

BMFA NW Area Ordinary General Meeting by Zoom. 04/01/2022

Meeting started at 7:45pm

Members present

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Martyn Kinder (MK). | Chairman and Area Delegate South Cheshire RCS |
| Kevin Watson (KW) | Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator (ASC) Blackburn DMAC |
| David Williams (DW) | Shropshire MFC |
| Tim Crumpton (TC) | Hough End MAC |
| John Minchell (JM) | Scale Secretary Sleep MFC |
| John Brooks (JB) | Macclesfield MAC |
| Derick Perchard (DP) | Sleep Model Flyers |
| Peter Bree (PB) | Oswestry DMAC |

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Voting Strength
3. Minutes of the 14th September 2021 OGM
Errors and Corrections submitted in advance
Matters Arising
Minutes of the 23rd November 2021 OGM
Errors and Corrections submitted in advance
Matters Arising
4. Correspondence Received
5. Officer's reports: Chairman, Area Delegate, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, PRO, Achievement Scheme Coordinator, Flying Discipline Secretaries
6. (Club) Funding requests and assistance
7. Area Modernisation Progress Report – Martyn Kinder
8. Full Council Meeting Agenda
9. Date for next OGM
10. Any other business

The Chairman welcomed those present and noted it was good to see some new faces.

1. Apologies for absence

Carl Brotherton
Chris Boardman
Robert Payne

2. Establish Voting Strength

There were 8 present and the voting strength of 8 was established

3. Minutes of the last OGMs

14th September 2021 OGM

Two minor typographical errors had been noted to the Chairman.

1. ASC report – “With much closed involvement” replaced by “With much close involvement”
2. Scale Secretary report “KW reported that the next Sherlowe Aerotow” replaced with “JM reported that the next Sherlowe Aerotow”

With those corrections, the minutes of the meeting of 14th September 2021 were accepted as a true record

Proposed: Kevin Watson

Seconded: John Minchell

4 in favour, 4 abstentions

Matters Arising

PRO Report. MK had discussed with Andy Symons whether users could be notified by email of changes to the website. The response was that notifications on a page change were possible but not notifications across the website.

ASC Report. KW did provide an update to the ASRC initiative involving more clubs. He noted that since his last report more clubs have become involved . This was welcomed by the Chairman.

Scale report. MK asked the Honorary Secretary (Mark Benns) at the last Full Council meeting whether an Area could contribute to the Scale WC fund. The Secretary responded that money provided by HQ to an Area must be used solely for Area Activities and Support, any money earned by the Area be used in any way that the Area wishes. The only (significant) income that the Area had accumulated in the past 20 or so years was from gate receipts at the Woodvale Rally. It had not been possible to establish exactly how much but according to the previous long term Treasurer (Derek Gilbert), it was not very much.

Full Council Meeting. MK discussed Director’s potential liabilities and responsibilities with the CEO. MK used the hosting of a World Championships as an example case. The CEO provided MK with a very detailed response on a Directors unlimited risks but advised that it was very unlikely that there would be any real financial risk to an individual. It was reported that the SMAE/BMFA have sufficient reserve funds to support an event such as the World Championships if a catastrophic failure of income occurred.

AOB. MK has been in talks with Shropshire MFC regarding the proposed NW Area Scale Fly-in. We are hoping to agree a date towards the end of May for this event.

23rd November 2021

No errors were noted or reported.

The Minutes were accepted as a true record, proposed: Kevin Watson, Seconded: John Minchell. Voting 3 for, 5 abstentions.

Matters Arising. There was one action outstanding, MK to contact clubs and members regarding suggestion for events.

4. Correspondence Received

No correspondence has been received

5. Officers Reports

Chairman and Delegates report

MK updated the meeting. As Chair, there had been very little progress except to follow on from other actions detailed above. As Delegate, he noted that work on the constitution had slowed down on the run up to Christmas due to being provided with some misleading information. It is expected that work will restart later this month on the Area 'User' guide which explains in plain text how the Areas work.

MK also advised the meeting that he had been working with the Treasurer on producing a budget for the 2022-23 FY. This was late as an email had not been received by the Treasurer.

ASC Report

KW updated the meeting on the ASRC initiative, which was gathering pace, more clubs had signed up to the proactive methodology of test : train : instruct. He noted that there was more capacity and encouraged more clubs to get involved.

There was brief discussion on the changes to re-ratification of Club Examiners and the changes involved from 2022.

JM asked whether there had been any further progress on the Silent Flight Achievement Scheme training day. KW responded that this was still in progress with 3 ACEs identified to run the event.

Scale

JM reported very little progress but noted that the Indoor Scale Nationals would be held on the 23/24 April and although out of the NW Area (Walsall) requested volunteers to help run the event.

6. Club Funding Requests

MK advised the meeting that he had received a request from representatives of 2 NW Area clubs (Shropshire and BATS) for the NW Area to provide 4 Hi Start Systems to be used for Area F3L Glider events. MK provided the background and history to the class. The total cost would be in the order of £70 per system purchased from an approved supplier in Holland. JM suggested that the cable drums could be acquired or manufactured more cost effectively saving perhaps

£100 on the total cost. With this in mind, the meeting agreed that the Area should proceed with the purchase, 7 for, 1 abstention (MK who abstained due to his interest in the class).

Action MK to progress the purchase and report back

7. Area Modernisation Report

MK covered this in his Delegates report above. Nothing further to add.

8. Full Council Meeting Agenda

There are two proposals for consideration.

1. Purchase of 5 heavy duty Gazebos. This was discussed at length and the consensus was that (because of size, weight, logistics) they would have limited to use for typical club events. It was considered to be an expensive purchase while considering that the BMFA may be short of funds. Allied to this, the difficulties with storage, practicality and logistics weighed against a bulk purchase. It was considered that the BMFA should limit the purchase to two units, one located at Buckminster, the second held in the South of the Country. MK to feedback to FC accordingly.

It was suggested that a lighter weight/smaller Gazebo would be of far more use to the Areas. Could this option be investigated?

2. Changes to the Handbook to cater for the appointment of a Members Director. No comments were raised for this Proposal and the Area accepted the Proposal as is.

9. Date of next OGM

Dates for the next OGMs are:

10th May (**Note Revised Date**)

13th September

Meetings to be held by Zoom.

10.AOB

1. KW advised the meeting that he had been approached by the BMFA/BDF to set up a 'Lancashire' county forum/group for Drone Fliers. A separate group for 'Shropshire' has also been set up by Chris Bradbury. There is also a 'Yorkshire' group. KW will update on progress at the next meeting

Meeting closed at 9:00pm