

READING AND DISTRICT MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB

MINUTES OF 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Meeting held on 1st December at Woodford Park, Woodley

30 attendees

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Jose Corte-Real, Neil Viney, Graham Legg, Colin Robertson, Richard Bailey, John Ollerenshaw and Peter Mann.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as published.

3. Minutes of last year's AGM

The minutes as published were agreed.

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

The Chairman reminded members that since the last AGM, the accounts cut-off date had now moved to September, and flying on Mondays and Fridays was now permitted. The lone flying restriction was discussed by the committee who agreed the restriction should **not** be lifted.

5. Chairman's report

A varied and somewhat odd year, with some high points and some sadness.

The loss of Trish Martin early in the year, not long after her election as co-chairman, was a loss to the club. She had been very active in many of the clubs events and was closely involved in our gaining permission to fly on Mondays and Fridays. She took us to new fields with her other hobby of Amateur Radio getting us involved in the McMichael Radio rally.

As recently as last night I heard of the passing of Tony Simpson. Tony was a past chairman of the club and in the 70's and 80's a very active flyer usually to be found on the field at the weekends. In 'real life' Tony was a British Airways Captain flying Tristars, in recent years poor health forced him to give up model flying. His lasting legacy is the Tony Simpson Challenge Trophy which has been awarded this evening.

On the flying front much use has been made of both our extended hours and the additional days that have become available this year. I guess that this year has seen the majority of the flying being done with electric powered aircraft with I.C models dwindling in popularity. Events this year have been a little varied. The vintage event was badly affected by wind whilst scale was also affected by the weather. The autogyro event was affected by a change of date. We still search for a new field.

This year saw an increasing interest in multi rotor craft. Interestingly, two new members joined because of an intention to fly them commercially. As a result we have a member with a Multi rotor 'A' certificate. A number of 'A' Fixed wing certificates were also gained this year, but members still seem very shy about gaining 'B' certificates; don't hide your lights under a barrel!

The website following its overhaul now looks much better and is more relevant and up to date, thanks to Andy Warlow's (and Mrs Warlow's) efforts. The club Google group is being used as intended; it is difficult to know just what proportion of members look at it because new postings are sent automatically by email so this does not show on the 'views' stats. The build group is also serving its intended purpose albeit populated by a very small elite! Andy will enjoy minuting 'elite' as he is a large part of it.

Congratulations go to Dave Roberts for taking part in the electric pylon racing at the Nats and to Paul Eisner for becoming European champion in FAI F2A control line speed.

Once again my thanks go to all the members of the committee for their efforts over the past year. Perhaps mentioning individuals is a little odd but thanks to Edward (and Dad) for their efforts organising a flight sim for the McMichael rally and to Dave Gray for shouldering the lion's share of the instructing once again. It is sobering to think that one of the club aircraft's engines wore out this year.

And of course to Ron Perkins as treasurer for the past 16 years, he retires leaving the club in robust financial health. Thank you Ron.

As to next year, perhaps better weather with less wind especially cross winds would be nice. Having mentioned the Google build group perhaps we should get involved in the RCM&E/ Modelflying Mass build, for 2016 a nice simple low wing 40 powered sport model has been chosen. So if you haven't picked up a modelling knife in anger for a while or have never built from scratch how about making 2016 the year you start?

Thank you, and look forward to seeing you at the Xmas bash in two weeks time.

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

The treasurer reported that the 2014 accounts, which were presented to the club last year but not approved by members, have been audited and are correct. The error was in the 2013 figures which were shown for comparison and were not correctly presented. The operating surplus of £293 was correct.

2015 sees a very good financial position with income from membership up by nearly £1,000 and a significant reduction in expenses. This has resulted in an increase in club assets from £27,842 in 2014 to £30,750 in 2015.

The treasurer informed the members that given the 2015 surplus, he proposed that there would be no increase in the club element of the membership fee for 2016.

7. Election of officers and committee

Treasurer.

The post of Treasurer was up for election this year as a result of the 3 year rotation of club officers. This post was advertised to all members earlier in the year via Googlemail and the club website. The only person to formally express an interest to the committee was Richard Williams, who subsequently has been working with the current treasurer to complete a handover of the accounts. This nomination requires ratification by the members.

Nominee - Richard Williams. Proposed by Dave Grey and Seconded by Bev Pither.

Appointment carried by a show of hands.

Auditor

Richard Williams proposed that Mike Kenny becomes the club auditor. Seconded by Ron Perkins. Motion carried by a show of hands.

Membership Secretary

The new post of Membership Secretary was agreed by the committee and advertised to all members earlier in the year via Googlemail and the club website. The only person to formally express an interest to the committee was Joe Dray who subsequently has been working to produce a new Membership Renewal form for use in 2016. This nomination requires ratification by the members.

Nominee - Joe Dray. Proposed by Dave Grey and Seconded by Bev Pither.

Appointment carried by a show of hands.

Committee members.

All members of the current committee indicated their willingness to stand for re-election. A block nomination was proposed by Martin Dance, seconded by Andy Warlow.

Motion carried by a show of hands.

New committee members.

New committee members were sought as there are still spare places on the committee.

Nominee – Steve Fleming. Proposed by Ron Perkins and Seconded by Andy Warlow.

Appointment carried by a show of hands.

Nominee – Ron Parker. Proposed by Peter Talbot and Seconded by Ron Perkins.

Appointment carried by a show of hands.

The revised committee for 2016 is shown in the table below.

COMMITTEE FOR 2016	
Chairperson	Martin Dance
Secretary	Andy Warlow
Treasurer	Richard Williams
Membership Secretary	Joe Dray
Committee	Dave Grey (Flying Field Safety Officer) Dave Belcher Neil Viney Edward Lawrence (Junior representative) Steve Fleming Ron Parker

8. Club fees for 2016

As reported by the Treasurer, there is no change to the club portion of the fees.

The BMFA fee for seniors only has increased by £1.

As a result, club fees for 2016 will be :

Junior members - £15 club + £17 BMFA = £32

Full members - £51 club + £33 BMFA = £84

Senior 65+ - £28 club + £33 BMFA = £61.

The club joining fee (senior members only) remains at £50.

Club fees and the 2015 accounts were approved by members by a show of hands.

9. Presentation of Trophies

The Chairman presented junior member Richard Philpot with the Tony Simpson Cup in recognition of his flying ability and maturity in achieving his 'A' certificate and subsequent development of his flying skills.

10. Thank you to the retiring Treasurer.

Martin Dance presented Ron Perkins with an engraved tankard in recognition of his services to the club over the past 16 years. A bouquet of flowers was also presented for Ron's wife to thank her for 'allowing' Ron to give so much time to the club over these years.

11. Any other business.

Re-imbusement from Grundons

The committee were asked whether Grundons would reimburse the club for the monies spent on planning permission etc following their decision not to permit flying from their land. Martin Dance advised this was not likely given there had been no response from Grundons and there was no contract with Grundons.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:45.

See below for club accounts.

