

## BMFA NW Area OGM 07/01/2020

### In Attendance

|                 |       |   |
|-----------------|-------|---|
| Martyn Kinder   | (MK)  | Chairman /Delegate NW Area/SCRCS            |
| Chris Boardman  | (CB)  | New Vice Chairman NW Area/Blackburn MFC     |
| Carl Brotherton | (CaB) | Secretary/Treasurer/ Blackpool & Fylde MFC  |
| Andrew Ellison  | (AE)  | PRO/Tyldesley MFC                           |
| Mike Colling    | (MC)  | CCMAC                                       |
| Kevin Watson    | (KW)  | ASC /Blackburn MFC                          |
| John Minchell   | (JM)  | Shawbury indoor                             |
| Keith Barker    | (KB)  | Rochdale                                    |
| Derek Perchard  | (DP)  | Sleep model flyers                          |
| Roger Price     | (RP)  | Staffs model helicopter club                |
| Sue Price       | (SP)  | Staffs model helicopter club / Minutes sec. |
| Gerry Ferrer    | (GF)  | Timperley MFC                               |
| Stephen Simm    | (SS)  | Mossborough Hall FC                         |
| Mathew Hodgson  | (MH)  | Mossborough Hall FC                         |

Voting strength. 12

### Apologies for Absence

None Received

### Correspondence

MK said he had received thank you letters from David Lloyd Jones and Bill Cowell who had both stepped down from their roles in the area. This was in relation to their long service certificates and Gift Vouchers

### Minutes of last meeting

Minutes proposed as a true record by AE, JM seconded

Voting for. 11 Abstention 1

## Matters Arising

Clarification of minutes from the last area OGM 10/09/2019

A general discussion regarding the area budget submitted being not quite the same as recorded. NW had submitted an OPEX budget of £1460 which was lower than that originally prepared. Unfortunately, this had then been capped at £600 for all areas resulting in an area budget shortfall of £860. The NW Area is expected to make up the difference from the NW Area reserve fund.

MK said that he and Martin Dilly (London) had objected to this due to the size of the areas not being equal and that the cut was disproportionate, but it had been voted on at Area Council and passed with no further discussion.

GF said it didn't make much sense as we had the largest area and therefore travel expenses would be a lot higher. At present, the NW Area pays 25p per mile for delegates acting on NW Area business.

The background is that the 2020-21 budget was about to be set, and it was deemed that there would be no subscription increase so savings had to be made. A complaint has been lodged with Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer but there has been no change in stance and no response to MK last email.

CaB advised that head office has a contingency in accordance with the constitution.

AE said this needs to be recorded as unconstitutional. MK agreed and will pick this up at the next Area Council meeting.

**Action MK to discuss at next Area Council Meeting**

JM said it needed to be observed closely as Dave Phipps, and Ian Pallister are in place to be members voices and area funding should be used in proportion to the size of the area.

Positive news is that there is a proposal for HQ to fund £200 for an area PC projector. MK expected that this would have had to have come from area funds.

CaB said each area needs to maintain a reasonable contingency. The funds are limited and will be totally depleted in a few years without either a change to the way the area operates or proper funding as per the constitution.

## Officers reports

MK has been in communication with Andy Brough and MC for any ideas to improve club involvement, getting club involvement and providing club support is an important responsibility for the Area. However, MK has had no replies regarding his offer DRES talks or offers of support for clubs.

### **Action MK – Ongoing**

He will continue to work on a presentation for all clubs in the area.

### **Action MK – Ongoing**

CaB

Just hopeful that he will see more support for area events in the future.

CB

New vice chairman nothing to report yet.

KW

Reported that an ASC workshop for 28<sup>th</sup> March has been organised at Delyn MFC 10:00. If all goes to plan, we will cover all disciplines and this will include FW, Heli, MR and SF disciplines, a first for the NW Area. The success of this event is obviously weather dependent.

