

READING AND DISTRICT MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB

MINUTES OF 2012 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Reading and District Model Aircraft Club was held at Bulmershe School on 4th December 2012 with approximately 33 members in attendance.

AGENDA

Item 1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Peter Mann, Edward Lawrence and Dave Dempster

Item 2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as published

Item 3 Minutes of last year's AGM

The minutes as published were agreed

Item 4 Matters arising from the minutes not listed elsewhere on the agenda

There were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda

Item 5 Chairman's report

The chairman thanked the committee for their work during the year. He explained that the meeting venue had changed as a result of parking restrictions in Emmer Green and increasing cost of St Barnabas Church Hall.

He thanked Neil Viney and Kevin Mercer for their efforts in securing Woodford park as an indoor flying venue. This was proving to be better than the previous venue at Madejski Stadium.

There has been a significant increase in activity in looking for a new flying site. There may potentially be a site available at Beenham on some reclaimed land. This is a landfill site and would not be available for at least a year. The Chairman will be keeping in touch with the managers of the site. He reported that there is good potential for sites on landfill as their agricultural use is limited. Getting sites on arable or grassland areas is difficult and likely to be expensive in terms of annual rental.

The weather for the past year has not been kind to flying and has had a dramatic effect on flying. It has been wet and there have often been strong winds also. As a result of these conditions the planned outdoor flying competitions have not happened.

The chairman reported that two long standing members of the club had passed away as a result of cancer during the year: Eric Devenney and Mike Caracciolo. Representatives from the club attended both funerals. The club had made a donation of £50 to 'Race for Life' in respect of Eric.

There had been an increase in the number of personal injuries amongst members. There had been no third party involvement but greater vigilance is needed to avoid incidents

The chairman reported that several speakers had been arranged during the year and it was very disappointing that so few members had turned up for them. He urged more members to attend and hoped that the recently introduced email alerting system would encourage more members to attend.

There had been two floatplane events arranged at Beale Park by Bob Roper. The first was a complete washout due to appalling weather and no flying took place. The second event was reasonably well attended and there was some good flying.

The trip to Cosford was fully booked and therefore very well attended.

In summary, the year had been good in parts.

Item 6 Treasurer's report and adoption of accounts for last year

The treasurer presented the accounts for the year which showed a surplus of £1687 for the year. However, there remain bills to be paid for the year prior to 18th December amounting to £953. These are field maintenance of £575, Christmas party £234, under represented cheque £14 and charges for the hall of £130 leaving a surplus for the year of £734. This is not a large margin in these times of inflation.

The treasurer explained that the account at the Halifax had been closed as they were going to charge an administration fee for the account and required a commitment to save a minimum of £2000 per annum. For the moment the money is held within our current account whilst we seek other more beneficial arrangements.

The Treasurer is proposing that the club fees remain unchanged for 2013 and the overall cost of membership will rise by the increase in BMFA membership fees which has been set at £1 across the board.

The Treasurer's briefing note and copy of the accounts are attached.

It was proposed that the accounts for 2012 be adopted. Proposed by Tony Roberts, seconded by Andy Stretton and carried unanimously.

The Treasurer commented that there would be no photographs on the membership cards for the coming year due to a technical issue.

Item 7 Election of officers and committee

The Chairman explained the rotation of election of club officers and that it was the Treasurer's post that was for election this year. He called for nominations for the post of Treasurer which also includes that of Membership Secretary. He confirmed that Ron Perkins was willing to continue in the post.

Ron Perkins was proposed by Andy Stretton and seconded by Mick Mace. There being no other nominations, Ron Perkins was elected unopposed.

All members of the current committee had indicated their willingness to stand for re-election. A block nomination was proposed by Jack Bishop, seconded by Mick Mace. The existing committee were elected unopposed.

The Chairman invited nominations for further members of the committee. There being none forthcoming, the officers and committee for 2013 are shown in the table below.

