

British Model Flying Association

North West Area

PLEASE NOTE: THE MEETING MENTIONED BELOW IS THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING for the AREA followed by a short normal meeting immediately afterwards.

The North West Area will be meeting on **Tuesday 7th November 2017** at 8.00pm in St Aidan's Parish Centre, Highfield Grange Avenue, Winstanley, Wigan WN3 6EE.

See how the BMFA maintains contact with clubs such as yours in the area

Learn what is going on in the modelling world

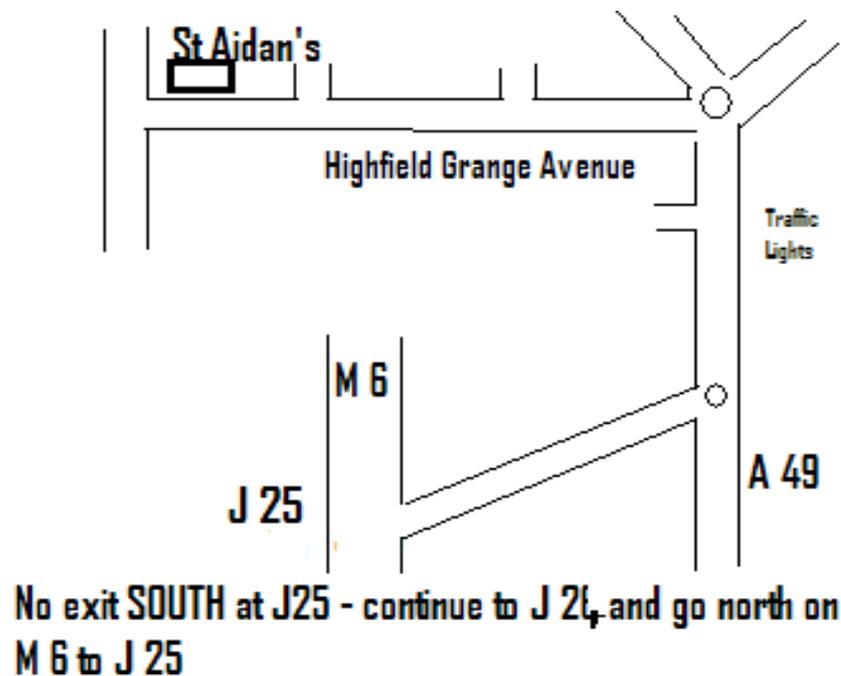
If you can't come to the meetings, would one of your members be interested – please pass this on to them.

If you have a problem or subject you would like to discuss but can't make it to the meeting, E Mail it to us and it will be discussed and a reply sent to you. carl_brotherton@yahoo.co.uk

Hope to see you there

Carl Brotherton
Secretary

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British Model Flying Association
North West Area

Agenda for North West Area Meeting
8.00pm, November 7th 2017

St Aidan's Parish Centre, Wigan

Apologies for absence.

Correspondence.

Minutes of the last meeting.

Matters arising.

Officer's reports.

Council agenda and minutes.

AOB

Minutes of the Meeting of the BMFA North West Area held on 29th August 2017 at St Aidan's Parish Centre, Winstanley, Wigan.

Persons Present

David Lloyd-Jones	Chairman & Delegate/Central Cheshire MAA
Mike Colling	Vice Chairman FSMAE (Country member)
Carl Brotherton	Secretary & Treasurer/Sale MFC
Roy Allam	Achievement Scheme Co-ord/FCMFA
Keith Barker	Rochdale MAC
Gerry Ferer	Timperley Model Flyers
David Swarbrick	Blackpool and Fylde MFC
Sue Price	Stafford MHC
Roger Price	Stafford MHC
Clive Needham	Oldham and District MAC

There were 10 people present, 8 voting

The meeting started at 8.00.

Apologies for absence

Martin Kindler, Keith Elliot, John Minchell, Wayne Pendleton, Martin Fraser.

Correspondence

None

The Chairman opened the meeting by announcing to those present that Tom Anyon had sadly died. Tom Anyon had been one of North West Area's Areas Chief Examiners. The Chairman paid tribute to the outstanding service and other significant contributions that

he made to the BMFA. A minutes silence was held, in remembrance and contemplation, in recognition of the sad loss.

Minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2017

It was noted that on Page 7 of the previous minutes, the reference to Roy Allam as the senior examiner was incorrect, The correct title for Roy Allam is the “Area Achievement Coordinator”.

The minutes were then approved to include above alterations, with a vote of 7 of acceptance, there being no abstentions.

Matters Arising

David Lloyd Jones, reviewed the pertinent issues and areas of interest arising from the minutes of the Full Council held on Saturday 13th May 2017.

- At the previous meeting of the NW Area, a question was asked with regard to what is known with respect to Paul Tallett, the new BMFA PRO (Public Relations Officer).

DLJ reported that Paul Tarrant is by profession a Public Relations person.

He made a presentation to those present at the last Full Council, that addressed who he is, and the agreed service that he would provide during the initial 6 months appointment to the BMFA.

The service would be provided for a fee of approx. £4,000. He is a R/C modeller himself, so hopefully he might be able to increase our visibility to the general public over this time.

Our Area Delegate to Full Council was impressed by this gentleman, but only time would tell as to his worth to the BMFA as a whole.

- The BMFA has received an invoice for approx £31,000 as a consequence of an Inspection by a HM Revenue Vat Inspector. The sum will be recovered over a 4 year period.
- It was reported that the NFC (National Flying Centre) at Buckminster is now operational. The scope of activities will continue to expand as defined in the development programme.

