



British Model Flying Association Southern Area

<https://southern.bmfa.uk>

Minutes of the S Area Meeting held on the 12th April 2023

Venue: - Meeting to be held via Zoom

Start Time: **7.30 pm**

1.0 Present:	S Area Position:	Club:
Terry Weeks	Chair & Secretary ACE	ASF & Skylarks
David Smith	V Chair & SA Delegate	Helipad
Peter Bennett	S A ASC	Lansdown
Peter Carter	Free Flight Rep & ACE	Popham
Peter Willis	Club Delegate & ACE	Wimborne
Alan Wallington	Club Delegate	WCA
Ray Cox	Club Delegate	Popham
Dave Franks	Club Delegate	
Mike Pearson	Popham Airfield Manager	Popham

1.1 Apologies for absence:

David Newby - Newbury, Wayne Broom – Chesil, James Hounslow – South Hants Helis & David Durnford – Alton & ASF.

2.0 Approval of the minutes from the last Meeting held on the 18th January 2023.

Peter Willis raised one omission in that it had been agreed that he be involved with David Smith in the Area Constitution discussions, this corrected by his being involved in the follow up discussions.

Proposed: David Smith. Seconded: Peter Bennett. Agreed: Unanimous

3.0 Committee reports:

3.1 Chairman's Report: Terry reported having attended several planning meetings on the coming Popham model show and started to collate the pilots lists for same.

As requested, wrote again to David Phipps, and again have received no response.

Joined the Chesil Group for the two days at the Bovington Tank Museum Model show, this was incredibly well attended and as a BMFA promotional event must rate as one of the best. The expenses paid were just £38.00. I would like to thank the group for arranging this attendance on behalf of the Southern Area.

Chased and finally received the £1000.00 grant for the 2021 / 2022 on the 23rd January and have had agreed the grant for the 2022 / 2023 period at £1480.00 to be received imminently (As at the morning of the 13th still no receipt).

Wrote reports for both the Middle Wallop and Bovington events and pasted them on the website

3.2 Vice Chairman's Report: See combined report below.

3.3 Area Delegates report: It has been quiet this spring, so I have little to report. I attended a Popham Model Show planning meeting by Zoom on 15 February and have been canvassing support for the show from the model helicopter community. I was invited by the Members

Director to join a small group to revise the Areas Constitution, as many of us on Areas Council were unhappy with the revised version tabled in October 2022. This revision has been tabled for acceptance at the Areas Council meeting on Thursday 4 May.

The joint Southeast / Southern Areas scale helicopter event has been scheduled for Sunday 11 June at the Levels 87 club near Hailsham. Burger van and Portaloo have been booked. The £20 entry fee will include catering.

3.4 Secretary's Report: As usual prepared the minutes and agendas for the meetings and organized the Zoom facility for same. Due to my being away for 5 weeks apart from those already covered in my chairman's report, there is little else to report.

3.5 Treasurer's Report: Can't make Monday or Wednesday nights now sorry.

My report is: There is not much to report. Terry has updated the accounts spreadsheet to show the 2022 / 2023 end of year balance and distributed them to you all.

Many thanks Terry for your help at Bovington it went very well, we gave away a lot of foam planes and stickers.

3.6 Achievement Scheme Co-Ordinator's Report: With a quiet start to the year, it remains quiet.

With one of the wettest March on record, so not much to report. I attended a Popham Model Show planning meeting by Zoom on 15 February and have been contacting flyers to support the show. I've also been working on updating the paperwork for the show insurance for BMFA and LMA. Some personal changes for me. I currently live in Bath BA2 which falls under the Western Area. We now have a DT address which will fall under the southern Area. I hope this will save some of the confusion at HQ.

3.7 Free Flight Report: 1. Very little Free Flight activity so far this year due to weather, either to Cold, Wet or Windy the one scheduled event at Salisbury Plain being cancelled.

2. Re Odiham event. I Have applied for a Licence from D I O and am in receipt of the application forms. Have sent Odiham a list of dates which would be suitable to us and so far, they have stated that July definitely out and the latest is they will try and get the Airfield for a day in August. I will probably attend the next Airfield users meeting.

3.8 Webmaster's report: No action from that already covered above.

5.0 AOB:

5.1 Events already planned / in progress for 2022 / 2023.

5.1.1 27/11/22 Model Enthusiasts show at Middle Wallop

This was attended by David Smith, David Durnford, Ken Gale & Terry Weeks.

The stand was assembled, and the day was very worthwhile with many

visitors young and old. Terry to write a report for the website. **Actioned Terry**

5.1.2 11-12/2/23 Bovington Tank Museum Show, Attended by several members of the Chesil group including Wayne Broom, David Burstow and myself Terry Weeks. This was very well attended over both days of the show and gave much promotional details of the BMFA and what it does. £38.00 expenses have been paid.

