education Sub-Committee Delegate.

**486/09/07 (15) Next year's Major Events:**

- a) To discuss venues.

Free Flight raised an issue with the use of Barkston that on several occasions this year the civilian security staff locked the site at 7.30pm and licence stipulates 9pm. CEO said he had only been made aware of this problem on one occasion and thought the matter had been resolved. He asked Free Flight to report the other instances and he would investigate it.

**FREE FLIGHT**

Chairman read out a letter from Wing Commander Coope who is Wing Commander Ops at Cranwell and Group Captain Townsend RAF Cranwell Station Commander. Suffice to say that we do not have any worries about the use of Barkston in the future.

London Area asked if there had been any further information concerning the incident at Barkston recently and the impact on future use for events.

CEO advised that the initial response was that Grantham Club would not be able to fly when other events were on until such time as an appropriate risk assessment had been put in place and a strong means of communication with the other users. He suspects it would be quite likely the Land Agents will try and avoid clashes, especially between Free Flight and the Motor Sport users.

As in the past we will try to get our dates in as early as possible. Following a recent meeting at Barkston with all parties concerned it was agreed that it was not a case first come first served.

Scale, in his capacity as Grantham Club member, advised that the risk assessment had been done and accepted. The new system will require booking in and there will also be a notice board put on the main gate advising who is using the airfield on that day. It will be the responsibility of all parties to liaise with each other.

- b) To accept co-ordinators.  
Chairman commented that before we can appoint relevant co-ordinators, the events would need specifying.
- c) To ratify the Power Nationals Co-ordinator.  
Chairman advised that he had spoken with Chris Bromley who had confirmed that he is happy to carry on as Co-ordinator if Council approves it.

**R/C Power Technical Committee proposed that Chris Bromley FSMAE is appointed Power Nationals Co-ordinator and Mike Proctor FSMAE is appointed Silent Flight Nationals Co-ordinator.**

Seconded by Scale Technical Committee.

Carried unanimously.

Chairman raised the issue of Top Gun at this point in the meeting.

R/C Power Tech Committee commented that he felt Full Council was probably not the best place to have a full discussion because it would require many hours.

He suggested part of the Top Gun reserve is set aside to enable a pre-planning meeting to be held with all relevant parties, to discuss all the variable factors.

Hon Treasurer clarified that what we need is a sum of money allocated from the current Top Gun reserves so that it is not impacting on main finances, to fund a sub-committee to look into the nature of the event potentially, potential venues and timings and to come back to Council with a fully worked proposal, costed in such a way that it is designed not to impact on BMFA finances.

It was also pointed out that they should also consider in their deliberations the potential benefits of such an event to the Society as well, in terms of publicity and promotion.

Hon Treasurer advised that the usual sum for setting up sub-committees is £500.

Mid West commented that the general feeling of the meeting was as to whether a show of this nature would be of any benefit to the Society.

Some of the sentiments of the meeting questioned whether, as a National Governing Body, we were in the business of putting on shows.

**The following people were enlisted to form a sub-committee to discuss the possibility of holding Top Gun 2008, with a budget of £500 from Top Gun reserve.**

**Proposed by R/C Power Tech Committee  
Seconded by Hon Treasurer**

Sub-Committee comprising of:

Hon Treasurer - (would also Chair the meeting)  
CEO  
Development Officer  
Incoming PRO - Nigel Barker  
R/PTC Delegate  
Wayne Pendleton

Chairman tasked the sub-committee to report in the interim to the Executive plus a detailed report to Full Council in January.

**TOP GUN SUB-  
C'TTEE**

**487/09/07 (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.**

**Power Nationals Co-ordinator** - See Tech Sec, written report.

**Free Flight** - Free Flight reported that they had over two inches of rain over the weekend. It began about 4pm on the Saturday afternoon and did not stop until Monday afternoon. By the time Monday came most people had gone home.

With regard to the August Nationals. The Free Flight exhibition seemed to be a great success. They had a great deal of interest. Thanks go to John Cuthbert who had a major input in staging the exhibition.

**Control Line** - Comp Sec, in her role as Control Line co-ordinator, reported that they had the same number of competitors give or take one or two as last year. This year though they had many more flights because of the better weather. She has received no negative feedback at all.

They received lots of good wishes and thank-yous for the PRO commentary at the Speed Circle and two new jet records.

**Scale** - It was a bumper year for Scale. It was a terrific competition with no problems.

**R/C Power** - Everything went very smoothly.

**Fun Fly** - There are still a lot of problems with crowd problems, stopping them wandering about all over the place. Some people do get very abusive as well.

At this point Chairman announced that Robin Jones FSMAE was retiring as Fun Fly CD. 2007 was his last year.

Chairman thanked him for both inaugurating the event and running it for the past twenty-three years.