As at year end 31st March 2017, £143,000 has been allocated to Buckminster from the Development Reserve of approximately £335,000.

For purposes of tax, the centre is treated as an asset. Also it is separated from the normal BMFA expenditure. The NFC will be depreciated over the term of the lease of 35 years.

- DLJ gave a synopsis in respect to proposals made at the last Full Council meeting relating to a Proposal from Duncan McClure, a Council Member. The proposal was that UK Team Manager’s accommodation expenses are paid in full, even if they are accompanied by their partner when attending international competitions. Any additional expenses (including additional accommodation) incurred as a result of the partner attending any such events, will be the responsibility of the individual and not the BMFA.

The proposal was not passed by the Full Council.

It was notable during a general discussion, within the NW area meeting, that those who are more actively involved with competition, were in general sympathetic to the proposal. Those aligned to grass root, sports activities being noticeably less sympathetic.

Officers' Reports

Chairman, David Lloyd Jones.

DLJ reminded those present that Tom Anyon had been one of the three "Areas Chief Examiners"(ACE), and that his death had not only reduced the Area Chief Examiners available, but had focussed his thoughts on the Area's needs, with respect to future ACE appointments.

It was noted by DLJ that the NW Area as defined by the BMFA, not only is of considerable area, but also in distance terms has some long distances, typically from North to South. When it is considered that parts of Wales also fall into the region. It is apparent that any new appointees to the position, should improve the present arrangements.

The criteria that had initially been identified as ideal, is as follows:-

- The candidate must be enthusiastic in wanting to undertake the role. Obvious but none the less true.
- The candidate must have sufficient skill and knowledge to convey to examiners what each of the schemes require.
- That basic management skills are required to efficiently maintain the administrative aspects and organisation of the schemes.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, having patience, be diplomatic and be approachable.
- Ideally their location should facilitate their role within a geographical area of the BMFA NW area, which is not presently well supported.

Three candidates not only are willing to take on the position, but have been invited to the next Area meeting.

DLJ has elected to discuss the general profile of the candidates with Duncan McClure as the Controller of the National Scheme at the imminent Full Council Meeting. The objective being to ensure that the NW area of the BMFA has considered all relevant aspects of the roles requirements, that ensure that any candidate selected will be successful in the role.

DLJ as Chairman of the NW Area has been approached by the Scale Tech Committee who have offered to take over the Eddie Riding Trophy (ERT) Competition and resurrect it at the RC Nationals. The ERT is a North West Area competition particularly, but has been dormant for some years in the North West since the demise of the use of RAF Woodvale.

It was agreed at Area that the proposal could be supported with the following provisos:-

- If circumstances change in the NW Area, so that it again becomes a practicality to run the ERT in the area, that the event should return to the NW. In essence the ownership of the event and trophies remains with the NW.
- That there should be no rule changes, without referral to the NW Area.
- That all trophies are to remain the property of the North West Area.

This proposal was carried unanimously, and the Chairman was now to commence the transference.

Treasurer, Carl Brotherton

The treasurer presented the audited accounts for the BMFA NW area for the tax year 2016-17 for acceptance. The acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Clive Needham. Seconded by Keith Barker. The Accounts for 2016-17 were accepted by an unanimous vote of those present. (8)

It was noted that the bank balance for the area had increased in the region of £800. This being the consequence of the cancellation of both the Bickershaw fly-in and an indoor event held at the Manchester Velodrome.

It is the general consensus that this should not be allowed (if we can avoid the situation) to happen in the future, as the purpose of the BMFA funding is to promote activities for the betterment and support of the NW Area's BMFA members.

The general feeling is that the area will seek to maintain a balanced support across the spectrum of the model flying activities, within the area. Continuing to support Indoor, Free Flight and RC flying. The BMFA achievement schemes are seen as an important aspect of RC models. The identification of the real need and urgency of holding an Examiners Workshop is seen as an important element of supporting the Proficiency Schemes. The intention to hold at least one of the workshops in this financial year, will ensure that any further increase in the area's account will not occur. The area is also keen to support fly-ins, as a general means of encouraging the areas largest group of week-end fliers and their clubs to engage with the BMFA NW Area, whilst making the maximum use of the area funding.

Although many of the supported activities are pencilled in on the NW area's financial calendar for 2017-18, the area would encourage clubs to come forward with proposals for the 2018-19 financial year.

AOB

A proposal from Keith Barker was made to donate £800 to the NFC at Buckminster. The basis being that the surplus in the NW Area accounts would be put to better use in supporting the development of the NFC, than sitting idle in a bank account.

A vote was taken - 2 for, 4 against, 1 abstention, and therefore failed.

It was noted that the situation should not be allowed to continue, placing emphasis in the support of all of the BMFA membership in the NW Area, so encouragement should be given to clubs as noted above.

Mr David Swarbrick raised the issue if there is in existence any information with respect to radio interference or other issues with the respect of operating on the 2.4 GHz frequency. Mr Keith Barker indicated that the BMFA operated a register to record such issues. It was highlighted that all the information that the BMFA collates, is dependent on the membership informing the BMFA head office. It was suggested that to the best knowledge of all those present nothing specific or definitive has been reported, but if Dave Swarbrick called the BMFA office, he would obtain an up to date view on the matter.

AREA MEETINGS 2017

Tuesday 7th November at 8 pm for the Area AGM, followed by a short Area meeting to arrange meeting dates for 2018.

Sandwiches would be supplied at the venue for those attending.

The meeting closed at 10.30 pm

These minutes are provisional until approved at the next area meeting.