

British Model Flying Association **North West Area**

2017 Annual General Meeting

Carl Brotherton

Secretary
20 Windsor Road
Lytham Saint Annes
Lancashire
FY8 1ET
01253 782 565
carl_brotherton@yahoo.co.uk

Agenda for the Area 2017 Annual General Meeting

- Apologies for absence
- Minutes of the 2016 AGM
- Matters arising
- Officers reports: Chairman, Vice Chairman
 Secretary, Treasurer, PRO
 Area Achievement Scheme Coordinator
 Flying Discipline Secretaries
- Area Chief Examiner's reports
- Election of Officers:
 Webmaster
- Flying Discipline Secretaries:
 Free Flight,
 Scale
 Indoor

All for a one year period.

There will be a break for refreshments after the above – **Sandwiches provided** – followed by a short general meeting as below . . .

Agenda for Area General Meeting

1. Meeting dates for 2018
2. Any other business

British Model Flying Association

North West Area

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the B.M.F.A. North West Area held on 22 November 2016 at St Aidan's Parish Centre, Winstanley, Wigan.

Persons Present

David Lloyd-Jones	Chairman & Delegate/Central Cheshire MAA
Mike Colling FSMAE	(Non voting) Vice Chairman/Country Member
Carl Brotherton	Secretary & Treasurer/Sale MFC
Roy Allam (Non voting)	Area Achievement Sch Co-ord/Fylde Coast MFA
Keith Barker	Rochdale RCMFA & Webmaster
Keith Elliot	Fylde Coast Model Flying Association
Roger Price	Staffordshire Model helicopter Club
Sue Price (Non voting)	Staffordshire Model helicopter Club
Ian Lever	Rossendale Valley MFC
Gerry Ferer	Timperley Model Flyers
Martin Fraser	NorthWest RC Heli Club
Wayne Pendleton	Kilton RCMAC
Andy Stanley	Chase MAC
Martyn Kinder	South Cheshire RCS

11 voting

The meeting commenced at 8.00 pm

Apologies for Absence

Victor Pushon, Newport & District MFC. John Leadbeater FF Secretary.

Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting (2016).

The 2016 AGM minutes were unanimously accepted, with no corrections.

Correspondence

The Chairman announced that the BMFA Chairman (Chris Moynihan) had resigned from his post on the 12-11-2017, as a consequence of ill health. The role is currently being undertaken by Ian Pallister the Vice Chairman.

Officer's Reports

Chairman

The Chairman reported this Area remains the largest Area of the BMFA, with in excess of 130 clubs affiliated – and this figure is growing all the time - and probably the largest physical number of square miles too! (It is over 200 miles North to South, and 130 miles wide at it widest point).

We, as an Area, have a direct involvement in many events in the Area and these number eight indoor events on a monthly basis throughout the winter months, with two outdoor fly-ins, and we strive to add to our involvement every day.

Those members that who helped at these events are to be thanked for their assistance, as without them the events would not function.

We also help man the BMFA stands at various events in the North West, and here I must thank those who give up their time to do so on our behalf –and hope that they will be available again in 2018 and others who wish to join us are always welcome.

Help at the stands by any member is accompanied by actual travel expenses and free entry to the event, and more help is always gratefully received for those who give us a day on the stand!

I would like to thank the elected Area Committee members for all the work they have put in to the day to day work on your behalf over the last year, and non elected club delegates who also make the effort to attend, and although the individual members of the clubs probably do not see what happens on their behalf – they can rest assured that everything is on an even keel – and long may it be so!

Once again I would like our Area meetings we have here at Wigan to be better attended by club delegates – in fact, it is only about 5% of the clubs that attend, and I would like to see improved interest in 2018. The venue is pleasant, there is no problem with parking, and the beer - I'm told - is good! An increase in the number of Delegates at our Area meetings would also be most welcome.

We try to sort out any problems that our clubs might have over the year, and without the clubs – where would we be . . . and I would like to think that the opposite also applies!

I would also like to thank those club delegates who ***do*** attend, for their input about the various matters we talk about, and I would also like to remind those who do not attend, that we pay fuel expenses each time they do come!

