

READING AND DISTRICT MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB

COMMITTEE MEETING 5th September 2016

MINUTES

- 1) Attendees – Ron Parker, Andy Warlow, Edward Lawrence, Dave Grey, Steve Fleming, Martin Dance, Neil Viney, Richard Williams.

Apologies: Dave Belcher; Joe Dray

- 2) Approval of minutes of meeting 6th June 2016: Approved.
- 3) Outstanding actions – See attached Actions Log for closed/outstanding actions.
- 4) Finance/Membership update

Finances continue to look healthy. Currently have 81 members.

Given the strength of our finances, the proposal for next year is to retain our savings but break even on year-to-year running costs while we continue to seek a new flying field. Richard will produce a proposal for reduced membership fees based on this idea, including the earlier agreement that the joining fee drops to £25 for seniors. Richard will circulate to the committee prior to the next committee meeting so it can be discussed/agreed and then communicated to the membership ahead of the AGM. **Action: Richard.**

Reducing the cost of membership may also result in the cost for Seniors and Senior Citizens becoming the same so simplifying membership to just Seniors and Juniors.

- 5) Flying field matters

Awaiting a reply from Phillimore Estate plus two more outstanding action points but large estates do not appear interested in our approach.

Grundons have not replied to our letter.

Next step is to approach a number of farmers over the phone to test the market. Richard to send Andy a copy of his letter to the estates and a list of farmers. **Action Richard.**

Andy to send each committee member a copy of the letter for discussion with the farmer plus the name/phone number of a farmer to phone. **Action Andy.**

Committee member will phone their farmer, talk them through the letter and advise the committee of the outcome. **Action All.**

Ron will contact a local land owner, Ray Spiers, who owns a landing strip at Shiplake which might be suitable. Ron will also investigate access to this land as thought to be impossible for normal vehicle unless dry. **Action Ron.**

Flying field has been mowed so now able to mark out and cut the new area for the helicopter hovering patch further away from the public, following agreement from TVP management. New area will be to the right of the pits and position/shape will take into account the use of this area for control-line flying. Need to ensure this area is positioned well away from all public footpaths to put adequate distance between the control line flying zone and the general public to ensure public safety.

6) Web site/Google mail -

Technical issue has prevented photographs being uploaded to the website. This issue has now been resolved but a number of old photographs have been removed in the process. Now need to add a few more recent photos to the website. **Action Andy.**

7) Programme of events for 2016

Nothing to report.

8) AOB

Monthly club meetings discussed. Last year there was a lack of interest from members with majority of 12/13 attendees being committee members. The membership survey did not indicate any one thing the committee could do to improve attendance so the committee decided not to continue with these unless it is an event such as Xmas party/Concours competition etc.

Following event dates agreed:

December 6th – AGM

December 20th – Xmas party.

Add events to Website and book at Leisure Centre – **Action Andy.**

BMFA website has been updated for the Achievements Scheme. Need to make members aware. **Action Andy** to update website/send Googlemail.

Date of Next meeting

24th October