



British Model Flying Association

Southern Area www.sabmfa.org.uk

RATIFIED at AREA MEETING 19th May 2010

Minutes of Area Meeting 24th March 2010

*Venue: - The Anchor Public House
61 Test Lane, Southampton, Hampshire SO16 9BH*

Start Time: 19.45hrs.

Present:	S Area Office	Club
Tony Butterworth	Chairman	Waltham Chase
Steve Flood.	Hon. Treasurer	Waltham Chase
Ken Knox.	PRO	Chichester
Terry Weeks	RC Silent Flight	Aldershot
Richard Dickerson	Observer	Firebirds
Ken Gale	Vice Chairman	Helipad (ACE)
Dave Burstow	ASC Co-ordinator	Eagles
Roger Newman	Observer	Bournemouth
Peter Robinson	Web Master	
John Bennett	Observer	Romsey Electric Flyers
Steve Warren	Observer	Waltham Chase
John Thompson	Free Flight Comp Sec	Crookham Contest Modellers

1.0 Apologies for Absence

Stuart Simpson sent his apologies he had a long standing family engagement

2.0 Reading and acceptance of minutes

Tony proposed that this should be done at the end of the meeting

3.0 Matters Arising

Nothing discussed



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4.0 Review Progress of Balsa Brain

It was agreed by all that the event should be held on a Friday night in November at the British Legion Club at Netley, Tony was to write to his contact, Pat and book the venue the decision on which Friday would be Tony's.

Steve Warren said he had all the questions prepared but he thought it would be a good idea to have a projector to tie up to a laptop, Steve thought that would not be a problem, Tony volunteered 35mm slides and Ken would make his slide scanner available to Steve. A general discussion followed about the format the evening would take and if a raffle should be held, it was agreed it should be. Tony thought he we see if he could persuade the traders at Blackbushe to donate some prizes. It was also decided that a buffet supper would be provided at a small charge but the area would underwrite the evening's events just in case we failed to attract enough attendees.

5.0 Review progress of the indoor area fly-in at Calshot

Ken K opened the discussion by saying that he had met at the recent Chairman's meeting the chairman of the Reading club Martin Dance, Ken had asked Martin about the costs of hiring the Madejski stadium practice room, Martin explained that the costs were not high as we thought they would be, the venue should be considered in for future area events.

Tony went on to say that Barrie Lever (Southampton Chair) was in fairly advance negotiation with the Calshot Centre people and would soon be able to give us a more detailed account of the date and times. Tony said he had also informed Flitehook of the event, they would be more than willing to attend. He also felt that the event should cover free flight and RC. A general discussion then followed it was thought generally thought the time to hold this event would be just after Christmas early 2011 when the weather was at it's worst. Tony thought we should invite to the next meeting clubs such as Reading and Chichester who hold regular indoor event Steve also though we should invite 4max as well or at least to sound them out

6.0 Review Progress for a Southern Area Gala Update on a request sent for the information of SAM1066

Tony had written to Mike, the contents of which were discussed at length

Hi Mike, sorry to bother you with this request but feel that it is necessary to follow a cautious route and tread gently with this subject - to explain.

As chairman of the southern area BMFA we have identified a strategy to bring back several annual events into our calendar - the object being to improve communication between committee and club members. One of the events we would wish to bring back is the old Southern area gala event, which has previously catered for vintage - F/F - RC and control line events. This event has been held at Odiham, Beulieu and I even attended the event even when it was at Tangmere, yes I am that old!! The first objective must be to identify a suitable location for such an event and at present

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6.0 Review Progress for a Southern Area Gala Update and a request sent for the information of SAM1066 Cont.

