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British Model Flying Association

 Southern Area

 [southern.bmfa.uk](https://southern.bmfa.uk/)

 Minutes to be ratified at the next meeting.

 **Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th April 2022**

Venue: - Meeting Held Via Zoom Start Time: 7.00 hrs pm

**Present: S Area Position: Club(s):**

Tony Butterworth FSMAE Chairman Waltham Chase

Terry Weeks Hon Secretary/RC SF Rep Web ASF; Skylarks & MVSA Wayne Broom Hon Treasurer Chesil

Peter Bennett ACS C-Ord Lansdown

James Hounslow Facebook editor South Hants Heli’s

Ray Cox Visitor Popham Aero modellers

Alan Wallington Visitor Waltham Chase

Dave Burstow ACE Eagles

**Apologies:**

David Smith Vice Chairman/Area Delegate Helipad Roger Newman Free Flight Representative

10 a good attendance, thank you all for your interest.

The minutes of the Area meetings on the 26th January were agreed as a true record. (They had been available to read as usual on the website).

Proposed: Terry Weeks: All Agreed:

**Chairman’s Report:**
I attended the Popham planning meeting on the 2nd January but was unable to attend the follow up meeting on the 22nd March. Ref actions from the previous area meeting I made contact with members of the South-eastern BMFA committee to enquire of their view ref changes to the Area constitution and was fortunate enough to meet Stuart Willis who provided a clear update on progress and also was able to advise on the long term aims of changes being implemented . As advised by Stuart we duly received latest info on the area constitution shortly after my call which provided clarity on the subject. I attended the zoom meeting on area structure held on the 16th February where this subject was discussed.

I have received notification from Salisbury MFC concerning lack of response from BMFA to their enquiry for data on web hosting information . It appears they have made contact twice with BMFA however have yet to receive any response . Hopefully we can encourage a positive answer from BMFA back to Salisbury MFC . As of yesterday, this now sorted, many thanks from Salisbury to S A Committee for our help.

Also received the request from Dave Burstow for the teardrop S/Area banner to support their presence at the local events they regularly attend. Our committee members in the Dorset area are very active in promoting our sport so suggest this is a worthy cause and maybe should also include additional promotional hardware .

**Vice Chairman’s Report:** I attended an Areas Council Zoom meeting on 17 March to hear the findings of the working group reviewing the role of the BMFA Areas. The Members Director post had been advertised in the February issue of BMFA News. The revised management structure was put forward, with 4-5 Area Delegates now to become non-

Executive Directors of the BMFA to provide better oversight on the workings of the Executive Council. There was also discussion of the proposed changes to the Areas Constitution; a few anomalies and inconsistencies were highlighted, and a further Zoom meeting was convened for Thursday 29 March to sort these out. I was unable to attend this meeting, but the proposed Constitution looks much better than the original and I understand that this has now been accepted. It will be a work in progress, as any change should be, but it will give Area Committees a much more robust operating environment. I attended SABMFA planning meetings for the Popham Model Show on 2 February and 22 March, and a Zoom meeting on 16 February to review the proposed changes to Area structure following the Strategic Review. I have had to intervene with the Club Support Officer a couple of times this year to get some action on issues that two Area Clubs were facing, as he had not dealt with them in a timely manner. The helicopter version of ‘A Flying Start’ has finally been completed and will be published soon to accompany the Helicopter A & BPC video guidance. I have also been involved with preparing the helicopter section of the BMFA Centenary Exhibition to be held at Buckminster during July and August. Membership of HeliPad Model Club has increased by 50% in the past year, and we have had to institute a waiting list for the first time ever. We are hosting two events for the Association of Helicopter Aerosports this year, an F3C aerobatic workshop on 9 April and a scale fly-in on 14 May, in addition to our normal scale invitation day on 17 July.

**Secretaries Report:**

Terry reported that he had written and distributed the 26th January minutes, posted the draft onto the website, and emailed them to BMFA HO and prepared a draft agenda for this meeting.

Sadly, as advised the Wartime Wallop event at Middle Wallop has been cancelled, but we have been invited to participate again in the “**Aircraft Enthusiasts’ Fair & Model Show”** on the 27th November. I circulated this and Dave Smith, Roger Newman, Peter Bennett, Tony Butterworth and myself have agreed to participate. We have requested an additional table as last year due to having the simulator with us, this was £12.00 last year.

Although covered by separate meetings, I attended both the Popham meetings on the 2nd Feb and the 22nd March and wrote and distributed the minutes for both. For information I have spent a considerable time on confirming pilot attendance at the Popham Model show. To date I have 52 (+ 3 possible TBC) Fixed Wing and Helicopter entries confirmed for the main flightline and a further 11 control-line entries. Similarly, I have 22 helpers confirmed.

I will be attending the South Cerney Steam Fair to help as required with Peter Bennett on the 5th – 7th August where I can and maybe even take part in the model flying.

