

# **READING AND DISTRICT MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB**

## **MINUTES OF 2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the Reading and District Model Aircraft Club was held at St Barnabas Church Hall, Emmer Green on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010 with approximately 30 members in attendance.

### **Item 1: Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Dave Grey, Robin Cawsey, Neil Viney, Joe Dray, Ian Lawson.

### **Item 2: Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted as published

### **Item 3: Minutes of 2009 Annual General Meeting**

The minutes as published were agreed as a fair representation of the meeting. The minutes were proposed by Trevor Blake, seconded by Paul Simmonds and agreed unanimously.

### **Item 4: Matters arising**

There were no matters arising that do not appear elsewhere on the agenda.

### **Item 5: Chairman's report**

The chairman reported that there had been a good start to the year then there had been bad weather in August. He thanked Dave Grey and those assisting him for their help in training new members. He thanked the committee for their efforts throughout the year

The committee had tidied up the last bits of the club constitution so that we have a robust and professional document that would serve the club for the future.

On flying sites he said that various sites had been looked at but without success in securing one. There had been no floatplane events this year largely due to difficulties with the Park. The club were looking for an alternative venue and one had been identified that might be suitable if we can identify the owner and also if there is suitable access. This will be pursued in the coming year.

First person view flying is on the horizon and many were not entirely happy with the concept. There was some evidence of problems elsewhere where the BMFA guidelines were not being followed. He reminded the meeting that a buddy box was required and that on our site the BMFA guidelines would be enforced.

Our site is likely to become more sensitive over the next few years due to the rowing lake being used for practice for the Olympics in 2012. Also during the year there had been issues about parking in the roads and there are proposals to change the restrictions. The club had made representations about the proposals and the outcome was awaited.

The chairman and Dave Belcher had attended the Southern Area AGM. There had been the committee plus four others present. The Area is active but principally around Southampton which makes it difficult for clubs in the more northern part of the area to get to. The chairman had suggested that the club would be happy to host a meeting, possibly at Woodley during the summer. This had been received positively. The Area is keen to support events and there is a potential for grants.

Indoor flying has continued at the Madesjki Stadium. The most recent one incurred less of a loss. The Area may be approached for a grant for these events. The chairman had looked for alternative venues, but the cost was about the same as they are all based on commercial decisions. RAF Benson had been considered, but security would pose a problem for access.

Overall a stable year.

### **Item 6: Treasurer's report**

The treasurer presented the accounts which showed the club had £1604 in the current account, £429 cash in hand and £21,974 in the Halifax. There were some outstanding bills for the field maintenance £550, £180 for the hall Xmas party and raffle £445 and donation to the Air Ambulance £50.

There were 87 members in the club.

Andrew Stretton proposed that the club accounts be adopted. The motion was seconded by Jack Bishop and agreed.

The treasurer reported that the field costs for 2010 had increased by £50 to £550. The increase for 2011 is likely to be £25 though the treasurer reported he was negotiating with the manager on this which will be dependent on fuel costs. It was known the hall costs would increase in April. Postage costs had increased. There had been a loss on the Cosford trip and indoor flying continues not to cover the cost. The last increase in club subscriptions had been in 2007 and the treasurer would be proposing an across the board increase of £2 in the club element to maintain the finances in a healthy condition. He reported that the BMFA subscription was unaltered for the coming year.

### **Item 7: Disposal of club assets**

Following the discussions at the 2009 AGM the committee had continued to work on a proposal for amending the club constitution to deal with the disposal of assets in the event the club were to be wound up. The chairman stressed again that there were no proposals to do so and it was hoped that it never would happen. But we needed to protect against malicious intent and so the proposal had been drafted.

The draft had been circulated in advance of the meeting and no comments received. Those present agreed that the suggestions were sensible. There was discussion about the outcome of the ballot as there was no mention of what would be considered a majority. The secretary apologised for the omission which had resulted from various debates about what it should be. It was suggested that the end of the first paragraph a sentence be added 'The result will be decided by a simple majority'.