Council applauded.

**Silent Flight** - Entries were slightly up on last year, greatly helped because of the excellent weather. The site was not ideal and access could cause a problem in bad weather.

**488/09/07 (17) To receive a report from the Chairman of the Awards Committee.**

Copies of the nominations and relevant cv's had previously been circulated.

Vice-Chairman in his capacity as Chairman of the Awards Committee reported that they had a very successful meeting.

He commended those members of the Awards Committee who attended the meeting. It was a very convivial meeting. The decisions were taken and consensus was reached without any degree of dissent. Conversations were real and practical and honest.

He added that the Henry J Award is an award of the Committee. He also clarified that the Arthur Mullet Award was not awarded this year in the absence of a sufficiently appropriate candidate being put forward.

He also commented that in recent years there has been some debate about the courtesies and procedures so that individual sensitivities are not bruised in any way.

The full citations are included in the pack and the fact that the nominated or requested award, where relevant, is not given is because of the completeness and thorough nature of the debate which went around that award. It therefore represents the full and considered opinion of the Awards Committee and the award detailed in the report was deemed to be the appropriate one. There is no intention of upsetting anyone and it is hoped the honourable intentions of the Committee are seen in that way.

Scale commented that the easiest way to ensure people's feelings are not hurt in the process is to avoid any reference to any type of award in the citation.



**The following Awards are the gift of the FAI and recommended to FAI by Council.**

**FAI Antonov Aeromodelling Diploma - Paul Beard**

**Awards Committee Chairman recommended the above list of Awards to Full Council.**

Seconded by R/C Power Tech Committee

Vote: For: 21

Ags: 0

Abs: 2

Carried by a majority vote.

**489/09/07 (18) To receive a proposal from Silent Flight Technical Committee that the BMFA Council provide funding for helpers in FAI World Championship events F3B & F3J where a pilot would not be able to compete without such assistance.**

Silent Flight Tech Committee representative Clive Needham spoke on behalf of the proposal and endorsed the reasoning as explained in the proposal appended to the Agenda.

The proposal was seconded by East Anglia Area.

The pros and cons were debated in depth. Certain technical points were clarified where required.

The following proposals emanated from the discussion.

**Proposed by Silent Flight Tech Committee That the FAI Expenses are to be paid to two 'Winch Managers' for F3B Team.**

Seconded by North East Area

Vote: For: 13

Ags: 8

Abs: 2

Carried by a majority vote.

**SFTC  
HON TREAS  
ACCT'S MGR**

**Proposed by Silent Flight Tech Committee That the FAI Expenses are to be paid to two 'Towers' for F3J Team.**

Seconded by South Midland Area

Vote: For: 13

Ags: 8

Abs: 2

Carried by a majority vote.

**SFTC  
HON TREAS  
ACCT'S MGR**

**490/09/07 (19) Adoption of Roger Bedford Memorial Trophy.**

Records Officer had displayed the Roger Bedford Memorial Trophy for Council to see.

Records Officer has commissioned a new base to be produced for the Trophy and provided a cardboard mock up.

**Records Officer proposed that the Roger Bedford Memorial Trophy is formally adopted by the Society.**

**RECORDS  
OFFICER**

Seconded by R/C Power Tech Committee  
Carried unanimously.

The Trophy was purchased from General Funds. It will be funded for a dinner ticket at the Society's Annual Dinner and Prize-giving event.

**491/09/07 (20) To receive any reports from the following Delegates.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**a) Royal Aero Club - WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX C)**

RAeC Delegate emphasised item 2 in his report that there are some RAeC Trophies for loan to Associations.

Also item 5, RAeC Trust has a mobile graphics display suitable for loan to Associations and he suggests we have it at the Power Nats and possibly at the AGM. Also in item 5, the RAeC Trust's bursary scheme, this now has a special section for model flying. There are Awards available for under 21's who are worthy of support financially.

**b) GASCo** - There was nothing of any interest to report.

**c) Air Prox** - No report.

**d) CCPR** - No report.

**e) General Aviation Awareness Council (GAAC)** - No report.

**492/09/07 (21) To receive any reports from the following Committees.**

**a) CAA Team** - No report.

**b) UK Radio Control Council (UKRCC)** - No report.

\*\*\*\*\*

**c) Education Working Group - WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX D).**

**d) Flight Challenge** - CEO reported on behalf of the Development Officer. This year's event was held at Duxford but it was held on the basis that it was possibly a one-off. We have however had some discussions with Duxford and they are fairly positive about holding the event there again next year.

Also this year we worked to reduced funding because BAE Systems halved the grant that they give us. The Development Officer and his team did an excellent job in that they managed to run the event well within the budget that was allocated.

This year's event was very well received and was quite successful. Hopefully it will be the same again next year.

