

British Model Flying Association North West Area

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the B.M.F.A. North West Area held on 15 November 2011 at St Aidan's Parish Centre, Winstanley, Wigan.

Persons Present

David Lloyd-Jones Chairman & Delegate/CCMAA
Derek Gilbert Secretary & Treasurer/Sale MFC
Mike Colling FSMAE Vice Chairman/Wigan
Keith Barker PRO/Webmaster/ Rochdale MAC
Roy Allam Achievement Sch Co-ord/FCMFA
John O'Donnell Timperley MF
Tom Anyon Fylde Coast MFA
Gerry Ferer Timperley MF
Wayne Pendleton CCMAA
John Leadbeater NW Free Flight Group
Sue Price Stoke MHC
Rodger Price Stoke MHC
Peter Maw Bickershaw MFC

8 voting

The meeting commenced at 8.06 pm

Apologies for Absence

Ray Jones, Bill Cowell, Colin Martin, Jim Radcliffe, Wayne Halman and Reg Boor.

Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting

Other than two spelling errors the meeting approved the minutes For: 7, Against: 0, Abst: 1

Matters Arising

John O'Donnell asked if there had been any progress on the use of Chetwynd. The Chairman confirmed there had not, we were still waiting to hear when a new CO was to be appointed. Gerry Ferer enquired if there was anything further to report on the possible Heli B test in the IOM. Roy replied that no requests had been received so the topic of costs and means of testing had not arisen.

Officer's Reports

Chairman

The Chairman, David Lloyd-Jones, reported that he felt it had been a good year for the North West Area with the indoor and outdoor events being well supported. Thirty years ago the area only organised free flight events, nowadays we are also involved with 7 indoor events at Rochdale, two outdoor fly-ins, the Eddie Riding competition and hope to have a helicopter fly-in next year.

Our area is the largest with about 150 clubs but it is disappointing to note only 5% regularly send a delegate to the area meetings. The venue is pleasant, easy parking, good beer and we pay travel expenses. Perhaps clubs in the area do not have many problems?

The Chairman thanked all the elected committee members for the work they have put in over the year on behalf of the clubs in the area.

Vice Chairman

Mike Colling FSMAE reported that as well as attending area meetings he had assisted with the Eddie Riding competition.

Secretary

Derek Gilbert reported that the proposal regarding rule changes was deferred again as it looked as if notice had been taken of the weaknesses we had highlighted. John O'Donnell stated that he had been

told the 2012 free flight rules will be published before 1st January.

It was good to see that the Eddie Riding competition was covered by Alex Whittaker again this year in the Aeromodeller section of the AMI as well as a mention in the BMFA News.

Numbers attending our meetings were still low, however the numbers were rising during the year but only the same total at this AGM as last year.

Treasurer

Derek Gilbert, as Treasurer, reviewed the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2011 which showed a surplus of expenditure over income of £502 bringing the surplus funds now to £5,992. He went on to explain the major items of income and expenditure.

In the current year 2011/12 the Eddie Riding costs were similar and with the costs of the first aid kits, given to all area clubs with active flying sites, should generate a reduction in the surplus funds we have next year.

The Treasurer thanked Gerry and Jim for giving up their time to audit the accounts for us.

The accounts were accepted by a unanimous vote of the meeting,

PRO

The PRO, Keith Barker, reported that he had maintained the area web site during the year and with the help of Wayne Pendleton had manned the BMFA stand at all the major shows in the North West. Keith also reported that the indoor events were going well again with 31 flyers at the last meeting. He also noted that the BMFA had voted to increase fees by a further £1, making £2 in total, with no allocation for a particular purpose. There followed a discussion on the topic and it was agreed that the BMFA should consider allocating the additional £1 to competition travel funds.

Free Flight Secretary

John Leadbeater thanked Phil Owens for the work he had done for the area in previous years.

Despite crops and the weather 5 out of 8 events were flown at Rufford this year. Last year there were some concerns regarding wildfowl shooting causing us to lose the site, but the landowner appears to be happy to let us continue to use it as long as we fit in with them. One of our members won the 6th Area P30 event at Church Fenton and in the Plugge Cup the North West Group came 15th out of 25 clubs.

Scale Secretary

David Lloyd-Jones reported that whilst the number of entrants in the Eddie Riding contest was down this year there was a small increase in the number of models entered. Unfortunately the new class for catapult jets was not a success, none being able to fly for any reasonable length of time. The Shawbury scale fly-in went very well with over 50 aircraft on the ground.

David was sorry to report that he is hoping to stand down from these events and was looking for someone to take over them over from him.

Achievement Scheme Coordinator

Roy Allam, Achievement Scheme Coordinator, reported that it had been a very quiet year again with very few requests for club examiner tests. He said that he was considering a further ACE for the south of the area and had someone in mind who could be ratified early next year. All the ACEs had done their jobs as required and he would propose they are all ratified for another year.

Area Chief Examiners Reports

Tom Anyon, Ray Jones, David Lloyd-Jones, and Bill Cowell's reports were read to the meeting, all reported low levels of testing again. There was no report from Andy Ellison or Richard Budd.

There followed a discussion on why two examiners could not find the time to give the area a short report on their activities and Roy agreed to contact them again.

Roy proposed that all examiners be ratified for next year and this was seconded by CCMAA which was approved by the meeting with 7 votes in favour and 1 against.

Election of Officers

Wayne Howman had informed the committee that he did not want to stand again as Education Coordinator. As no one offered to take up that post, the post was left vacant and the Chairman noted that if there was a need for one in the future the committee could consider co-option at that time. All the other retiring Officers were prepared to continue in office and as there was no-one wishing to stand against them, they were all re-elected to hold office until the 2013 AGM:

Vice Chairman Mike Colling FSMAE
 Secretary Derek Gilbert
 Achievement Scheme Coordinator Roy Allam
 Auditor Gerry Ferer

The meeting also re-elected, unopposed:

Webmaster: Keith Barker
 Free Flight Sec John Leadbeater
 Scale Comp Sec: David Lloyd-Jones
 Indoor Sec: Keith Barker
 All to hold office until the 2012 AGM

Date of the 2012 AGM

The meeting was not able to set a date for the 2012 AGM and this will be confirmed at the next area meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.47 pm

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

Elected Officers

Chairman
 David Lloyd-Jones dlj@dlj702.co.uk 01565 734 040
 Vice Chairman
 Mike Colling FSMAE mike@skyhi.org.uk 01257 452 624
 Secretary & Treasurer
 Derek Gilbert derek.gilbert@ntlworld.com 0161 748 5380
 Achievement Scheme Coordinator
 Roy Allam 01253 763 566
 4 Knutsford Road, Blackpool, Lancs, FY3 9UU
 Delegate
 David Lloyd-Jones dlj@dlj702.co.uk 01565 734 040
 PRO
 Keith Barker keithatrochdale@aol.com 01706 659396
 Area Webmaster
 Keith Barker keithatrochdale@aol.com 01706 659396

Flying Discipline Secretaries

Free Flight
 John Leadbeater john@theleadbeaters.freeserve.co.uk 01772632295
 Scale
 David Lloyd-Jones dlj@dlj702.co.uk 01565 734 040
 Indoor
 Keith Barker keithatrochdale@aol.com 01706 659396