Following Dave Burstow’s request to buy a Flag / Banner, I have sent Wayne Broom the original artwork that we used for the existing ones although the original supplier has ceased trading it might be useful and save costs. I have suggested to Wayne they buy two as it is the centenary year it will make their display more impressive. This was discussed and agreed so Wayne to go ahead with the purchase.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Not much to report! Year starting 2022 Jan the 1st / Balance from 2021 was £6,357.39 . Balance in Feb is £ 6,357.39 with no expenditure. March the 22nd Terry Weeks spent £10.04 on Popham expenses and £12.00 on an extra table for Middle Wallop leaving a balance of £6,335.35 . On the 1st April (Start of the new financial period) the balance to date is £6,335.35 with no further expenditure. At the meeting the Bovington expenses of £38.00 was also approved so Terry agreed to action. **Actioned following the meeting.** An up-to-date accounts spreadsheet to be attached to these minutes. **Action: Terry** Terry had sent the draft proposals for consideration, and all agreed to the proposal. This is now ready for presentation to HO as / when requested.

**Achievement Scheme Co-Ordinators Report:**

I have participated in all the meetings to plan the Popham Model Show 2022 so far this year.

Still Receive emails and calls of interest from various club regarding A and B test and training days of which I find very encouraging.

Christchurch MFC is organising a few Achievement scheme days, so I have volunteered to help. When I have the dates will ask terry to update the SABMFA web page.

I still have some concerns over BMFA head office and the head of the BMFA achievement scheme, as I have had no contact from them regarding being new at this post. I will continue to provide as much as posable info to clubs that require help.

Question for committee.

Is there likely to be southern area examiners workshop this year at Popham.

Request by Dave Dunford. Terry advised that although not yet arranged one has been budgeted for.

Lastly Peter reported his surprise in having had no communication at all from the National ASRC controller as a result of his appointment as the new S. Area AS co-ordinator.

Peter Bennett .

**Free Flight Report:** Since the previous report, the BMFC has been informed that the new permit for Beaulieu forbids all free flight activities. Not unexpected but nevertheless yet another nail in the coffin of free flight. This leaves Area 8 of Salisbury Plain as the only viable site in our Area that is generally available – subject of course to the usual MoD restrictions. As an aside, the new Beaulieu permit also commits radio flyers to further onerous restrictions, including that of going all electric by end 2023. Two Area meetings have taken place to date, both being reasonably well supported. The Crookham Club currently lies 2nd in the Plugge Cup. Totton has now seen seven successful indoor meetings - both in attendance terms & financially, the final one of the season to be held on 20th April. Dates have been booked for next winter. Welcome news regarding the Southern Area Free Flight Gala at RAF Odiham in August. Pete Carter (as reported by Terry) is managing the licence, Chris Redrup will be CD on the day & I will man the desk. All subject to the potential vagaries of the RAF.

Very little other activity – we need some warmer weather.

Alan added that the Wickham events had seen good attendances, and that the new dates for this year’s events would be forwarded to Terry soon for inclusion onto the website.

**Silent Flight Report:**

Little to report other than the dates for the 4 national Opens were published only for one (the 5th June) to be cancelled due to out farmer organising a Jubilee event on our site. These are published on the website. **Action: James to amend on the website.**

**AOB:**

**Action from the last meeting:**

1. Tony Warrilow – Discussion on a suitable award.

**Action: Tony to purchase a plaque, David Smith to arrange for a certificate and Dave Burstow to apply for an award.** Tony had looked over some new trophies / plaques and wanted more information before agreeing to the wording to be engraved. David absent to report regarding a certificate. Dave Burstow to put him up for an award later in the year.

1. The S Area budget has been agreed and is ready to be submitted to Keith Lomax and Ian Pallister when requested. **Action: Dave Smith to enquire regarding timing.**

**Actions from the 26th January meeting:**

**Abingdon:**

This facility remains currently the best opportunity for the S/Area to hold an open meeting covering multiple classes for model flying. We know that our free flight members have visited the site and agreed its suitability, and we have a management contact at the site who is positive about our using this facility. It was agreed that we should hold this topic on the agenda.

**Odiham**:

As advised great news on progress, Peter Carter has agreed dates with Odiham for the S Area Free Flight Gala to proceed here. The date is the 6th August (reserve date of the 13th August).

**Popham show report:**

This project is being progressed by a separate “Organisers Group” and will have meetings and minutes prepared in its own right. Information only to be added here.

**BMFA centenary celebrations next year:**

Central BMFA is promoting the area to help celebrate this achievement. The Popham Show was suggested and accepted as it would be the biggest event, we would be running this year.

**Web Site / Facebook integration:**

James has the link up and running with just the future event details to be sought and entered.

**Hold a second webinar:**

Progress on web page and facebook for S/Area: Popham Model show -- report on the 2021 event - include plans for the 2022 event. Encourage area Club participation. BMFA centenary next year - what can we do locally - invite ideas.

Winter indoor events.

Encourage new members to join the area committee.

 **Action: This not discussed so has been carried forward.**

**New Items Raised:**

1. **The strategic review:**

As in Tony’s report he had spoken to Stuart Willis who is on the project committee for this and as in David’s report the final version of the area constitution has been agreed, so we have assumed this will be issued soon to all areas.

1. Wayne to advise the dates for the Bovington shows for inclusion on the website / facebook. Wayne advised that the last date for this year is to be on the 10th September.
2. James to contact the Cub / Scout groups to try to arrange an event with them.

 **Action: James to update us.**

1. Tony asked if our website could give the links to the websites of other local areas websites, Terry said he would look into getting this done. **Action: Terry**

Finally, with nothing else to discus the meeting closed at 21:10.

**The next meeting is on the 13th July 2022 at 7:00 pm.**