COMMITTEE FOR 2013	
Chairman	Martin Dance
Secretary and Club Safety Officer	Andrew Stretton
Treasurer	Ron Perkins
Committee	Dave Grey (Flying Field Safety Officer) Dave Belcher Neil Viney Kevin Mercer Joe Dray Dave Dempster Patricia Martin

Item 8 Club fees for 2013

As reported by the Treasurer, there was no requirement for a rise in the club portion of the fees for 2013. The BMFA had introduced an across the board rise of £1 per member and the club should seek to pass that rise on to the membership.

Therefore it was proposed that the club portion of the fees for 2013 remain at the levels for 2012 and the overall fees rise by the amount by which the BMFA had raised their fees which was £1 per head. The motion was proposed by Ian McConnell and seconded by Neil Viney. The motion was carried unanimously.

The fees for 2013 are shown in the table below.

Membership fees for 2013			
Category	Club	BMFA	Total
Full	49	32	81
Junior	14	17	31
Senior Citizen	20	32	52
Joining fee			50

Those requiring family membership should speak to the Treasurer.

Item 9 Presentation of Trophies

The Chairman had previously reported that due to the weather it had not been possible to hold the planned outdoor competitions. The Tony Simpson Cup is a trophy for flying competitions, but exceptionally this year it was being awarded in recognition of production of an outstanding model and is awarded to Andy Warlow.

It was reported that the committee had decided to purchase a suitable cup to be dedicated to the memory of Eric Devenney. The precise details of the awarding of this trophy will be published in due course, but is likely to reflect model building in some way.

Item 10 Any other business

New flying sites

There was discussion about the way forward in looking for a new flying site. It was suggested that perhaps there should be a small sub-committee formed with the express purpose of doing some detailed research of possible areas and sites. The pressure is mounting again for a new river crossing in Reading and the likely place for a such a bridge is very close for our current site. Should the proposal go ahead the likely effect is that we would have to stop using our current site. Also the area around our current site is being used increasingly for other recreational purposes which creates problems for flying at our site.

Whilst some clubs own their own fields and club houses it was extremely unlikely that the club would be able to do this as the costs in this part of the country would be enormous. It was stated that the Local Authority should be able to help with a site. Apparently Kings Meadow is currently a site designated for model flying. This site is used for many other activities and is not really suitable for anything other than possibly park flyers.

It was agreed that a sub-committee would be formed and Joe Dray offered to organise and run this project. Those interested in assisting with the work were advised to contact Joe.

Members were also reminded that the reward of £350 for finding a suitable site remained in place.

Club events

Following on from the comments about the lack of members attending talks by visiting speakers there was a suggestion that we should survey members to ask what they wanted. It was pointed out that the returns to such surveys were very small and not really representative.

It was agreed that the newly introduced idea of sending email reminders to members advertising the events was a good idea and should help. Members are invited to feed ideas for event etc. back to the committee for their consideration.

First Person View (FPV)

It was explained that there had been a change to the conditions of the exemption of the use of FPV. It was now not necessary to use a buddy box for fixed wing aircraft up to 1.8Kg and helicopters up to 2.5Kg. The requirement is for a competent observer who must be able to remain in direct visual contact with the model at all times.

It was agreed that the use of such equipment is allowed at the club site subject to the terms of the exemption being adhered to and the club flying field rules being followed. It was emphasised that the geographical boundaries of the flying area must be adhered to.

Silent Flight

An issue had been raised with the committee concerning the definition of silent flight. It was explained that silent flight and electric flight are not synonymous. There was considerable discussion about how this could be defined and whether it could be according to power rating of the model or whether there should be some noise measurement carried out. Power rating was not a good guide as it is possible to produce large amounts of noise from relatively low wattage set ups, and equally some higher wattage models may be effectively silent.

Since problems relating to the issue of silent flight were likely to be the result of noise complaints it was suggested that the restriction should be through perceived noise at a particular location. It was agreed that this would be an arbitrary measurement, but nevertheless it was probably the best way forward. It should probably be a rule on whether the model can be heard by someone standing at the security hut. The Secretary agreed to draft a flying field rule to be debated at the first committee meeting in January. The intention being to ensure that models which really are not silent such as electric ducted fans, most pusher prop planes and larger 3D helicopters are not flown at the times reserved of silent flight. The term was originally used to cover gliders and electric powered gliders but it seemed that some members were taking the term to mean any electric powered model.