Odiham, Middle Wallop spring to mind as potential sites, however I know that free flight and vintage already have successful events at both these venues. Foremost in my mind is not to create friction or compromise any events currently organised and hence my request to talk with yourself at these initial stages .so we have several ways to move forward --

- 1) From your experience do you feel that either of these locations would be compromised if we were to seek permission to hold such an event?*
- 2) What are the current relationships between model flyers and the authorities at each of these airfields?*
- 3) Are you aware of any current restrictions in each location that may make such an approach futile, or do you feel that with a professional approach we could stand a degree of success*
- 4) Should we consider an approach through maybe yourselves on our behalf to start negotiations - would you be prepared to introduce us?*
- 5) Do you think we would compromise FF SAM use of these venues if we did make an approach?*
- 6) Should we consider that we join forces with yourselves on an already agreed date for a SAM event but that you include some of our additional events to pave the way for the following year?*
- 7) Do you feel that two day events are possible (I know that MW hold these but to my knowledge this is August bank hols time)*

We have very good relationships with the Royal Navy at Yeovilton and i am sure that they would vouch for our professionalism as an organising body - act as reference to support any approach. I have flown and organised RC events at both these venues years ago but not sure if there has been any incidents which have caused concern ref RC of Control line. Do they have noise issues at these sites; this sort of info would be useful. Essentially this is a fact-finding mission but also the start of a planning phase that needs to consider all aspects in the proper manner to ensure a successful outcome for all.

Please also recognise that the proposed Southern area gala event will include SAM FF activities and in that respect we would be discussing the organisation of this aspect with you directly, if you like we will pay cost and act as the catalyst to bring the individual disciplines together for such an event.

Let me know your views, as any info will be gratefully received - many thanks Tony Butterworth

Firstly we discussed the use of RAF Odiham after a lengthy discussion it was decided that it would not be a viable venue due to restrictions placed by the RAF in modern times. We finally decided that the event as far as airfields were concerned it narrowed down to three places.

1. **Middle Wallop**, probably the best venue, after a very lengthy debate it was proposed that John Thompson would investigate the proposal that we should "piggy back" an event at the same time as one of the SAM events on next
2. **Lasham**, Large enough but full size gliding and large airline movements would probably preclude the use of the field for a two day event



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6.0 Review Progress for a Southern Area Gala Update and a request sent for the information of SAM1066 Cont.

3. **Baker Barracks on Thorney Island**, It was decided that although it was a large disused airfield, as far as flying was concerned, where the Army allow all sorts of events to be held on the field it was considered to far to the East of the area,

7.0 Western area enquiry

Tony completed the discussion by saying that he had been approached by John Pattern of the Western Area, who had put forward a proposal to him that the Western Area jointed forces with us in the organising of such an event, Tony had told him that in principle he had no objections to his proposal and those present agreed. John said the he would put it to the Western Area committee at their next meeting.

8.0 Blackbushe an update of the event.

We will be attending the event, we would have two Gazebo's available, we will also require BMFA membership forms from Chacksfield House, copies of the clubs in the area and possibly maps as well both of which can be obtained from the web site, We then went on to discuss what we would be required for instance tables who would be manning of the tent and who would be bring models etc.

9.0 Terry's report on the purchase of the Gazebos

Terry reported he had received both of the gazebos he had also purchased a couple of boxes for the storage of the joints and instructions (which have been laminated), the fabric and poles had been stored in four bags, two per gazebo. Terry went on to say that he was happy to be the custodian of both gazebos.

We then discussed what procedure would be used when they were borrowed by the area clubs, it was decided that a returnable deposit would be required from the club borrowing the gazebos, we would also require the contact details of the person who was going to take responsibility for them for the borrowing club. Photographs would be taken at Blackbushe of the erected gazebos and these would be but on the web site.

10.0 Webmaster Vote of Thanks

Steve Flood thanked Pete for his hard work and proposed that we give Pete an increase this year for the additional work he has carried out for us the sum of £30.00 was mention for this year and after some debate it was proposed we give Peter £60.00 this year as a one off as he had not increased his fee for the last three years and next year we should make a 10% increase.



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10.0 Webmaster Vote of Thanks cont.

Proposed by Steve Flood, Seconded By Tony Butterworth
There were no votes against and no abstentions

There then was short discussion re the available web space, Pete reported that we had bought an additional 50mb of web space at a cost of approx £14.00. Steve had received the bill from Hampshire County Council, however he went on to say that it may be a good idea to buy an addition 50mb so as we can archive past events etc. Peter told us the we received approximately 2500 hits per month and were increasing monthly but was keen to get more content both photographic and articles. Steve enquired about whether or not Peter Turley name had been removed from the web site, it was decided that Peter's name should be kept on for the next few weeks.

