



British Model Flying Association

Southern Area www.sabmfa.org.uk

Ratified at AREA MEETING 14th July 2010

Minutes of Area Meeting 19th May 2010

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

Start Time: 19.45hrs.

Present:

Tony Butterworth
Ken Knox.
Stuart Simpson
Terry Weeks
Ken Gale
Dave Burstow
Roger Newman
Ron Claridge
John Thompson
Richard Dickerson

S Area Office

Chairman
PRO
Area Delegate
RC Silent Flight
Vice Chairman
ASC Co-ordinator
Observer
Observer
Observer
Observer

Club

Waltham Chase
Chichester
Hayling Helis & Portsmouth
Aldershot
Helipad (ACE)
Eagles
Bournemouth
Southampton
Southampton
Firebirds

1.0

Steve Flood.
John Thompson

Apologies for Absence

Hon. Treasurer
Free Flight Comp Sec

Waltham Chase
Crookham Contest Modellers

2.0 Review of Minutes of March Area Meeting

2.1 Matters arising

Stuart pointed out that he could have collected BMFA publicity and membership forms from Chacksfield House, we all agreed to do this in future, Roger Newman said he had been approached by the curator of Gosport's search museum, who is holding "A Big Day Out" event on the 13th June, if a table could be set up representing aero-modelling Roger had agreed to this, Stuart said he would happy to get publicity for the event and he was also holding the BMFA stand as well.

The matter of the procurement of a flight simulator (Software and Hardware) was raised by Stuart, the one we had borrowed from Chacksfield had to be returned. Stuart at first thought we were only talking about the purchase of the software but after discussion it was realised we would require the following equipment.



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2.1 Matters arising cont.

1. A laptop
2. Software
3. Power supply (Small Generator)
4. A Projector
5. A small screen

Prices for the above equipment would be obtained and given to Stuart as a formal request to HQ
KK

2.2 Minutes ratified

Proposed: Tony Butterworth.
Seconded: Dave Barstow

3.0 Bournemouth MAC request.

Tony reported that he had received the following letter from Aubrey Bugden who is Treasurer of BMAS on the 23rd April

Mr A Butterworth
Chairman Southern Area BMFA

23rd April 2010

Dear Mr Butterworth,

Re: BMAS Rally at Middle Wallop on 4th April 2010

I am advised by our BMFA Club Delegate that you are the correct person to whom to address this letter.

Traditionally BMAS organise & run a one-day event during the SAM1066 3 day Easter meeting at Middle Wallop. The event comprises multiple competitions and has been self funded for several years, primarily as the competitions are well supported by entries with the entry fee sufficient to provide modest competition prizes.

*This year, the poor weather resulted in a very low entry, which in turn meant that our entry fees were corresponding low. As such the Rally incurred a financial loss. A summary of the figures is given below.
Free Flight Rally at Middle Wallop 4th April 2010*

Balance Sheet

<i>Trophies engraved as Winny's invoices</i>	<i>£22.00</i>
<i>Prizes (Wines & Beers)</i>	<i><u>£112.12</u></i>
	<i>£134.12</i>
<i>Credit for Wines & Beers unused as prizes</i>	<i><u>(£30.00)</u></i>
	<i>£104.12</i>

<i>Entries received on site for 8 Competitions (31 x £2.00)</i>	<i><u>(£62.00)</u></i>
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<i>Event Loss</i>	<i>£42.12</i>
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This letter is therefore to ask if the SBMFA would kindly & generously provide a subsidy to cover our loss on this occasion, as Club funds are modest.

Yours sincerely

Aubrey Bugden (Treasurer BMAS)



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2.0 Bournemouth MAC request cont.

Tony said that the club was a stalwart of the area and he for one had no hesitation to recommend this award and he would like to award the club £100.00.

A short debate followed on the merits of this amount, it was felt that awarding a sum of more than requested might set a precedent, as Stuart pointed out the funds were to help clubs who found themselves in a loss making situation and each request should be judged on their own merit, Bournemouth Mac had been holding this and other events for the last twelve years and this was their first request.

It was finally decided that an award of £50.00 would be granted this was proposed by Tony Butterworth and seconded by Dave Burstow.

There was unanimous acceptance in favour; Steve Flood (treasurer) was to be instructed to send a cheque in favour of £50.00 to BMAS via Aubrey Bugden Treasurer (BMAC)

KK SF

3.0 Balsa Brain Confirmation of dates

Tony reported that Netley British Legion Club had been booked for the Friday 12th November by Pat Parsons, all agreed with this date.

