

EAST ANGLIAN AREA BMFA
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2020 at 19:45.
The Three Kings, Hengrave Road, Fornham All Saints,
Bury St Edmunds.

Note that this meeting took place before the Covid-19 emergency regulations were put in place. Thus, much of the detailed planning outlined below will be subject to review and change.

1. Apologies for Absence

- Geoff Reynolds - Lakeside, Alan Paul – Webmaster, Alan Jackson - BTRMAC

2. Present – 9 members

- Mike Woodhouse – Secretary/Treasurer
- Dave Oldfield - Vikings
- Paul Hoey – Chairman/Delegate
- Graham Gooch - Norwich
- John Copsey – IVCMC
- Steve Bowles – Comp Sec
- Jason Channing – Achievement Scheme Coordinator
- Vic Blackwood – BMFC
- Steve York – NMFC

3. Minutes of the previous meeting (9th January 2020)

- Proposed - Steve Bowles, Seconded - John Copsey - Agreed.

4. Matters arising

- There were no matters arising that would not be covered by agenda items.

5. Chairman

- The chairman presented a paper on the plans which outlined the continuing drive to improve the liaison and communication between the Area and its clubs.
- The Chairman updated the situation with respect to the CAA's proposed registration of model flyers. There was nothing new to report it was noted that the UK will be leaving EASA. This should have little impact, at least in the short term. The CAA registration numbers were now being sent out

to the membership following the BMFA's bulk download. Keep watching the BMFA website for further updates/changes.

- The Area hosted ASRC road show is set up and all is arranged for the 28th March in Ely. However, there is some disappointment of the number of members taking up places at the event.
- Details of the Area club membership and their examiner qualifications was presented and examined. It was noted that the majority of members were in the 65-74 age band (25% of the area membership). It has to be remembered that the statistics are provisional and incomplete as the new membership has not yet got fully to grips with the detailed membership profile, this was evidenced by some anomalies in the details of the members' qualifications. It was noted as against this time in 2019 the membership of the BMFA was down. This trend was expected and is reflected in the fees for 2020.
- The committee was reminded that the Area has the funds and will make a donation to help support club activities. However, as promulgated, requests must be made before the activity not post the event taking place. The Area wants to allocate funds and support activity but does require that applications be made prior to the event.

6. Achievement Scheme Coordinator

- The Area Coordinator is now working well with the ASRC after the recent changes within the East Anglian Area committee.
- The workshop at the King's Lynn Model Flying Club will take place on 16th May. Detailed arrangements are now being put in place.
- The coordinator was still in discussion with the North Weald Model Club with the idea that they consider joining the East Anglia Area instead of remaining in the London Area. A response from the club is awaited. Note that clubs on the fringe of an Area can request that their Area allegiance is changed. Note the issues regarding the London Area are such that this change may happen anyway.
- There is a lack of sufficient Area Chief Examiners in some parts of the Area. A map of the East Anglia was presented by the coordinator which clearly illustrated the parts where the coverage of examiners needs to be increased.
- Area Chief Examiner proposal for Steve White was approved, Steve is Chief Examiner returning to the Area fold. Steve's election was unanimously agreed by the area. It is noted that this proposal has now to go via the ASRC for final approval. No problems with this appointment.

are expected. Steve's appointment will help to fill the gap in South East of the Area.

7. Secretary/Treasurer

- The Area budget for 2020 had been submitted and it is now understood that feedback and acceptance would be given at the forthcoming Area's Council meeting.

8. Area Delegate

- There is no contentious business to be discussed at the Area's Council on 14th March. As noted, the Area's budget allocation will be discussed and agreed at the council meeting.

9. Competition Secretary

- Arrangements for use of Sculthorpe for the coming season were in place.

10. Area Website

- Work is being carried out by Alan Paul to simplify the Area website and make the tracking the information easier. Links to be added to the site are being sought.

11. Other Business

- Graham Gooch was progressing the training A-way day for aspirant fixed wing power pilots whose clubs did not have a club examiner. The details have been agreed with the Newmarket club at their West Row site on 13th June.
- Jason Channing suggested that East Anglian Area Facebook page should set up. This was agreed and Jason would be advising enrolment details.
- An Area conference was agreed to be on a Wednesday late in October was agreed. Paul Hoey would make provisional approaches to the same venue.

12. Next meeting

- It was noted that the date of the next Area committee meeting had to be changed to meet the change of the date of the next BMFA Council meeting. The Area meeting will now take place on Thursday 30th April

Note

Due to the Coronavirus Covid 19 the April meeting was cancelled.