

EAST ANGLIAN AREA BMFA
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 22nd April 2021 at 19:45.
Meeting held via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- Tony Waters – Raydon
- Gary Hughes – Mid Suffolk

2. Present – 7 members

- Mike Woodhouse – Secretary/Treasurer
- Paul Hoey – Chairman/Delegate
- John Copsey – IVCMAC
- Jason Channing – Achievement Scheme Coordinator
- Alan Jackson – BTRMAC
- Vic Blackwood - BMFC
- Graham Gouch – Norwich (part)

2. Minutes of the previous meeting (7th January 2021)

- Proposed – Jason Channing, seconded - John Copsey - Agreed.

3. Matters arising

- There were no matters arising

4. BMFA Briefing for 1st May Council meeting

Due to the virus the situation is in flux. Note that by the time these minutes are published things will have changed?!

- Some BMFA staff are continuing to work from home, the BMFA office telecoms system has ensured that all matters are being covered. In fact, time and expense is being saved as result of the reduced travelling time.
- Rather than face to face meetings, meetings are being held via Zoom Andy Symons assisting and facilitating Technical Committees, Areas and Clubs. The “In the air tonight” sessions are proving a success and will be continued on a reduced scale as we return to a “normal” situation. Note that these sessions are recorded on Youtube. BMFA Zoom Question time has also been well attended.
- The New BMFA website is being progressed. Progress has slowed due to the needs of the CAA and Covid 19 involvement.

- Proposals that have been presented by the BMFA to clarify the structure of the technical committees will be discussed at the council. This includes the re-instatement of Radio Control Technical Committee.
- Plans were moving ahead to celebrate 100 years of SMAE/BMFA in 2022. Paul Hoey has taken on the role of chairman of the 100 group.

5. Area chairman

- The Chairman lead a discussion regarding the progress on the changing the Area's structure within the BMFA. The BMFA is currently top heavy within its directorial structure.

6. Achievement Scheme coordinator

- The arrangements for workshops one at Eric's Odd Bods and the other at Ramsey were progressing. These would be led by Johnathan Land and Joe Kemp, supported by Jason Channing.
- Jason was currently discussing possible cross border arrangements in the north of the Area with the Fenland group who are within the East Midlands Area.

7. Other business

- Regarding the 100 years John Copsey volunteered help in the Cambridge and Impington area.
- The secretary advised that overall BMFA membership was holding up and is expected to be close to 2020 numbers as the effects of the pandemic ease. This position of membership numbers was confirmed by those at the meeting with respect to their own club's membership.
- The Area now has its own Zoom account which is available to clubs who wish to make use of the facility
- Graham Gooch presented a proposal for a NPOD on 18th July at Coltishall. This was agreed with support up to a sum of £300.00. Proposed Vic Blackwood and seconded by Alan Jackson.
- Paul Hoey and John Copsey are discussing an area event for Control line flying later in 2021 season, probably September to encourage the growing interest in this discipline.

8. Next meeting

- It was agreed to change the date of the next meeting to 16th September 2021 and to be held via Zoom.

DRAFT