Firebirds club representative Richard Dickerson volunteered this club would organise the room for the evening, Ken Knox would advertise the event as soon as possible on the web and all club secretaries would be emailed. **KK**

They would be asked to submit team numbers this would be free, however supper would be provided at cost of £2.00 per head payable on entry.

Further discussion would take place at a later meeting when Steve Warren could be present as he was to be the question master.

4.0 Proposal from Firebirds – Proposal for flying site guidance

The following request from The Firebirds MAC had been sent to Tony

Tony explained to the attendees the back ground to Firebirds request which had received some time ago Tony had discussed this request with Stuart who had advised that care should be taken in the way the case was presented to the technical committee who have rejected a good idea just on the way it had been approached.

Tony took that on board and at the 2009 national Tony spoke to others about the proposal for the leaflet and the proposal was forwarded on to be reviewed at the next technical committee review. Tony reported that this did not happen and that he felt he had let Firebirds down, as the proposal should now have been heard.

Richard Dickerson (BMFA rep Firebirds) then was invited to give us a brief on his request, which he did.

He told us that his site had had problems with use of their current flying site and the feeling in the club was that they should produce a single A4 flyer to give to farmers approached about the use of their land for flying. They had looked at the possibilities of doing this themselves but quickly realised that to have any form of clout the leaflet should be generated by head office.

This should be an informative sheet giving as much initial information to the farmer, this would be a Head Office produced leaflet with facility that interested clubs logo could be added as well as contact

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4.0 Proposal from Firebirds – Proposal for flying site guidance cont.

Details, in other words a locked form with certain open fields that logos and contact info for inclusion of the above

Firebirds Proposal: -

PROPOSALS FOR BMFA HQ GUIDANCE ON FLYING SITE PROCUREMENT

Introduction

The BMFA provides an excellent service to affiliated clubs that are fighting to retain an existing flying site, the BMFA's expertise being invaluable when dealing with local authorities or when cases go to court. However, there appears to be no help or written advice about finding a site in the first place. The following proposals are aimed at filling that gap.

The Proposals

1 That BMFA Central Office make available as a download a suitably designed leaflet for any affiliated club to use to canvas farmers/landowners for land to be used as a flying site.

2 That the BMFA Central Office provide a link on the Association website providing additional information for any interested farmer/landowner who might be prepared to make an area of land available for use as a flying site.

3 That the BMFA Central Office place advertisements in suitable magazines or periodicals when requested to do so by any of the Area Committees, the cost to be met from Central office funds. Alternatively, if central funding is not considered justified, the BMFA could provide guidance to clubs on the compilation of a suitable advert and where best to place it.

All parts of the above proposals should be complementary, that is the leaflets, the website and the advertisements should be of similar style and layout. The intention would be to impress upon farmers/landowners that model flying is recognized by the Government as sport, and that when renting out a field they can be assured that the club has the backing of the sport's national body, the BMFA. The establishment of a 'Brand Name' recognizable to farmers/landowners-should greatly improve the prospects of clubs seeking new flying sites.

Leaflet Content

Prominence should be given to the following:-

- a. The BMFA's part in representing the Sport at national and international level.
- b. The BMFA insurance cover, flying site guidance, safety rules, Noise Code and Achievements Scheme
- c. Any sponsors or links to relevant organizations the BMFA has.
- d. The web address of the link detailed in part 2 of the proposals.
- e. How little farming land is required. Providing over-flight of adjacent fields is acceptable, all that is necessary is somewhere to park and somewhere to take off and land. Further details could be provided on the website.

Conclusion

If it were an ideal world these proposals would not be necessary. However, we all know that this is not the case and it would seem fitting that members of an association whose motto is "United We Achieve" should receive some practical assistance when they need to find a new flying site.

A general discussion about the subject ensued, it was decided that Stuart would present Firebirds proposal to many Williams when he next met him at the area council meeting for his comments. A vote was then taken on how we should proceed.



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4.0 Proposal from Firebirds – Proposal for flying site guidance cont.

