

READING AND DISTRICT MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB

MINUTES OF THE 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Meeting held on December 4th at the Oakwood Centre, Woodley

21 attendees.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Edward Lawrence and Ian McConnell

2. Adoption of agenda.

The agenda as published was adopted.

3. Minutes of last year's AGM.

The minutes as published were adopted.

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

None.

5. Chairmans report.

Welcome to all of you this evening. First may I thank the members of the committee for their efforts over the past year. We are going through a period of great change in the hobby/sport. New legislation that is being proposed that threatens to change substantially the way the hobby/sport operates over the next few years. Some of you, I hope many of you, responded to the survey/questionnaire that was open a couple of months ago. The tone of it would seem to threaten to curtail many model flying activities in this country. Whilst a requirement of having to register each model that you possess and fly would place a burden on us and a logistical challenge for the CAA. How this new regulation would be enforced is open to speculation, certainly not I think by our overstretched Police service. Would the rogue element step into line? I doubt it. Existing laws about mobile phone use whilst driving are routinely ignored. Just recently I watched a driver leaving a retail park, turning right, ignoring the no right turn sign whilst on his mobile phone.

You will have noticed some innovations that the BMFA have recently introduced to make the task of managing your membership easier. This seems to be bedding in well and there are some further changes to come.

This year I have not managed to be as active as I would have liked. An ongoing problem with my back and family issues have conspired to curtail my activities both flying and building. However I have managed to make two beds and a dining table for my daughter this year! My daughter is about to move into a flat which is about 400yds from my home instead of 15 miles away so a good deal of time not to mention the consumption of diesel will be saved.

The hobby/sport of model flying is a curious beast. The flying of fixed wing radio control aircraft and helicopters is on the decline, many new entrants into this aspect of aeromodelling tend to be people who are reaching or have retired. A sharp contrast to the 1970's when this was the area of growth. By comparison control line and free flight are less affected and I believe the number of free flight flights made each year still exceeds that all of the other disciplines. The area of growth is of course in multi-rotor flying and FPV whether multi rotor or fixed wing and this is where you will find the vast majority of younger participants in the sport. Is this a threat? Probably not, as long as all

participants behave responsibly and follow the existing rules, there is little real reason for the authorities to impose further restrictions.

We, as a club, have seen changes in our behaviour in recent years. In the past, when everyone flew IC powered aircraft, most flying took place on Wednesday afternoons, Saturday and Sunday morning. Not so now. Wednesday flying seems to happen on Wednesday mornings, Saturday also mornings, whilst Sunday morning is now the province of helicopters, multi rotors and autogyros. I suspect the growth of the number of electric powered models, foam models and ARTF's is more responsible than any other factor. Members arrive with a box full of charged batteries, fly, discharging them and then go home. A box of lipos does not give you the same duration as a gallon of glow fuel.

It's sad to see the widening gulf between full size and model aircraft where Airline pilots are told to report anything they see and can't identify as a 'drone' rather than a UFO. Contrast this with 1910 where model flying and full size shared column space in the AERO.

For next year, just flying will suit me just fine but perhaps as a club we should try to introduce an element of friendly rivalry, not necessarily 'competitions' as such which seems to make people head for the hills so to speak. But something aimed at simply broadening horizons and providing fresh challenges.

6. Treasurers report and adoption of accounts.

Introduction

- a. We agreed at the 2016 AGM that the large surpluses of income over expenditure historically featured in our accounts were no longer required as the club already has substantial reserves to fund an additional flying field should suitable land become available.
- b. We are working towards achieving smaller budget surpluses. In the last two years members have benefitted from reductions in subs - members in the former senior category have seen their subs reduce from £51.00 to £35.00 in 2017 and to £28.00 (all +BMFA) in 2018.

Income

- a. Our income was £4523.94 (including £2142.00 that we pass on to the BMFA for your insurance), - a year-on-year decrease of £851.66.
- b. The largest category of income – membership - is down by £735.50 as a result of the policy outlined above and fewer renewals.
- c. Membership numbers have been steadily declining over the long term – we had 131 members in the year 2000; there are currently 75 (including 2 new) compared with 80 last year.

Expenditure

- a. Overall expenditure at £3,676.18, is £646.66 lower than last year; the largest reduction was in respect of the last AGM/Christmas event as this was paid for in the previous financial year.

