

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the BMFA North West Area Held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 by Zoom**

### **Agenda for the Ordinary General Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023**

This meeting will be held by Zoom

1. Apologies for absence
2. Establish Voting Strength (One representative per club)
3. Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 OGM
  - a. Errors and Corrections submitted in advance
  - b. Adoption of minutes of 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 OGM
  - c. Matters Arising
4. Correspondence Received
5. Officer's reports: Chairman, Area Delegate, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Achievement Scheme Coordinator, Flying Discipline Delegates
6. (Club) Funding requests and assistance
  - a. Funding support for NW Area Fly-in
  - b. Funding request for Youth event hosted by Tyldesley MFC
7. Areas Council Meeting Agenda
  - a. Update on Wales Area and impact on NW Area Clubs
8. Date for next OGM
9. Any other business

Present:

Chris Boardman: Blackburn DMAC; Vice Chair  
 Richard Green: BATS; Webmaster  
 Andy Ellison: Tyldesley MAC  
 Martyn Kinder: SCRCs; Chair and Delegate  
 John Minchell: Shawbury Indoor MFC  
 Dave Cotton: ECMFC  
 Jason Reid: Blackpool and Fylde MAC  
 Carl Brotherton: Hon Sec (No vote)  
 Dave Hindley: Blackpool and Fylde MAC (No vote)  
 Andy Brough: Whitefield MAC  
 Keith Elliot: Fylde Coast MAC

Meeting Started at 19:45

1. Apologies for absence  
 Apologies have been received from:  
 Kevin Watson: ASC  
 Robert Payne: Hough End MAC
2. Establish Voting Strength  
 The meeting voting strength was 9 clubs represented.
3. Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 OGM
  - a. Errors and Corrections submitted in advance.  
 JM reported a minor typo error in section 5 which has been corrected.  
 Corrected to: Action JM to submit receipts.
  - b. Adoption of minutes of 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 OGM  
 The minutes were proposed as a true record by JM, seconded by AB. The vote was unanimous.
  - c. Matters Arising
    - 6.1 The PA System has been purchased and is currently being held by the Shropshire MFC
    - 6.2 Blackpool and Fylde coast reported that the NW Area grant would be used for prizes.
    - 6.5. JM had been in contact with the Parkway club, this action is now closed.
    - 7 MK had subsequently been involved in an "Wales Area" open zoom forum which had hopefully addressed the concerns of the 'Welsh' NW Area Clubs. A proposal has been produced which is covered in section 7 of this meeting.
4. Correspondence received.  
 MK updated the meeting on his activities regarding the recovery of the 'missing trophies'.  
 The Mrs Lawton Trophy has been recovered from Russell Peers. There is slight damage – the trophy appears to be a semi scale replica of a Lincoln Bomber (mounted above an ashtray) and both external propellers have been damaged. It appears to have been last awarded in 1975. The metal appears to be Pewter.

MK has traced and spoken to Phil Owens. Phil no longer has the Gilbert trophy that was assigned to him, it was returned approximately 10 years ago and handed over at an OGM but he cannot remember who it was handed over to. It may have been John O'Donnell. It was recommended that this trophy is removed from the Asset list with a note to this effect.

**Action: CB**

MK has attempted to contact the descendants of DLJ who was the registered holder of the 'Scale Trophy' but they have failed to respond. He has also contacted the Shawbury MFC where we believe the Scale Trophy was last awarded. The Shawbury club have no record of the Trophy being held by their members. It was recommended that this trophy is removed from the Asset list with a note to this effect.

**Action CB**

5. Officers Reports

Chairman and Delegate – Martyn Kinder

Following the last meeting where the Area Constitution was adopted, awaiting approval from Area Council, the minor change to the Constitution was not approved (nor disapproved). This has effectively left the Area in limbo. However, a new generic Areas constitution, based very closely on the draft the MK and the Mag7 had produced and would be subject to approval at the next Areas Council meeting. This will be discussed further in Section 7.

Secretary and Treasurer – Carl Brotherton

Nothing to report from the Secretarial role.

CB requested that any NW Area club planning on holding an event in 2024 and likely to request Area funding should make their intentions known ASAP so that a budget can be formulated for the next BMFA financial year.