1. The Southern Area committee all agreed that the Firebirds proposal would be submitted to HQ for comment Proposed Tony Butterworth, Seconded Ken Knox
2. Stuart would present the above Firebirds proposal to Manny Williams at the next convenient opportunity. Proposed Stuart Simpson, Seconded Dave Burstow **SS**
3. Ken would produce a draft leaflet for submission to HQ Proposed KK, Seconded Terry Weeks. **KK**
4. Committee would review response at next area meeting. **ALL**

5.0 Proposal from Dave Burstow – Draft form to standard ACE year end reports

Dave Burstow has produced a form to standardize the reports ACE's submit at year-end; Dave has produced this form in both 'Word' and 'Excel' format and submitted a draft form for discussion. It was agreed by all that this was an great improvement which would not only help the examiner keep a recorded of the various examinations he had conducted but it would also make the ASC Co-ordinator make his year end reports accurate

Proposed Dave Burstow, Seconded Ken Gale

6.0 Beaulieu – Review of letter from Bryan Target

Bryan Target has contacted Ken Knox in response to AOB comment in the February Area meeting

Extract from February area meeting

6.0 Any other Business

Ken asked if the last meeting should be ratified it was agreed that it should be. Steve proposed the acceptance and Ken seconded the motion the vote was unanimously carried. It was also decided that the minutes should be posted on the web site.

Tony said various people had approached him about the operation of the Beaulieu site. Tony said that Chris Davenport had advised them of the setting up of their constitution. Barrie Lever commented that the AGM's had been well attended, however both Stuart and Barrie both commented on the safety issues it the New Forest site such as the pit area was too close to the flight line and in general it did not comply with BMFA guide lines.

Tony said we were asked to help and we did so however the Beaulieu committee had not followed them, it was most important that all should done not loose this historic site. Barrie said that was a growing feeling in the Southampton club that the layout must be modified.

Dave said as a final point that the at AGM it was asked if a form could be produced for the ACE's Dave said he had produced one and would be presented at the next meeting

The meeting was closed at 22:45 agreeing to convene the next meeting on the 24th March at the same venue

Over the past months the Southern area committee have been advised of concerns from pilots using the Bealieu flying site. In the past the committee have requested support from the southern area in creating a constitution for the Bealieu flying club, an activity that we were pleased to support and the requested document had been duly presented by Chris Davenport to the Bealieu committee. At previous area meeting this year discussion covered the creation of a club support fund and Bealieu was identified as one resource that may be worthy of consideration, these comments were reflected in past minutes where those in attendance all identified a willingness to offer any help required to support the Bealieu committee. In response we have now received notification from Brian Targett, his letter raise issues that need to be addressed and therefore it was agreed that we should invite a informal meet between ourselves and the Bealieu committee to better understand the situation - we will report back on this issue at future meetings.



6.0 Beaulieu – Review of letter from Bryan Target Cont.

Tony read out Bryan's letter to Ken and Ken's reply, a short discussion then followed and it was decided that;

Tony would write to Bryan and invite Bryan and the Beaulieu Committee to an informal meeting, the date and venue would be their choice to discuss their views and concerns. **AB**

7.0 Secretary Vacancy

Tony reported that he has a person in mind and would report at the next meeting

8.0 Officers Reports

8.1 John D Thompson Free Flight

John was unable to attend and has sent his report in via email

Free Flight nothing really of interest to report, except contests go ahead with the usual rotten weather. In respect of the Gala possibility. I would only note that at MW the radio and free flight folk virtually never get together, each doing their own comps and literally not having the time to go and see the other. I believe there is such a wide divergence in the interests that with the sites available to us, it is nigh on impossible to get much interaction between the various groups. To be truthful in my book Aeromodelling is a "doing" hobby and watching it after a bit is pretty akin to watching paint dry. . End of report. John

8.2 Terry Weeks Silent Flight

Terry thanks the committee for the trophies, he went on to say that he was looking to this years events from responses so far it looked as there a good attendance, the events had been on the web site for some months now. The events would be all electric with height limiters as there was insufficient room for winches under certain wind directions. Terry said this seemed to be a national event, Tony asked if there would be many spectators, Terry thought not but he had been very encouraged by the comments that had been received at Yeovilton when he had been flying one of his gliders during slots.

Terry reports he had taken delivery of the Gazebos and had laminated the instructions sorted and boxed the various components

8.3 Ken Gale Vice Chairman

Ken reported that he had attended the Yeovilton event and had manned the BMFA stand; he had thoroughly enjoyed the day, where there had been a lot of interest from the public. Tony asked Ken G if he or his club was holding any helicopter events this year Ken replied that he had not and also reported that Helipad was experiencing a problem with the Hampshire Bowman Cricket club which

8.3 Ken Gale Vice Chairman cont.

Had also secured the use of the field on Sunday afternoons, they had also recently lost the use of the field on Saturdays.

Ken went on to say that there were usually one or two helicopter events every weekend but they were mainly further north there was few held to the south.

