

British Model Flying Association
North West Area

Agenda for the Ordinary General Meeting (v2)
22 April 2021

1. Apologies for absence
2. Voting Strength
3. Minutes of the 5th January 2021 OGM
 - a. Errors and Corrections submitted in advance
 - b. Adoption of minutes of 5th January 2021 OGM
 - c. Matter 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. NOTAMs – Briefing by Stephen Warburton Blackpool & Fylde MFC
8. Area Modernisation Progress Report – Martyn Kinder
9. Full Council Meeting Agenda
10. Date for next OGM
11. Any other business

Minutes of the Meeting of the BMFA North West Area Held on 22nd April 2022 via Zoom Video Communication.

Persons Present

Martyn Kinder	Chairman and Area Delegate South Cheshire RCS
Christopher Boardman	Vice Chairman Blackburn MFC
Carl Brotherton	Secretary & Treasurer (No Vote)
Kevin Watson	NW ASC (No Vote)
Paul Cusworth	Blackpool & Fylde RCMS
Gerry Ferer	Timperley Model Flyers
John Minchell	Shropshire Indoor Flyers
Derek Perchard	Sleap MAC
Steven Warburton	Blackpool & Fylde RCMS (No Vote)
Jon Laughton	Oldham MAC

Note Kevin Watson a later arrival

There were 10 people connected, voting strength established of 7

The meeting started at 8.00 pm.

Apologies for absence

John Greaves	Clwyd Soaring
Andrew Ellison	Tyldesley MFC
Andy Brough	Whitefield MAC

Correspondence

A letter has been received to the Chairman (MK) from Jon Laughton, representing the Oldham Club. Seeking support for Club infrastructure improvements. Details are discussed under Club Funding Requests.

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2021

No errors, omissions or clarification had been received in advance.

The minutes were approved. Proposer John Minchell, seconded Derek Perchard. Seven in favour, non against, no abstentions.

Matters Arising

No decision has been reached by Leicester Office with respect to the funding of the BMFA areas in the future. No funds have been allocated for the 2021-22 financial year. Areas are expected to use funds allocated from the previous year that were unused during the Covid-

19 pandemic.

The NW Area request to provide funding support of the proposed UK (BMFA) bid for the forthcoming World Scale Championship has not yet been approved by the Hon Secretary or Hon Treasurer. To date the BMFA has not made an official bid for the event.

MK has written to the Hon Sec to explain how the Area was handling funding requests for club improvements. The response was positive. MK noted that other areas were interested to see how this initiative develops.

Mark Conlin had spoken to Stephen Warburton and SW would present on the NOTAM process at this meeting,

MK had voted in accordance with the club delegates instructions at the January Full Council meeting

Officers' Reports

Chairman and Delegate, Martyn Kinder

MK advised that he was a member of the 'Magnificent 7', a small team formed from Area Delegates to review the operation of the Areas and recommend ways that the Areas could operate more effectively. He outlined the drivers why the working party had been formed and intended to discuss this in more detail later in the meeting.

The working party had met (by Zoom) weekly since January and he had attended all meetings.

Vice Chairman Christopher Boardman

The Blackburn MFC, have been instructed to cease flying at their flying site. This was by notification from an official of the Blackburn Council, on whose property, an area within a public park, where the club flies. Use of the area has historically been limited by dates and times by agreement with the Blackburn Council.

The club, has discussed the matter with the BMFA Leicester office. These discussions have been the basis of initiating a constructive engagement with the Blackburn Council.

The NW Area Chairman will be informed of future developments.

Treasurer, Carl Brotherton

The accounts for the 2020-21 financial year are now in preparation.

Due to the restrictions and changing circumstances, relating to Covid, it has not been possible for all of the travel expenses to be claimed by most of the attendees of the last physical meeting of the 7-1-2020. It was suggested by MK that money owed would be held until claimed by those owed, for the foreseeable future.

With respect to money held from previous meetings, some going back years, these would be returned to the BMFA NW Area accounts via the Petty Cash holdings. This is in accordance with decisions made in previous years, in principal part of the BMFA NW Area policy. The principal and action was voted upon by those present.

Vote 7 in favour of continuing the policy. Future expense payments would be made by Internet Banking.

Secretaries Report.

Nothing to report.

Achievement Scheme Kevin Watson

Prior commitments detained KW from this section of the meeting, although he joined the meeting later.

