

British Model Flying Association

North West Area

Agenda for the Ordinary General Meeting 5 January 2021

1. Apologies for absence
2. Establish Voting Strength
3. Minutes of the 14th September 2020 OGM
 - a. Errors and Corrections submitted in advance.
 - b. Adoption of minutes of 14th September 2020 OGM
 - c. Matter Arising
4. Correspondence Received
5. Officers reports: Chairman, Area Delegate, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, PRO, Achievement Scheme Coordinator, Flying Discipline Secretaries
6. (Club) Funding requests and assistance
7. Full Council Meeting Agenda
8. Date for next OGM
9. Any other business

Minutes of the Meeting of the BMFA North West Area Held on 5th January 2021 via Zoom Video Communication.

Persons Present

Martyn Kinder	Chairman and Area Delegate South Cheshire RCS
Christopher Boardman	Vice Chairman Blackburn DMFC
Carl Brotherton	Secretary & Treasurer Blackpool & Fylde RCMS (No vote)
Kevin Watson	NW ASC Blackburn DMFC (No Vote)
Christopher Bradbury	Lizard Hill MA
Andrew Brough	Whitefield MAC
Paul Cusworth	Blackpool & Fylde RCMS
Mark Conlin	Blackpool & Fylde RCMS (no vote)
Andrew Dibbins	Shropshire MFC
Andrew Ellison	PRO Tyldesley MFC
Gerry Ferer	Timperley Model Flyers
John Minchell	Shropshire Indoor Flyers & Sleap Flyers
Derick Perchard	Sleap MFC

The meeting started at 8.00 pm.

1. Apologies for absence

Warren Sherman - Bury Metro MFC, Bob Payne - Hough End MFC, John Leadbeater - NWFFG, Clive Langford - Tamworth MFC

2. Establish Voting Strength

There were 13 members present, voting strength 10

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 14th September OGM

a. Errors and Corrections

There was one error reported in the minutes of the 14th September. Original and correction as follows. Officers reports paragraph 8

~~Original: After a discussion and examining various options, any decision on this has been deferred to the AGM.~~

Correction: This was discussed at the meeting and following a unanimous vote, the NW Area would make a donation to the 2024 World Scale RC (to be held in the UK) Championship fund. This was subject to agreement with HQ. The amount of the donation was deferred until the next meeting.

b. Adoption of Minutes

The minutes were approved, with the correction described above. Acceptance of the minutes

was by a vote of 7, with 3 abstentions. Proposed by Kevin Watson, Seconded John Minchell.

c. Matters Arising

As a consequence of the discussion and a vote of support by the NW Area with respect to the proposed UK being the host to the 2024 Aeromodelling World Scale Championship MK discussed the matter with BMFA Hon. Secretary Mark Bennis

MB indicated that a condition of the UK holding a W/C event, the event must be self-supporting, i.e., there should be no dependency on the BMFA to provide any central funding. MB expressed concern that by allowing Areas to support the hosting of W/C events this may be construed as BMFA support through the back door. MB asked MK to place the request in writing where it would be considered with other members of the Executive.

Action MK to write the Hon Sec.

The NW Area considers that Areas should be able to contribute to the budget for such an event (from Area reserves), as the Areas finances are independent of BMFA HQ.

4. Correspondence Received

MK reported that he had received 2 emails from clubs (Bury Metro MFC and Blackpool & FDMC) requesting funding to support club projects.

- a. Bury Metro MFC requested financial assistance with the creation of an accessibility track at their new flying field. MK explained that there was some concern about supporting this request as concerns had been expressed about the viability of the club and the lack of a lease with the landowner. MK believed that a better approach for this type of project should be with the National Lottery 'Awards for All' and this has been suggested to the club. As MK has had some success with the A4A approach, he has offered to provide guidance to the club. This request has been put on hold for 3 months while the club stabilises.
- b. Blackpool & FDMFC have requested financial support to purchase a Defibrillator. Mark Conlin explained which model they had selected, why they had selected it and a description on its use and operation. See <https://www.direct365.co.uk/supplies/philips-heartstart-frx-semi-automaticdefibrillator>

MK had already discussed these requests with the BMFA Hon Secretary (Mark Bennis). Before any progress on either of these requests could be made, MK has been asked to explain in writing in general terms how the Area will deal with type of request and to confirm that no HQ support will be required. i.e., any funding will be from the NW Area Reserve.

Action MK to write to the Hon Sec.

MK advised the meeting that he had produced a paper to handle both event support and project (capital) support. He has recommended that Project Support should be limited to a maximum of either £250 or 25% of the total project cost, whichever is the lesser. These suggested values are to be ratified by the NW Area committee.

5. Officers' Reports

a. Chairman, Martyn Kinder

The Chairman has received two requests for support from BMFA NW Area Clubs. In both cases these are for funding for nonflying activities such as Competitions or Fly-Ins and are covered in Section 4 above. In this they are unusual in that they relate to Club infrastructure. The NW Area is mindful that in general the BMFA membership profile has a skewed (Binomial Curve) age profile where many of the members are increasingly affected by the effects of aging. The NW Area recognises that the issues raised directly benefit its membership at Club Flying Sites. In principle the Area is supportive, although clarification has been sought from the BMFA Executive. It is believed that in principle the Head Office has no objection.

b. Vice Chairman, Christopher Boardman

Nothing to report.

c. Treasurer, Carl Brotherton

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19 there has been no direct expenditure relating to 2020-21 financial year.

d. Secretary, Carl Brotherton

Nothing to report.

e. PRO, Andy Ellison

AE reported that due to lack of Activity, there was very little to report. He had continued to propagate messages from HQ and had supported ASRC events.

f. Achievement Scheme, Kevin Watson

Kevin reported that the recent period had been very busy and successful.