8.4 Dave Burstow PAS co-ordinator

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Dave said that he had a request to review request for a prospective area chief examiner (Helicopters) Dave had received a reference from the Chairman (Mike Moore) of the Dorset Model Helicopter Club for Matt Lodge who was an examiner and a past chairman of the club; Dave had also received Matt's modelling CV directly from Matt.

Dave went to say that he had always felt that we should have an additional area chief examiner (Helicopters) to the west of the area. A short discussion then followed in which Dave outlined the procedure for the appointing an area examiner it was suggested by Dave that a meeting would be set up with Matt and he would report back at the next area meeting, this was agreed by all. Finally Dave sent he had received from Peter Turley at Blackbushe some of the area bank statements as Steve was not present he would post them to him **DB**

8.4 Ken Knox PRO

Ken said there was little to report the web was running well, he had not been able to attend Blackbushe so had to rely on others to supply photographs, Peter Turley (Petersfield) and Andy Schafer (TVSA) were both going to supply pictures for the photo section. The other larger activity in the area was being hosted by Tangmere Military Aviation Museum on the 26th SEPTEMBER a Model Aircraft display including static and flying displays of large scale model aircraft in co-operation with Chichester and District Model Aero Club.

8.5 Stuart Simpson Area Delegate

Stuart made the following report: -

- 1.0 Attended full council meeting at Leicester the 8th May 10
- 2.0 The New Members handbook was now out and would be distributed the June 2010 BMFA News.
- 3.0 Discussions about home recoded and the recording thereof, recording procedures were to be tightened up.
- 4.0 Mike Goldby's funeral had taken place, it had been very well attended, however Stuart had not attended as the funeral was held some two hundred and forty miles away. Mike had donated two of his indoor scale models to the society. All of his modelling effects were to be catalogued and sold on the BMFA web site the proceeds were to fund a trophy (Category to be declared at a later date) the residual monies would be donated to cancer charities.
- 5.0 Flight Challenge had had to be postponed as Duxford had become unavailable, the event would now take place in October/November at Robin Hood Airfield near Doncaster. No replacement sponsor had been found the Royal Navy would have helped with Duxford but as there were no Navy bases near Doncaster had pulled out
- 6.0 The Hon. Treasurer had forecast a small surplus and reported that the auditors were due at HQ shortly
- 7.0 There were to be some changes within the post of Vice President (Mainly age related).
- 8.0 The CEO stated the plans for this years Nationals were on track (More toilets etc)

8.5 Stuart Simpson Area Delegate cont.

- 9.0 Stuart had attended the Chairmen's meeting at Basingstoke there has been over seventy clubs represented but no mention of the Southern Area. The meeting was well received.
- 10.0 The Scale Indoor Nationals had taken place at Nottingham University on 25th April, the event went very well as usual
- 11.0 Roger Bellingham was to slow down, he was now in his mid Seventies and his post was to be advertised the successful incumbent would have to be based in Leicester.



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- 12.0 The Royal Aero Club Awards event was discussed, Barrie Lever from our area was to be presented with an award. The Duke of York normally presented them but this year he had to drastically truncate his visit and a draw had to be made as to who would be present their award by the hurrying Duke.
- 13.0 The Chairman reported he had attended three funerals, David Boddington, Sam Swale and Ron Moulton's wife.
- 14.0 Vice Chair stated that Perkins Slade were donating a trophy for "Pilot of the Year/Flyer of the Year", Stuart had been invited to ask if anybody in the area should be put forward for the trophy nominations should be received by 1st August 2010.
- 15.0 The Hon. Secretary would be asking for a change of constitution for the old South West area it was to be split into the two counties of Devon and Cornwall however there was only to be one Area delegate who would serve both counties!
- 16.0 The most recent club list was now published, however errors were still reported present.
- 17.0 The Records Officer stated that a new electric powered altitude record had been set at 2947 feet.
- 18.0 The PRO and FIA delegates had been busy the FIA delegate had visited Switzerland but had to return by train due the volcanic dust.
- 19.0 The RC gas turbine code of practice was to be amended.
- 20.0 The University 'Big Lift' Challenge was to take place on the 13-14th June.
- 21.0 A discussion took place about gas turbine powered helicopters and composite rotor blades
- 22.0 There was a discussion about "fly-bar less" helicopters apparently three axis giros were to be employed.

Stuart ended his report he did however comment about the fee paid for our pitch at Blackbushe (£75.00), he felt this should not have been paid as we were exhibitors not traders, he would raise the issue at the next HQ meeting and ask for Guidance from HQ

Tony thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed

*The next meeting was to be held on Wednesday 14th July at The Anchor Public House
61 Test Lane, Southampton, Hampshire SO16 9BH*