Scale Secretary John Minchell

The preliminary events (which will possibly be supplemented) that are in planning, awaiting suitable conditions are as follows:

- GPS Glider meet x 2
- Glider Aerotow x 2
- Blackpool Scale Competition
- F5B Multitask event
- F3-RES and F5-RES trial event

These events will be held (unless otherwise stated) at the Sherlowe private airfield, near High Ercall in Shropshire.

The funding for events will be made available as previously agreed, irrespective of any rescheduling as a consequence of Covid and consequent restrictions.

Club Funding Requests

MK outlined the application by the Oldham MAC for some support from the BMFA NW area.

Jon Loughton provided additional background information. Due to circumstances at their existing flying sites, the club has had to relocate. This will take place at the end of September as the present site is required by the Northern Routes to become an Eco Farm.

The new site requires development (provision of Agricultural matting to stabilise the ground) with respect to access which the OMAC has instigated, placing substantial strain on the club's finances.

MK acknowledged that the proposal was in line with developing BMFA principals of inclusion. There is now greater emphasis on the concept and policy as many of the BMFA membership has or is reaching age where the provision of safe ground conditions where regular access is required, have become an usual requirement. An increasingly common requirement for all clubs. To enable the pursuit of the hobby in a safe manner.

JL requested £250 as a contribution to the works that are required. This was in line with the

NW Area published guidelines of 25% of project cost or £250 – whichever is the lesser

A vote was taken, 7 in favour of the request, no abstentions or votes against.

Action - JL to submit invoice and Treasurer to pay using Electronic Funds transfer

The NW Area agreed to subsidise the tug fuel costs for 2 Sherlowe Aero Tow events up to a maximum of £150 per event following submission of an expense form with receipts.

Additionally, the NW Area would contribute to the Sherlowe airfield rental charges for the 2 GPS glider events. The sum of £50 per event would be paid on submission of expense claim form and receipt.

Action – JM to submit expense forms and receipts following the events.

MK noted that no further communication has so far been received from the Bury Club. The area remains ready to be of assistance when further communication has been received from the Bury Club.

Paul Cusworth alerted the meeting that in the coming week the Treasurer would receive an invoice pertaining to a Defibulator, against which the BMFA NW Area has previously agreed to contribute £250.

Action – PC to submit invoice and Treasurer to pay using Electronic Funds transfer

Paul also reminded the meeting that the planned meetings at the B&FRCS in June and September are now in preparation, for the benefit of all BMFA members. The sums previously agreed of £200 for the Fly In and Flight fest, will be invoiced for the provision of toilets at both events, a total of £400. The events will be advertised in accordance with the BMFA NW Area policy.

Kevin Watson joined the meeting at 21:21. No change in voting strength.

NOTAMS

Steven Warburton of the B&FMFA gave a presentation and answered questions relating to his recent and past experiences of applying for NOTAMs for the Blackpool Club. The presentation, making use of Microsoft PowerPoint. The presentation addressed both legal and the process aspects of Notams. The club operates outside Flight Restricted Zones (FRZ), although within an Air Traffic Controlled Airspace.

The conclusion is that Notams are being issued in general for shorter durations, the process of application is evolving in the detail within the existing regulations.

It was note that to fly legally many clubs operating within ATCZ need to be aware of restrictions, the financial penalties, of breaching the present regulations, if a NOTAM is required and has not been obtained.

A lengthy discussion followed; John Minchell advised that the procedure for requesting NOTAMs is due to change with the BMFA taking prime responsibility.

A copy of the presentation can be downloaded from the NW Area website:
<https://northwest.bmfa.org>

The Chairman thanked Steven for taking the time to prepare and present on this important subject.

Area Modernisation Progress Report

It was intended that MK would update the meeting on Area Modernisation progress. However, lack of time prevented this and a separate meeting would be arranged.

Action MK to set up a Zoom meeting with this as a sole agenda item.

Full Council Meeting Agenda

MK reviewed the Agenda for the following Full Council meeting to be held on 1st May 2021. A number of proposals were considered, the majority relating to document changes to support the reintroduction of the RCPTC. All proposals were voted on with a unanimous vote in favour.

AREA MEETINGS 2021

The next Area OGM will be on **Tuesday 14th, September** this meeting will be held via ZOOM.

The meeting closed at 10.30 pm

These minutes are provisional until approved at the next area meeting.