ASC report – Kevin Watson ( written report in his absence):

The NW Area Achievement Scheme has had an increased number of requests for Club Examiners and individual A and B certificates, likely due to renewed activity as temperatures rise. Congratulations to all of those who have passed and notably Andy Ellison for passing his Gas Turbine C at Elvington.

Our Area Chief Examiners are being allocated tasks regularly, which is always a good sign. Andrew Ellison and I have presented Achievement Scheme talks in South Manchester and West Lancashire, we can arrange for one at your club too, however availability may be more tricky as the show season takes off. I would ask NW Area club officials to get in touch with me if they are interested in a talk, Test and Train event or just an ACE visit at their site, all of which we are happy to support.

I would remind both candidates and examiners to check that they are reading the correct 2023 version of Achievement Scheme tests which include some subtle changes.

6. (Club) Funding requests and assistance.

Two requests for funding have been received:

1. MK requested a sum of up to £50 for prizes for the NW Area Scale Fly-in.

This was proposed by AE, seconded by JM. Approved unanimously.

2. AE outlined a request to support an 'Explorer Scouts' event that will be held by Tyldesley MFC:

A summary follows:

The Tyldesley Model Flying Club are to play host to a visit from 15 to 20 Explorer Scouts (Ex Venture Scouts) from the 1st Davenport Division to give them an appreciation of aeromodelling.

We will meet and greet on our site just off the A580 at Astley where the children (aged 15-18) will receive a briefing on safety and model types, information of how R/C controls operate and what does what. They will then get an opportunity for a basic Flight Sim lesson in our club hut and then a

go on a full buddy system with our club instructors and our club trainers. (Fixed wing and multirotor) They will have an opportunity to start and operate Gas Turbine engines (static) and will watch demos of Helicopter, Jets, Quadcopters and other models flown by our club members.

We will feed them and their parents (BBQ) for the session (estimated 2-3hrs) and answer any questions they may have as they look at models and get hands on in the pit areas as part of their experience.

I would like to explore the opportunity of securing funding from the North West Area Funds via the committee as support to purchase or donate BMFA Merchandise and paraphernalia following their visit. As these are STEM aged children I would dearly like them to take away from the day something technical and in keeping with their age such as a BMFA Rookie and any associated literature suitable which we may have available. I have copied in Andy Symons who may be able to advise me here as development Officer.

Any contribution the NW Area might seek to make will be gratefully appreciated.

The visit is scheduled for Sunday 21st May - Subject to weather.

I will leave progression of this request to your judgement for discussion at a NW Area OGM.

The meeting proposed that £300 be allocated from BMFA NW Area reserve for the 'BMFA Rookie kits'. The price had been reduced from retail following discussions with AE, MK and BMFA HQ staff.

This was proposed by MK, Seconded by JM and the voting was unanimous.

7. Areas Council meeting Agenda:

There were two proposals published in the run-up to the Areas Council meeting. It was noted that the NW Area Delegate or Secretary had not received any notification of the second proposal which was of significant importance (adoption of a generic Constitution for all Areas).

1. Creation of a Wales Area.

MK reported earlier that he had attended a Zoom meeting where all Wales based Clubs affected could air their concerns and discuss these in an open forum (on Zoom). This was well attended although not all NW Area Wales clubs were represented. Most of the concerns (mainly raised by Clwyd SA) were, I believe, handled and addressed correctly. At the end of the meeting, the consensus appears to be that there were no objections regarding the formation of the new Area (redefined boundaries) and MK recommended that the proposal was accepted. As there were no objections (and no Welsh clubs present at this meeting), the meeting accepted this proposal unanimously.

2. Adoption of a Generic Areas Constitution

The Members Directory had rewritten the MAG7 produced Areas Constitution, making some minor changes but significantly had removed the option for an Area to make minor changes that allowed an Area to amend the Constitution to meet the local needs. It was noted that the core text had not been changed significantly from that originally produced by the MAG7. MK expressed his disappointment that there had been no consultation period following the issue of the latest draft. In light of this, MK recommended that meeting should vote against the adoption of the revised constitution. The meeting agreed unanimously to reject the proposal.

8. Date of next OGM:

The September Board meeting has been slipped until the 30<sup>th</sup> September.

It is anticipated that the next Areas Council will be on the 28<sup>th</sup> September.

Therefore, the next NW Area OGM will be on the 26<sup>th</sup> September – Start time 19:45.

9. AOB

There were no requests for Any Other Business

The meeting closed at 21:10