I would also like to thank the Area Chief Examiners and Club Examiners for any work they have put in during the last 12 months in carrying out tests – although the tests undertaken seem to be diminishing in number.

I would thank Keith Barker particularly, who deals with the NW area web site on our behalf.

Wayne Pendleton has now been our official North West Area “stand manager” for a few years, and massive thanks are offered to him and other committee members of the North West - function without them would be impossible!

The "email notification" carried out last year to all the clubs in the North West, is still working well, and has saved the Area a lot of money, as we no longer have to use the Postal Services as a result of this.

We are also able to offer free publicity to any club who wishes to publicise anything that they organise, by emailing all the clubs about any event in the area on their behalf. This facility has worked well during the years

One thing we would implore anyone who has an email address - please tell us if you change this - otherwise you will no longer receive communications from us. Tell your club members to also keep everything up to date!

David Lloyd-Jones (our Chairman) indicated that after 41 years of service to the North West Area Committee, he intends not to seek re-election as North West Area Chairman and Delegate to BMFA Council at the 2018 AGM, when his present term is completed.

Vice Chairman

Mike Colling FSMAE reported that he has been able to attend all our Area meetings and has helped with the indoor gala at the Velodrome.

Secretary

The Secretary, Carl Brotherton reported the latest list he had for the area shows 146 clubs. We appear to be the largest Area, the number of clubs remaining broadly the same as 2016. Area meetings continue to be supported by a fraction of the 146 clubs in the area, typically 10 - 13 affiliated clubs represented. The Chairman is committed to increasing the representation of the areas clubs.

Treasurer

The main income, the BMFA grant, was £2,449 which is slightly less than last year. The reduction being approximately £40 less. A question was asked as to how the grant is calculated. The treasurer admitted that he had no clear idea, other than being advised by Sian Sergeant (Head Office Bookkeeper) that it was a complex calculation. Wayne Pendleton suggested that the calculation does involve many components, being based on clubs and the memberships within a region. It was noted that in the annual accounts of the BMFA, it states that the BMFA membership fell by 300 in 2017.

The principle points on expenditure are:

The payment of the club delegates travel expenses, mainly due to individuals travelling further, and the area fly-ins.

I would like to thank Wayne for acting as our auditor and reviewing the accounts.

It is noted that the areas funds have grown to a level where some feel uncomfortable. The principle reason is that approved “Examiners Workshops” have not as yet taken place.

Another aspect is that the area is committed to supporting the North West Area, balancing the various disciplines supported by the BMFA, by supporting BMFA events in the region. It is noted that support for both fixed wing and helicopters fly-ins would be favourably received, in the process of both balance and furthering the purpose of the BMFA area grant. The area remains committed to expanding both indoor and FF events, which also have experienced some regrettable reductions and looks forward to proposals from these quarters in the near future.

A question was raised with respect to the annual accounts. The issue was in regard to “NW Area” assets. Specifically as to the “Gilbert Trophy”. Who is P Owens, where is the trophy being held and is it available for use? The treasurer will attempt to establish the whereabouts with respect to the current position.

PRO

The PRO, Clive Needham, unfortunately was not present to make his report.

Achievement Scheme Coordinator

Roy Allam, Achievement Scheme Coordinator, reported that requests for the “Achievement Schemes” has been very low during 2017. A few are outstanding, where suitable dates are to be arranged.

He noted that the number of club examiner tests requested was well down, which included Multirotor tests which were also well down on last year.

Roy had earlier announced that he would not be standing for re-election this year. Kindly he did agree that he naturally would support the new “Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator” however he could.

Area Chief Examiners Reports

Bill Cowell has examined two for the “A” Certificate, both passing.

David Lloyd-Jones mentioned that many candidates did not present themselves for testing. Non the less he had tested four “A” Certificates, all passing. In the case of the “B” Certificate, three were tested, two passing. There was one “A” drone test which passed.

Wayne Pendleton report is as follows

I still have some club examiners to do, and have been in contact with them several times but it can be like banging your head against a wall.

Some have pulled out because they do not want the hassle of what it means to be an examiner but they did not tell their club this at the time.

I have tested 1 club Examiner, 1 FW A pass, 2 FW A fails, 3 FW B fails, 2 Heli A pass 3 Heli B passes.