**e) University Challenge** - See Education Working Group written report.

**f) Computer Sub Committee** - Relevant items were covered earlier in the meeting.

**g) Safety Review Committee** - Chairman of the Safety Review Committee advised that a meeting is being arranged for 28<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the various incident reports. He will report back to this Council any conclusions they may arrive at.

**h) Achievement Scheme Review Committee** - No report.

\*\*\*\*\*

**i) BMFA News Publishers - WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX E)**

London Area referred to an item at the meeting in May to be deferred to this meeting to agree a policy for non-revenue ads.

Hon Treasurer advised that following discussion with the BMFA News Editor it would not now be necessary to pursue it.

BMFA News Editor announced that he would be retiring from the job in April 2009.

**j) Flying Site Adviser's Report** - A copy was emailed to Council Members prior to this meeting.

Scale commended the Flying Site Adviser on his report. He is astounded how many Clubs totally ignore the advice of the Flying Site Adviser and do their own thing.

#### **493/09/07 (22) Any Other Business.**

Comp Sec read out a statement on behalf of the Indoor Technical Committee. They wanted Council to be aware of a situation that has arisen within the Indoor Technical Committee which potentially has serious consequences for the future of the Indoor Technical Committee.

Chairman advised that he was first made aware of the situation in July and subsequently has compiled a substantial file of correspondence from various parties.

Scale proposed that the Chairman writes a 'letter of concern' expressing Council's disquiet with regard to the conduct of the individual identified in the letter previously read out by the Comp Sec, who would be invited to comment.

Seconded by North West Area

Vote: For: 22

Ags: 1

Abs: 0

**CHAIRMAN**

Carried by a majority vote.

**494/09/07 (23) Date of next meeting.**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2008** at 11am.

Linda Harding  
Office Manager  
21<sup>st</sup> September 2007

**Circulation:** All Council Members

**Copies to:**

All Area Chairmen	Selected Area Officer R Allam
All Area Secretaries	Power & S/F 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	

TECHNICAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

15<sup>th</sup> September, 2007

First of all I must apologise for missing the meeting. I'm in hospital at the moment although I anticipate being up and around soon.

Since the last Council meeting I have received the updated records details from the Records Officer and have finally been able to release the 2007 Records Rule Book.

Following requests from Technical Council that the records list be reviewed, the Competition Secretary, the Records Officer and myself have met and begun work on a new version of the list. The first draft should be available for review by Technical Council and the Technical Committees in October and, with luck, the book should be available for ratification by the January Council Meeting.

This year has been my fifteenth as August Nationals Co-ordinator. The event was a little different for me this time as I had to take it easier than normal and my sincere thanks go to everyone involved with organising and running the Nats who just got on with their jobs in the background without any fuss. From what I saw the event was a great success and even the weather co-operated for a change. Three solid days of competition, a spectacular Showline, lots of evening activities, a very successful trade area and three Battle of Britain Memorial Flight flypasts made for what I believe will go down as one of the classic Nats. If you were involved you should be proud of what we achieved.

There were some minor problems as you would expect and note has already been taken of most of them for action next year. David will be able to give further reports, along with other organisers present today.

Chris Bromley, FSMAE  
Technical Secretary

### **FAI Delegates report September 2007**

This time of year is a fairly quiet time for the FAI Delegate. He does need to monitor the output from FAI Headquarters to ensure that there is either nothing relevant to aeromodelling or record and report those relevant items.

World records are still popular and recently the R/C electric speed record was raised to 282.6 kph. In Germany, within days this was increased to 321.989 kph. this time in Finland.

An R/C electric distance record was made in Estonia, the model covering a distance of 159.36 kilometres.

Japan took an indoor rubber duration record of 21 mins. 29 secs. For F1 in a ceiling height of 8 meters to 15 meters.

The World Air Games have been awarded to Turin and all the Presidents of the FAI Air Sport and Technical Commissions and Members of the FAI Executive Board have adopted this venue, this includes the President of the FAI Aeromodelling Commission.

The Technical Council will meet on the 20<sup>th</sup> October and, once again, I would ask all Technical Committees to which require rule changes to register the changes on the agenda for that meeting. Closing date for such submissions is 24<sup>th</sup> September.

**RAeC DELEGATE's REPORT - JUNE 2007**

I attended the June RAeC Council meeting and while much of the discussion was on regulatory negotiations and did not concern model flying, the following points may be of interest.

