

EAST ANGLIAN AREA BMFA
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th January 2022 at 19:45.
Meeting held via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- Alan Paul – Web Master
- Gary Hughes – Mid Suffolk
- Steve Bowles – Competition Secretary

2. Present – 7 members

- Mike Woodhouse – Secretary/Treasurer
- Paul Hoey – Chairman/Delegate
- Graham Gooch – Norwich
- Vic Blackwood – Bury
- Alan Jackson – BTR
- Chris Bush – Raydon
- John Copsey - Impington

2. Minutes of the previous meeting (16th September 2021)

There was an issue with respect to the minutes not appearing on the Area website. The secretary has subsequently investigated and for the record the minutes are now in place.

- Proposed – Vic Blackwood, seconded – Graham Gooch - Agreed.

3. Matters arising

- Some BMFA staff are continuing to work from home.
- Meetings continue to be held via Zoom with Andy Symons assisting and facilitating Technical Committees, Areas, and Clubs.
- The “In the air tonight” 2022 have started. Mike Woodhouse presented a recent session.
- Work on the New BMFA website continues, and the new site is expected to be up and running early in the new year

4. BMFA Briefing for 8th January Full Council meeting

- The January meeting is basically procedural in get officials acknowledged in post. The BMFA is trying to reduce the amount, of procedural requirements through improved reporting structures.

- Proposals that are being presented to include making the CEO post a direct of the BMFA and the creation a new post of members director.

5. Area chairman

- Paul Hoey updated the meeting on the plans to celebrate 100 years of SMAE/BMFA in 2022. Details of Nationals and local activities would be published via the BMFA regular means with the addition of a “100” website. <https://100.bmfa.org> A discussion with respect to activities, in particular East Anglian, took place and those present were encouraged to get their local celebrations publicised through the website. Events including liaison with the ATC, buddy box sessions, exhibitions and NPOD were already being planned

6. Achievement Scheme coordinator

- Jason is undertaking training of Club examiners and working on the “C” certificate. Jason will be approaching Brian Cooper who is lives in Peterborough with respect to bringing him in as an Area Chief Examiner. Jason will be liaising with Duncan McClure regarding this as Brian is on the extreme Western fringe of the Area.

7. Other business

- The secretary advised that it is very early days, but renewals are holding up including drone fliers who are now returning to the BMFA. Club membership numbers was confirmed as holding up by those at the meeting with respect to their own club’s membership. The Norwich Club continues to struggle with lower than numbers than had been enjoyed in past years.
- Paul Hoey and John Copsey confirmed that plans for an area event for Control line flying later in 2022 were progress. The event will be held in the Thetford area.
- Two proposals were tabled by Impington asking for Area support. The proposal requesting for £200 for support for “the 2nd Cottenham Cub Group visit to IVCMAC” was proposed by Vic Blackwood and seconded Jason Channing was carried. The second proposal was agreed in principal but required a financial case to be included. John Copsey will action and bring the amended proposal to the next Area meeting.
- Graham Gooch advised the meeting about problems being experienced by the Norwich Club with a drone flyer. The flyer appeared to believe that BMFA rules did not apply to him and that he could use the Clubs

facilities as and how wished. The Norwich Club has taken appropriate action.

8. Next meeting

- The next meeting is provisionally dated as March 3rd 2022, to be held via Zoom. The date will be confirmed when the Area Council meeting date is confirmed