There were two principal Areas of activities:

Firstly, all the NW ACEs which had been ratified at the AGM have now been accepted by the scheme controller and as such will be active in 2021.

The second area of activity has been the updating of documentation within the Achievement Scheme to comply and align with recent changes to UK CAA legislation.

Article 16 authorisation being the main change for members and clubs to understand and adhere to.

Kevin noted that the BMFA Magazine and member emails will explain in detail the changes to the Achievement scheme itself and the updated RCC.

There followed a discussion with respect to NOTAMS, applications regarding the period that one is currently issued. The Blackpool Club is specifically one of the NW Area Clubs that regularly submits applications for a NOTAM. The club has noted changes to aspects of their

issue. Mark Conlin volunteered to obtain details of the current process from the B&FRCMS secretary Stephen Warburton, who undertakes the task on a regular basis. He will then contact Martyn Kinder to update him on the current procedure.

Action Mark Conlin

g. Scale Secretary John Minchell

John commenced his report by informing all that the “World Championship for Scale Aeromodelling” that was to be held in 2021 in Norway has been cancelled.

That the “UK Indoor Nationals” planned for April 2021 is now tentatively moved to the Autumn of 2021. The event is normally both Free Flight (FF) and Radio Control (RC).

Although events have taken place recently, adhering to the then current Corvid-19 recommendations, plans are in place to run events when circumstances permit. The preliminary events (which will possibly be supplemented) that are in planning, awaiting suitable conditions are as follows to be held at the private airfield at Sherlowe:

- GPS Glider meet
- Glider Aerotow
- Blackpool Scale Competition
- F3K Multitask
- F3RES and F5RES

It is anticipated that there will be requests from other sources to stage complimentary events. The treasurer indicated that in principal there is sufficient funding available for the Area to support all of these events. The Chairman indicated that our present budget must be set to support the events in 2021 and if not possible due to COVID-19 or other issues, the funds are to be transferred into the 2021-22 financial year.

6. (Club) Funding requests and assistance

This is a new regular agenda item and will cover both Event Support requests and any Project Support requests. This is to enable attendees and readers to keep track of the progress of any funding requests.

- a. Bury Metro MFC – Funding to create accessibility path. See section 4 above.
- b. Blackpool & RCMS – Assistance to purchase a defibrillator – See section 4 above.
- c. Blackpool & RCMS - Event Support - club fly-in. Request £200 for toilet hire
- d. Blackpool & RCMS – Event Support – Flightfest. Request £200 for toilet hire

7. Full Council Meeting Agenda

MK reviewed the agenda of the forthcoming Full Council meeting to be held on the 9th January.

There were 3 proposals that required a vote:

1. Council Handbook
Appendix F Terms of Reference for Technical Council Articles 32(B) and 46
A change to reflect that the RCPTC had been reinstated.

This was accepted unanimously.

Action MK to vote accordingly.

2. Council Handbook
Appendix G – Formation of, and Terms of Reference for, Technical Committees
Section 1 - Formation.

There was some concern about the wording for this proposal where it was felt that (particularly the FFTC) some technical councils could not comply with requirement as written.

Action MK to discuss with the Technical Secretary and consider voting accordingly.

3. Council Handbook
Appendix G – Formation of, and Terms of Reference for, Technical Committees
Section 2 - Terms of reference

There was some concern over this as it was felt that a mandate was not necessary and may have negative effect if a website wasn't maintained accordingly.

Action MK to discuss at Full Council and vote accordingly.

8. AREA MEETINGS 2021

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 27th April on Zoom. **Note that this is a change to the date** specified at the OGM and is because the next Full Council meeting has been brought forward by one week,

9. AOB

Martyn drew attention to the BMFAs intention to continue with the annual Area Payment Allocations to the BMFA Areas as per the accounts presented at the AGM. Recent events has resulted in the NW Areas Monetary Resources (Bank Balance) increasing, rather the intended reductions. Referencing the two applications by NW Area clubs for some financial support and how the age profile, general interests of the general BMFA membership, he expects to receive more applications for broadly similar support. To encourage applications, Martyn has contacted all clubs in the NW Area via Email asking them to consider ways in which the NW Area could help them financially. Although it is not anticipated that the total submissions will be in excess of what the Area can support, that in the event of this occurring, all requests will be on the basis of "first come, first served".

The treasurer has no issue with the concept or the two submissions under review, he is keen that the BMFA Head Office takes on board, the issue that increasingly an aged membership will become physically and medically challenged. Accepting this premise does suggest that the development of the existing infrastructure at club sites should and will become a priority. That is footpaths, ramped and safe surfaces etc. It is a similar situation with the availability of defibrillators. To that end their needs to be a comprehensive policy produced by the BMFA Executive.

KW believes that there are existing policies in place now.

The treasurers view if so the profile of the policies need raising to a similar level that safety

and Achievement Schemes receive.

Probably there will be more issues with falls and similar incidents than Defibrillator usage, all still require the emergency services to find, reach and gain access to the club sites as speedily as possible. This requires a policy and guidance of how to make the process a reality.

There was a general consensus that the NW Area should not wait for the BMFA to take on the totality of the issues as an integrated policy. The treasure accepts this totally and agrees that the funding policy of the Area should not wait.

The meeting closed at 10.27pm.

RATIFIED