- 1) An invitation to tender for the revised RAeC website, similar to the BMAA's, has been put out concurrently with the BMAA's, thus saving time and costs. The design should be such that the maintenance would be minimal in order to save cost. I believe eight tenders have been received so far.
- 2) Around fifty RAeC trophies exist which could be made available for loan to member associations, on appropriate terms, which might earn some funds for the RAeC.
- 3) There was considerable opposition to the two-year cycle for the World Air Games; the RAeC had voted for a four-year cycle, but the FAI Executive Board favours two year. The matter has yet to be ratified by General Conference.
- 4) It was agreed to allocate £1K as 'pump priming' for RAeC membership of the European Power Flying Union, an international organisation representing sporting and recreational power flying. This is to be reviewed after a year. The BPA, BBAC and I had reservations, based not on the principle, but on the fact that our activities fell outside the ambit of EPFU. The importance of all air sports supporting each other won the day on this occasion.
- 5) The RAeC Trust has a mobile graphics display suitable for loan to associations; I suggest that it is requested for the AGM and maybe next year's Power Nats. I would remind members of the Trust's bursary scheme for under-21s.

Martin Dilly  
RAeC Delegate

9.8.07

## Education Working Group Report to BMFA Full Council meeting 15<sup>th</sup> September 2007

As you know I have sent my apologies for absence as I am running FunCopter workshops at the Aberdeen TechFest event until Sunday evening. Since the last report to the full council meeting in May, there have been the two finals of the events that the BMFA run and that are sponsored by BAE Systems. I refer to the University Challenge and the Schools (and Youth Groups) Flight Challenge.

The University Challenge finals went extremely well this year with 12 teams getting to the final of the Heavy Lift Contest. However, there were only 2 teams that attended the final of the Heavy Electric Contest. This was the first year with the new team of officials headed by Manny Williamson as the Contest Director and everything appeared to run as smooth as ever.

This years Heavy Lift Contest was won by Strathclyde University's "F Gladiator" team with an extremely impressive payload lift of 9.1 Kg giving a final score of 287.58 points. To put this achievement in to perspective the payload mass was nearly 2.5 times the aircrafts airframe weight. In second place was Strathclyde University's "A Vigilante" team lifting 7.5 Kg and third place was the Hull team with a lift of 4.7 Kg. Only three teams failed to post flight scores. The Electric Contest was won by Alleyne's School with a total of 8.58 Litres of water being transported in the given time slot, followed by St Josephs School "B" team.

This year three teams sent in reports but failed to show at the finals. This is not unusual as sometimes the model crashes, between the team submitting their reports and the finals. However, this year it was more disappointing as one of the teams was from Germany. Hoping that they can field a team next year.

Since the last Full Council meeting in May, the BMFA Education stand has been at five venues. In October we have been invited to display the stand at 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the "British Aviation Preservation Council" to be held at Rolls Royce, Derby. This will be a unique opportunity to make ourselves known to over 120 museums and preservation groups.

Mike Colling  
Education Working Group.

## BMFA NEWS REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

Is it really twelve months since the last report on the activities of the BMFA NEWS Editor and Publishers was given to Council?

Six issues have been (or are to be) completed in the past twelve months, the latest issue Number 84 goes to press in three days. The issues have been one issue of 40 pages and five of 48, the latest issue being of 56 pages including the Election Supplement.

Many issues have carried larger and larger calendars and issue 84 (October, 2007) has a calendar running into 2008. As Editor I have followed a policy of using photographs of different disciplines on the front cover. After printing a short article on 'How to submit articles to the BMFA NEWS' I now have a good 'stock' of items for future issues, of which I was running short.

The six issues over the last twelve months have covered 'official' items, such as the AGM/Dinner Dance/Prize Giving, all the Nationals, a number of World and European Championships, rule changes and entry forms for the different Nationals through the year. I have been able to continue my policy of using articles of general and specialist interest, a kind of carrot to get the membership to read the 'official' items. No sticks have been used!!

Of course I get a few members who ask "Why have I not included such and such a discipline... !" or "Why not more on so and so?" I try to restrict the individual articles to no more than two pages, which I find gives a fair coverage of our many aeromodelling activities. I get many e-mails, telephone calls and communications by letter to say how much the membership like the 'New Format BMFA NEWS', I know the magazine format has been a great success with the membership.

I wish to put in this report the considerable help I get from my Publishers, Kath, Keith and John. Also the happy work relationship I have with Roger Wasley of Wasley Knight making the production of the BMFA NEWS and the ensuing problems that arise with any magazine, easy to solve. John Irish our Advertising Agent has done superb work in obtaining many new advertisers, increasing the revenue towards 'our' magazine.

The many regular contributors are to be thanked for their articles, which considerably add to the enjoyment of the read.

Finally as I go into my final year as Editor of the BMFA NEWS (I will be retiring in April 2009) after some 15 years as Editor, a job I only took on to help when the past Editor suddenly dropped the job. Thanks go to all those who make the BMFA NEWS a success.

Eric Clark  
BMFA NEWS Editor

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