All existing ACEs confirmed their willingness to continue in the position for the coming year.

Flying Discipline Secretaries Reports

Keith Barker reported that the Rochdale indoor events were well supported. The situation being similar to 2016.

John Leadbeater, the Free Flight secretary, reported that the NW Free Flight Group made use of Rufford on just one occasion this year out of a possible eight dates. The lack of activity was mainly due to bad weather and lack of participants. This year in particular conditions underfoot have been particularly treacherous due to the higher than average rainfall. This has had the effect of making some fields too soft to walk over. In the absence of any suitable venue the Group will continue to use the site next year as and when conditions will allow.

Some members of the group have been participating in unofficial competitions held at Tatton Park over the summer months. Unfortunately the site is too small for unrestricted competition but is a useful venue for smaller models and larger models when wind speed is low. Models using radio "De-Thermaliser" systems which are a distinct advantage at this venue.

I reported last year that was a possibility the North West Free Flight Group may have to fold because we no longer have the minimum membership required to qualify as a separate BMFA Club. However the BMFA have allowed the group to continue and with all the current members re-joining it appears that our activities will continue for the time being.

Election of Officers

As the Achievement Scheme Coordinator, Roy Allam, did not wish to continue in office, Wayne Pendleton offered to take the position. There being no other candidates the Chairman proposed that Wayne Pendleton be appointed to the position. This was accepted by a unanimous vote. The NW AREA Webmaster Keith Barker resigned from his post. The change was undertaken as part of a process where a suitable person and candidate has shown interest in the role. The candidate Martyn Kinder was appointed unopposed by a unanimous vote.

As no person offered to contest any other positions and all the other retiring Officers were prepared to continue in office they were all re-elected as follows:

All the above positions were not contested, so the present incumbents were re-elected.

The meeting also re-elected, unopposed:

PRO	Clive Needham
Vice Chairman	Mike Colling
Free Flight Sec	John Leadbeater
Scale Sec:	David Lloyd-Jones
Indoor Sec:	Keith Barker

All to hold office until the 2018 AGM

The existing auditor Wayne Pendleton resigned his position due to both work load as the Achievement scheme co-ordinator and a possible conflict of interest. A new auditor has been appointed.

Auditor for a two year period. Keith Elliot

Area Chief Examiners Reports

Bill Cowell, Wayne Pendleton, and David Lloyd-Jones reports were read to the meeting. The reports showed in the main, low numbers of testing again.

Four new Candidates for the roles as Area Chief Examiners were presented. The individuals being, Andy Stanley, Mark Barnes, Derek Perchard and Kevin Watson. The CVs for the candidates was presented individually, which included the areas where they would mostly operate. The areas covered ensured that all the areas in the NW Region of the BMFA would now be served. Gerry Ferer and Mike Colling were asked to manage the count of the ballot voting papers for ratification of the existing and additional Area Chief Examiners. The vote was declared, and all had been unanimously elected. 10 Votes/1 abstention.

Date of the 2018 AGM - Provisionally 13th November 2018

The meeting ended at 10.00 pm

These minutes are provisional until approved at the next annual general meeting

Elected Officers

Chairman

David Lloyd-Jones d@vidlloydjones.co.uk 01565 73 4040

Vice Chairman

Mike Colling FSMAE mike@skyhi.org.uk 01257 452 624

Secretary & Treasurer

Carl Brotherton carl_brotherton@yahoo.co.uk 01253 782 565

Achievement Scheme Coordinator

Wayne Pendleton waynependleton@talktalk.net 0161 491 1942

Delegate

David Lloyd-Jones d@vidlloydjones.co.uk 01565 73 4040

PRO

Clive Needham l.needham@ntlworld.com 0161 284 3143

Area Webmaster

Martyn Kinder bmfanw.webmaster@gmail.com 07989 025 198

Flying Discipline Secretaries

Free Flight

John Leadbeater jleadbea@gmail.com 01772 632 295

Scale

David Lloyd-Jones d@vidlloydjones.co.uk 01565 73 4040

Indoor

Keith Barker keithatrochdale@aol.com 01706 659 396