Net Assets

- a. Our savings account with Barclays holds most of our cash - £33,761.93. Very low interest rates (currently 0.4%) mean that this sum only attracted a return of £118.94!
- b. The surplus of income over expenditure was £847.76 – down from £1052.76 from last year – means we are making progress in achieving smaller surpluses.
- c. When this sum is added to our already healthy bank balance, our net assets now stand at £34,864.78

Membership subscription proposals:

- a. To achieve our goal of getting closer to breakeven in 2019, we have scope for making further small decreases to the subs:
- b. Your committee has agreed a £3.00 reduction in the Adult category from £28.00 (+BMFA) to £25.00 (+BMFA)
- c. Juniors' subs will remain the same at £10.00 (+BMFA)
- d. The joining fee will remain unchanged at £25.00

There are three resolutions concerning finance and membership requiring agreement:

- a. Resolution 1 – that the accounts for year ending 31st October 2018 are adopted
Proposer: Ron Perkins
Secunder: Dave Grey
Resolution carried.
- b. Resolution 2 – that Mike Kenney is re-elected as auditor for 2019
Proposer: Steve Fleming
Secunder: Pete Talbot
Resolution carried.
- c. Resolution 3 - that the 2019 subscriptions proposals are agreed
Proposer: Dave Belcher
Secunder: Ron Perkins
Resolution carried.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST OCTOBER 2018

	YEAR ENDING 31-Oct-2018	YEAR ENDING 31-Oct-2017	VARIANCE
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Membership Income	4175.00	4910.50	735.50
Indoor Flying Income	230.00	343.00	113.00
Interest & Other Income	118.94	122.10	3.16
TOTAL INCOME	4523.94	5375.60	851.66
EXPENDITURE			
BMFA	2142.00	2172.00	30.00
Room Hire	90.50	24.00	66.50
Stationery	47.78	34.56	13.22
Training	0.00	100.00	100.00
AGM/Christmas Event	0.00	424.90	424.90
Committee Expenses	75.90	101.88	25.98
Flying Field	820.00	770.00	50.00
Indoor Flying	500.00	695.50	195.50
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3676.18	4322.84	646.66
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	847.76	1052.76	205.00
BALANCE SHEET	31-Oct-2018	31-Oct-2017	
ACCUMULATED FUND	£	£	
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	34017.02	32964.26	1052.76
ADD EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	847.76	1052.76	205.00
	34864.78	34017.02	847.76
REPRESENTED BY:	£	£	
Bank Balance - Current Account	1082.70	3797.98	2715.28
Bank Balance - Savings Account	33761.93	30172.99	3588.94
Bank transactions not yet credited - Current Account	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cash in Hand	20.15	46.05	25.90
LESS LIABILITIES			0.00
Uncleared cheques	0.00	0.00	0.00
NET ASSETS	34864.78	34017.02	847.76

Approved	Signature	Date
Club Chairman - Martin Dance		
Hon. Treasurer - Richard Williams		
Auditor - Mike Kenney		

7. Election of Officers and Committee

Treasurer

The office of Treasurer, as advertised to all members as part of their AGM pack, is up for election this year as part of the club 3 year officer rotation policy. Richard Williams indicated his preparedness to continue in the post for another 3 years. There were no other nominees.

Proposer: Ron Perkins

Seconder: Dave Grey.

Appointment carried.

Committee members.

After many years as a member of the committee Joe Dray has decided to stand down due to family and work commitments. The club would like to say a big thank you to Joe for his support on the committee.

As a result of Joe standing down, the club officers have decided to co-opt Tim Jones to the committee given his knowledge and experience of drones, a subject of increasing importance. The remaining members of the current committee have indicated their willingness to stand for re-election.

Proposer of a block nomination: Dave Belcher

Seconder: Dave Grey

Appointments carried.

The revised committee for 2019 is shown below.

Chairperson	Martin Dance
Secretary	Andy Warlow
Treasurer	Richard Williams
Membership secretary	Steve Fleming
Committee	Dave Grey, Edward Lawrence, Tim Jones

8. Presentation of cups.

The Tony Simpson cup is awarded by the committee to the club member who has made a notable contribution to the hobby over the past year. This year the cup was awarded to Jay Quinlan for his novel models made from cardboard and his 3D plastic printed Spitfire.

The Concours D'Elegance cup was awarded to Trevor Blake.

9. Club fees for 2019.

As reported by the Treasurer, the adult membership fee has been reduced to £25. Junior fees and the joining fee are unchanged. The BMFA membership for adults has increased to £38 with junior membership unchanged at £17.

As a result, club fees for 2019 will be:

Junior members - £10 club + £17 BMFA = £27

Adult members - £25 club + £38 BMFA = £63

Joining fee for new adult members remains at £25.

10. Any other business.

Douglas Heathcote asked if the club were prepared to hold a fly-in next year, with members from local clubs invited to come along as a way of getting to know local fliers. This might also result in reciprocal invites.

The committee will discuss this idea at their committee meeting on January 14th 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting retired for refreshments at 8:30 p.m.