It was confirmed that certain models may be flown before the normal start time. These are restricted in power and also the area in which they can be flown. The concession is for small park flyer type models. There was some uncertainty about where the description of the permitted types appears and it was agreed to confirm the description and make sure it was available on the club website and the notice board.

Club identity

There was a suggestion that club purchase a quantity of caps with the club logo printed on them and make them available to club members at cost price. The approximate cost would be between £5.50 and £6. To achieve this price the club would need to purchase 200 caps. There was some debate on this topic including alternative suggestions of a club badge. Members were asked to indicate by a show of hands how many would be interested in wearing a cap with the club's identity on it. Only two members raised their hands therefore the matter was closed and no further action will be taken at present.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:30.

Members were reminded that membership fees were due on 31st December and anyone wishing to fly after that date must have paid their membership renewal fees.

The next AGM is scheduled for Tuesday December 3rd 2013

RADMAC TREASURERS AGM BRIEF 2012

From my hand-out you will be aware that there was an excess of income over expenditure of £1687 but there are two bills outstanding to pay, they are field maintenance £575 and Xmas table £234 approximately plus approximately £16 total £825.

From my hand-out you will notice that our Building Society account has been closed, this is at the Halifax's instigation as it appears that the banks no longer want to have accounts by Charities and Clubs on their books unless we are prepared to pay an annual administration fee.

This fee is based on the total amount of money invested along with the usual 20% tax deducted plus, and in the Halifax's case, to commit to save a min of £2000/an. The committee agreed with me and we have placed our savings for the moment in our current account with Barclays until the monetary situation in the UK improves.

Twelve members drifted off last year and were replaced by ten new senior members who contributed £500 to our top line.

I therefore commend to you and the Committee that cash flow being neutral, that Club subs for this year remain the same as in the last three previous years, and I recommend that you accept these accounts as presented,

proposed by..... Terry Roberts

seconded by..... Andy Stratton

We currently have 97 club members and 2 are associate members, 64 seniors, 23 senior citizens, and 10 juniors.

Are there any questions that you might have that I as Treasurer and Membership Secretary can answer.

READING & DISTRICT MODEL CLUB

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR 30th NOVEMBER 2012

Income	2012 £	2011 £
Club subs gross	6527.00	7,132.00
Christmas Raffle proceeds	190.00	225.00
Building Society interest – net	20.29	18.94
Madejski payments by club	00.00	673.71
Patricia Martin donation	17.00	483.00
BMFA donation re Madejski Stadium	<u>00.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
	6,754.29	8,582.65
Expenditure		
BMFA subs paid – net	2,649.00	2,555.00
Church Hall rent +Bulmershe Halls	672.00	635.00
Stationery	79.23	68.73
Indoor flying group	100.00	1,000.00
Web site/Windsock	00.00	23.49
Club Trainer	41.73	513.41
Competition Prizes	30.00	34.00
Committee expenditure	115.12	123.30
Field Maintenance	575.00	550.00
Field Rent	240.00	00.00
Christmas Raffle	143.00	229.00
Christmas Buffet + drinks & dips	234.00	298.76
Eric Devenny, ” Race for Life“donation.	50.00	50.00
Gratuities Christmas	15.50	11.28
Tea /coffee / milk etc	21.48	31.84
Club Visits speakers etc	40.00	60.00
Building Society income tax	4.06	4.74
Tony Simpson Trophy + engraving	<u>57.00</u>	<u> </u>
	5,067.12	6,188.55
Excess of income over expenditure	1,687.17	2,394.10
Balance brought forward	<u>25,862.25</u>	<u>24,007.74</u>
Balance at end of year	27,549.42	26,401.84
Represented by:		
Bank current account	27,209.12	2,149.34
Halifax Building Society	00.00	24,093.60
Petty Cash in hand	<u>340.30</u>	<u>158.90</u>
	27,549.42	26,401.84