11.0 RNAS Yeovilton Model Day February 10th 2010

Once again we were blessed with good weather albeit very very cold with a biting North Easterly breeze, the crowd line was very satisfactory for such a cold day. Tony reported that he had received the following note of thanks from the Managing Director of the museum

Hello Tony

Another terrific display from the BMFA!

Thank you very much indeed for the truly amazing display. Our visitor numbers have yet to be finally compiled but I believe they will show that we saw an increase of 25% on the 2009 levels.

I have no doubt that the BMFA's reputation contributes enormously to the enjoyment of all our visitors. As you know, the Museum is a charity and the additional visitors we receive on our model days makes a very real difference to our annual performance, which is the envy of our sister Naval Museums. Again on behalf of the whole Museum, many thanks to you and your Colleagues

Regards

Jon

12.0 Secretary's Post

Steve Warren was going to email Ken K a job description for the post and he would then post it on the Web site.

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13.0 Southern Area Officers Reports

13.1 Free Flight Report John Thompson

Tony read out John's report, as he had to leave before the meeting had finished John's report was as follows: - *Excellent calm weather for the Crookham Gala at Middle Wallop, forty five entries to the competitions, with eight minute fly-offs landing still on the aerodrome!*

First of three area competitions at Beaulieu had reasonable weather, although 'perri' track was a nightmare with all the water. General announcement plus personal invites to previous competitors have been made for the June 20th Competition at RAF Odiham

Jon

13.2 Terry Weeks RC Silent Flight Co-ordinator

Terry reported that the two events for June and September were both on the web and had been for some weeks. He had as previously mentioned boxed an itemised the gazebos and was happy to look after and store them both

13.3 Steve Flood Hon Treasures report

Steve reported that we had assets of £xxxx.00 after paying Peter Robinson (Web Master), the hire of the meeting room, the gazebos and the storage boxes for them, and had no present request for funds.

He went on to say that he not yet received this years funding from HQ but would probably get funds commensurate with number of clubs in the area shortly (62 at last count).

He has approached the CEO for funds to buy a flight simulator but was told that Stuart Simpson would have to make the case; we all felt a good case could be made especially with our involvement with Yeovilton.

Steve said that the cheque book problem had now been sorted out . Tony asked if there was a procedure for the requesting of additional funds, Steve said he had approached Linda for guidance for that and for how they would like the yearly returns presented

13.4 Ken Gale Vice Chairman

Ken G said that he had written an article for inclusion on the web about helicopters, and had enjoyed the model day at Yeovilton where he manned the indoor display along with Bernie Welch but nearly lost his voice as there had been so much interest, he thought we would do much better with a larger space there.



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13.5 Dave Burstow PAS Co-ordinator

Dave said there had been little activity with regard to the PAS as the weather had been so bad, but he thought activity would increase as the weather warmed up, Ken Gale also remarked that he had very little interest the past winter months.

13.6 Ken Knox PRO and acting Secretary

Ken reported that he had produced the last meeting with the aid of a voice recorder which gave much more accurate notes. *But not the spelling!*

As far as the area was concerned Tangmere Museum had approached Chichester club with the view of presenting a display of both fixed and flying models on the 26th September, permission had been requested and been given by all concerned to stage the event. Chichester had approached Southampton and Chisel Clubs for both static and flying models especially the Airspeed aircraft they had (Chesil) and possibly the large HP airliner.

Ken Gale and Helipad had also invited to fly their large helicopters at the event. He also reported that Lord Marsh of Goodwood estates' was still very keen to hold another large model event this would not happen till 2011-2012, however they had invited the club to fly at Goodwood airfield on a Thursday during the summer months this year, this was to stimulate the Flying club.

Chichester club would like to formally request the use of the following:

- Frequency Monitor
- BMFA stand
- Both Gazebos
- PA system

13.7 Stuart Simpson Area Delegate

Stuart was unable to come to this evenings meeting due to family commitments

14.0 AOB

Tony proposed that the minute of the 3rd of February 2010 be ratified which they were although there were some comments about the spelling of were and where which the act secretary has always had problems with!

The next meeting was to be held on the 19th May at the Anchor