Tony Roberts thought the proposals sensible but that he might be able to find out what had been added in to the constitution of a motor club that he was a member of. It was agreed that

the secretary would follow up with Tony and could propose further amendment to the constitution next year if necessary.

In the meantime it was proposed that the constitution of the club be amended to include the proposal as set out in the draft with the amendment to the first paragraph as agreed here. The motion was proposed by Dave Belcher and seconded by Paul Joslyn. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **Item 8: Election of officers and committee**

In accordance with the club constitution the post of chairman was due for election. The current chairman indicated he was willing to continue. The secretary asked if there were any other nominations but there were not. Martin Dance was proposed by Tony Roberts, seconded by Jack Bishop and elected unopposed.

In accordance with practice the committee members were re-elected by block vote. Robin Cawsey had indicated that he was not seeking re election and therefore was not included in the block vote. The remaining committee was proposed by Martin Dance, seconded by Ron Perkins and elected unopposed.

A nomination for the committee had been received. Dave Dempster was proposed by Dave Belcher, seconded by Mick Mace and duly elected to the committee.

There were no further nominations for the committee.

| <b>COMMITTEE FOR 2010</b>         |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Chairman                          | Martin Dance  |
| Secretary and Club Safety Officer | Andrew Stretton   |
| Treasurer                         | Ron Perkins   |
| Committee                         | Dave Grey (flying field safety officer)<br>Paul Joslyn<br>Dave Belcher<br>Neil Viney<br>Kevin Mercer<br>Joe Dray<br>Dave Dempster |

### **Item 9: Associate Membership**

It had been proposed to the committee that there should be a category of membership for those who make little or no use of the club flying facilities but nevertheless wished to remain a member of the club. They would have no rights to fly at the club site and there would be other considerations. It was accepted that this was a 'can of worms' but the committee wished to air it at the AGM. After discussion it was agreed that the idea be abandoned as there were too many problems. It was then proposed that the best solution would be to allow honorary membership at the discretion of the committee. They could decide each case on its

merits and base a decision on the likely involvement of the individual with flying activities at the flying site.

It was proposed that the category of honorary membership at the discretion of the committee be added to the club constitution and rules. The motion was proposed by Mick Mace and seconded by Ron Perkins and a show of hands in favour.

#### **Item 10: Club Fees**

As reported earlier by the treasurer, the BMFA was holding its fees at the 2010 level. Due to the increased costs incurred by the club as set out in the treasurer's report it was proposed to raise the club portion of the fees by £2 for each category.

The motion put forward was: That the club fees rise by £2 for each category of membership. The motion was proposed by Jack Bishop, seconded by Paul Simmonds. There was 1 vote against and 1 abstention. The remainder of those present were in favour so the motion was carried.

| <b>Membership fees for 2011</b> |      |      |       |
|---------------------------------|------|------|-------|
| Category                        | Club | BMFA | Total |
| Full                            | 49   | 29   | £78   |
| Junior                          |      |      | £29   |
| Senior Citizen                  | 18   | 29   | £47   |
| Joining fee                     |      |      | £50   |

For family membership please refer to Ron Perkins.

#### **Item 11 Charitable donation**

A donation of £50 to the Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance was proposed by Mick Mace, seconded by Paul Joslyn and agreed.

#### **Item 12 Presentation of Trophies**

There having been no competitions during the year there were no trophies to be awarded.

#### **Item 13 Any Other Business**

The chairman proposed that Tony Roberts be made Life President of the club in recognition for his services to the club. Proposed by Martin Dance seconded by Mick Mace and carried unanimously. Tony accepted the position.

There was a reminder that club fees should be paid by 31<sup>st</sup> December and anyone wishing to fly on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January must have paid their membership. Anyone wishing to renew their membership must do so by 31<sup>st</sup> January. After that date they will be considered new members and will be asked to pay the joining fee.

It was proposed that Dave Grey be awarded free club membership in recognition of his service to the club in providing training. This was agreed unanimously.

Finally members were reminded that the Christmas Party and raffle would be on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

The 2011 AGM will be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2011

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:29

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