See the report by Terry on the website.

Actioned Terry

5.1.2 TBA S. Area A S Workshops, dates to be set.

Action Peter Bennett

5.1.3 TBA S. Area Webinar, date to be set. David, having spoken to Andy Symons

need more structure / subject matter for this to proceed. Please contact David directly with suggestions.

Action David Smith

5.1.4 2 & 3/9/23 Popham Model Show. New date agreed. Popham Sub-committee to be confirmed as: Peter Bennett, David Smith, David Newby, David Durnford, David Franks, Steve Vine, Wayne Broom, Alan Wallington & Terry Weeks. Plus, Mike Pearson.

5.1.5 August?? S. Area Free-Flight Gala at Odiham. **Peter Carter to arrange.**

5.1.6 TBA S. Area "Balsa-Brain" The popular Quiz Night. Noted above. Terry said he thought it would be a good idea to get hold of a projector so that we are self-sufficient, we already have a screen so the cost would be minimal. At this point Peter B said he had one we could have. It was agreed he would bring it to the next meeting for Terry to assess compatibility. Alan suggested that a quick survey of interest be carried out before we went too far in the arrangements, Terry to action this.

5.1.7 Info' No Wartime Wallop at Middle Wallop planned for 2023.

5.2 Letter to Dave Phipps

As per Terry's chairman's report: The letter that he had sent to Dave Phipps, although sent from a personal point of view, was discussed, as yet he had received no response.

The committee reviewed the letter and fully endorsed the content.

Terry was asked to follow this up, this time representing the S Area not just himself, this was done and again **no response was received.**

5.3 Chase of the Area Funding.

Covered by the chairman's report.

5.4 Future committee meetings.

Terry suggested that alternative meetings from now on be in person + zoom or entirely via zoom as face-to-face meetings were considered better.

All to try to make the in-person meetings at Popham but Zoom will be available.

The following dates have been agreed with Mike.

14th June S. Area Committee Meeting at **Popham** + Zoom.

30th August S. Area Committee Meeting via Zoom.

18th October S. Area Committee Meeting at **Popham** + Zoom.

15th November S. Area AGM Meeting at **Popham** + Zoom

5.5 The Areas' Constitution:

Much discussion took place on this, especially the lack of opportunity given to view and comment on at Area level let alone club level. The documents were emailed to the Areas Chairman and Secretaries on the 12th April, the day of this meeting, giving no time for the documents to be read and discussed. A third document being the proposal to accept them by the 14th April, frankly ridiculous!!

Terry said he would forward the documents to all with these minutes, all were asked to read through them and pass any comments to David who will discuss with Peter W before the areas official response be given.

Peter Willis has already written the following to Duncan McClure:-

"Duncan,

Further to the emails I copied you into earlier today I have now learnt (as an aside) at tonight's S. Area meeting that Linda has sent voting forms for the revised Areas Constitution and Guidance, which have to be completed and submitted by this Friday to achieve the 21 days' notice required! Given that the draft was only made available today, this does not give any Club or Area Committee a fighting chance to review and

comment on the (in my view) badly flawed proposals. We have agreed at tonight's committee meeting that I will provide David with my comments, and he will also collate any comments from S Area Committee who will be copied in on the drafts shortly. However, due to the unreasonable timescales being imposed this will not be possible for the May Areas Committee meeting and does not give the S. Area Committee a chance to form a collective (and voted for) view on the proposals.

I also copied my emails into Ian Pallister but for some unknown reason they have been blocked by his account (I assume his email address is still ianpallister@talktalk.net) saying this is due to the content. Are there any personal reasons why this might be happening, as I don't want to add to them if this is the case?

As a Director of BMFA you should also be aware that the CEO was sent a letter by the chair of the S Area about some concerns with BMFA service, some considerable time ago and has not even had the decency of an acknowledgement or reply, which unfortunately says a lot about the current state of the BMFA structure/management/service levels.

Hope this does not all add to your disillusionment list, as we need someone with leadership skills on the inside to try to get the ship back on some sort of reasonable course! **Regards Peter.**

I have to add I for one endorse Peter's views without exception.

5.6 Popham Show:

A date to be set for a follow up meeting as soon as possible, Terry to send out date proposals before requesting Mike to arrange. Actioned post meeting and waiting replies.

5.7 Request for and event to be added to the website:

This was agreed, Alan to send Terry details for him to add.

6.1 The next Meeting as above is the 14th June at Popham & via Zoom.

Terry asked for everyone to attend in person as a face-to-face meeting will be more constructive, expenses to be paid as usual.