A second workshop is in planning for September at Sleaf MFC. With DP and JM in support, we may also be able to provide a classroom environment.

AE said that a similar event had been run at Skelmersdale and had worked well, so therefore this could be run to the same format.

AE suggested rather than e-mailing all the clubs could we target each member.

Nice to have two in the pipeline. MK responded that he had asked Andy Symons on whether Area contact to members was possible. MK felt it was unlikely as the system currently does not support this level of granularity and there are GDPR issues as well. Members would have to agree to accept mail from the Area before we could send out any mail.

KB said that the BMFA news may be able to help with event advertising.

JM said could it be opened to other areas everyone welcome

CaB said we needed to discuss events budget for next year (2021-22) as budgets need to be prepared and submitted by August.

MK advised that the Area had received full funding for 2020-21 for all planned events which was reassuring.

AE reminded attendees on the "Certificate of Merit" that KW has been awarded by the ASC committee. Well done.

It's clear that we need to improve contact with area members.

But we can only email members who have opted in to receive them.

JM said email club secretaries and add in any other choice of communication they would prefer.

KW said that with the registration scheme in place people have become more aware for the need to keep informed.

JM reported that since the last AGM in November he is now Pro for scale Bmfa

MC reported that the Velodrome fly in December had been well supported.

The next one is 15<sup>th</sup> February and it usually very busy. These events are run by the indoor tech committee with support from the NW Area.

CaB requested that he receives the invoice before April.

**Action MC – provide invoice**

### Full Council agenda

A lengthy discussion on the proposals contained in the Full Council Agenda scheduled for the 11<sup>th</sup> January. References below refer to FC Agenda items.

12.1 Approval of Expenditure. Approved

17a General competition rules: Approved

17b Amendment to Council handbook: Approved

19a Formation and ToR for Tech Committees: Approved. However, MK was asked by AE to inquire about the future of the Power Technical Committee following its disbandment a few years earlier.

**Action MK**

21 Record claims: All Approved

## AOB

**Flightfest.** MK reminded attendees about Flightfest in May 2020, which provides potential pilots a chance to experience buddy box control of RC model aircraft. MK suggested that the Area should encourage all clubs to take part, the area would assist by advertising their events by contacting local newspapers. KW said that over 100 enquiries had been received at head office following the BBC Countryfile programme aired in December.

**Action MK and AE** to work together in this.

MK to email all clubs reminding them that Flightfest would be taking place in May and seeking their cooperation.

**Action MK**

**Indoor Scale Taster events.** JM said that they would be running Three taster sessions for indoor to see if anyone would be interested in indoor competition

January 25<sup>th</sup> St Helens 1- 4pm

February 9<sup>th</sup> Shawbury 1-4pm

A third event at High Wycombe just before the Indoor Nationals

Anyone wanting to try this out will receive a full flying critique. Example scale evidence/reference documentation would also be made available for any pilot to examine.

The cost of the two NW events will be underwritten by NW area in case of shortfall in attendance. MK will email clubs.

**Action MK**

JM also mentioned a new "Scale uncovered" to be held at Buckminster on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

AE said that the Derbyshire Hang gliders are complaining that model flyers should keep out of their way. Specifically, this is regarding flying at Mam Tor and Rushup Edge. Historically in 2000 a conglomeration was set up with the National Trust who are the landowners that established the rules for Model Flying on National trust land. We are not sure what has caused this new conflict but if you are flying

in this area be aware that it may be challenging. AE will draft a letter using NW Area letterhead that explains the position. A copy to be provided to MK.

**Action AE**

**Next meetings**

**OGM 28<sup>th</sup> April 20:00 at St Aiden's Social Club, Winstanley**

**OGM 8<sup>th</sup> September 20:00 at St Aiden's Social Club, Winstanley (provisional)**

**AGM 17<sup>th</sup> November 20:00 at St Aiden's Social Club, Winstanley (provisional)**

Meeting closed 10:02 pm

Provisional