

Minutes of the Meeting of the BMFA North West Area Held on 8th May 2018 at St Aidan's Parish Centre, Winstanley, Wigan.

Persons Present

Mike Colling	Chairman (Central Cheshire Model Aircraft Association)
Carl Brotherton	Secretary & Treasurer/ (T&DMFC)
Gerry Ferer	Timperley Model Flyers (TMFC)
Kevin Watson	Blackburn (B&DMAC)
Sue Price	Staffordshire Model Helicopter Club
Roger Price	Staffordshire Model Helicopter Club
Martyn Kinder	SCRCS

There were 7 people present, 6 with voting rights, as defined by the BMFA.

The meeting started at 8.00 pm.

Apologies for absence

Martin Frazer (NWRCH), Wayne Pendleton (FCMA)..

Correspondence

None

Minutes of the meeting held on 29th August 2017

The minutes for the 29th August 2017 were accepted with the following revisions a) In the section, Persons Present, Keith Watson to change to Kevin Watson, b) In the section AOB, all references to BMFA to be changed to BMFA NW Area.

Matters Arising

Non

Officers Reports

Chairman

Due to unexpected retirement of DLJ (David Lloyd-Jones) the vice Chairman Michael Colling has taken on the Role and responsibilities of the Chairman. The retirement of DLJ, although unexpected, was his recognition of the need for a rest, having held the role of Chairman for many years, having served the BMFA in total for 41 years. Additionally DLJ wanted to ensure that he would be available to provide advice and put into a historic context events that occurred in previous years, to a younger Chairman, if called upon. Already he is much missed, although remaining available for advice and guidance.

The temporary Chairman Michael Colling (the maximum duration up to the AGM),

indicated that he believes it is in NW Areas best interest that a new Chairman is appointed quickly. Micheal had previously indicated that he was standing down as Vice Chairman at the AGM, believing that the time has come for younger members to undertake more active roles. Michaels sentiment resulted in a requested that the sectary is to issue a general invitation to all members in the NW Area, to come forward and enter the election process for the role of Chairman. The target date to hold the election process is the next BMFA NW Area meeting on the 4-9-2018. The closing date for the submissions of CVs will be the 5th of August 2018, to facilitate distribution to recipients of the NW Area Agenda

The Chairman reported that the ASC (Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator) Wayne Pendleton had most reluctantly resigned his position due to Family Issues. Wayne had liaised closely with Kevin Watson of the Burnley club and a ACE (Achievement Scheme Examiner) in the organisation of the projected ACE Workshops, scheduled for the 2018-19 financial year. Wayne and the NW Area Secretary had been in contact with Duncan McClure, "Power & Silent Flight National Scheme Controller", with respect as to an appropriate way of handling the immediate events. The general consensus that was that due to the circumstances, with Kevin Watsons current involvement, combined with his knowledge of what is required to effectively carry out the role and duties of a ASC, that the appointment of Kevin Watson would be appropriate, if endorsed at this BMFA NW Area meeting. The Chairman suggested that although not strictly adhering to the "Order of Business", that a vote should be taken on the appointment of Kevin Watson as ASC. That the vote should be to appoint Kevin Watson for the remainder of the two year appointment, as the present programme has a duration over a year.

The vote was 5 in favour, 1 abstention (Kevin Watson), 1 person with no voting rights.

Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator Kevin Watson.

To maintain both the competence and confidence levels of the established and newly appointed ACEs, it is necessary to hold regular Training Workshops and to provide regular updates with respect to the schemes.

The topography of the BMFA NW Area is such that it is appropriate to hold workshops located in both the South and North of the region. With this in mind workshops have been arranged as follows:

- a) At Wrexham on the 16th of September, to cover the south of the area and North Wales.
- b) At Blackburn, provisionally on the 23rd of September, the venue is approved by the Blackburn Club, with some details to be finalised.

The Treasurer confirmed that sufficient funds are in place for both workshops.

Delegate, Martyn Kinder

Martyn confirmed that he had attended the 13-1-2018 meeting of the Area Council, as the BMFA NW Area delegate.

The members of the council indicated that there was a loss to the BMFA in DLJ no longer attending the Council meetings, also personal sadness was indicated by many.

In general Martyn reported that the meeting was useful and informative with one particular issue, that was both relevant to the BMFA NW Area and the other regions. A proposal has been made to produce a training video as follows:-

- It is to be professionally produced
- The content is to provide an insight in how to fly the “B” test of the Achievement Scheme, for fixed wing model aircraft.
- The target audience is “Club Examiners”, in support of their role.
- The estimated cost per area being £400.

There followed a discussion of the views of those attending the meeting of the NW Area. The treasurer indicated at this time, the area has sufficient funds to support such a project. Although he has concerns that other than as a one off, there would be restrictions on the other activities that the NW Area supports which range from Indoor Flying, Club Fly-ins, RC Helicopter, ACE training events, education. Particularly as the Area wants to be supportive of other disciplines, such as Free Flight. Wanting the area to move forward, to be receptive to the provision of broader support, by more than words alone. It was noted that the sum indicated was close to a quarter of the BMFA NW Areas annual budget.

There was a general opinion of those attending the meeting that there was also benefit in covering the “A” test, in the Achievement Scheme. It was noted that this could be undertaken as part of the same project, with modest additional costs, due to the main costs in the production of a video, extending the scope being of a marginal nature. A suggestion was also made, that the distribution could be wider, beyond examiners, including the applicants who wish to undertake the Achievement Scheme. Martyn indicated that he would both monitor progress of the project, with a view to influencing the overall scope as discussed.

Martyn indicated he would continue to monitor the initiative and that there is a limit up to which he was broadly supportive, as was the NW Area, although he recognised there was a limit beyond which he would not commit the area to endorsing. This could be slightly more than the £400 indicated, as a one off payment.

Treasurer, Carl Brotherton

Nothing to report.

AOB

Two clubs have approached the BMFA NW area committee, seeking some financial support in holding “Fly in” type events. The clubs being:-

- a) “Blackburn & District Model Aircraft Club” and the
- b) “Blackpool & Fylde Radio Control Model Flying Society”.

Both clubs made their separate submissions of what money was requested, an indication on where the funding was to be spent, and how the BMFA NW Area members would benefit.

The Blackburn club requested £100 and the Blackpool Club £180.

A vote was taken, both being approved by 6 for. There being one non voting person present.

Brief mention was made of the “Educational Co-ordinator” a role that Martyn Kinder undertakes. At present he stated that it is an “to do” function. The treasurer requested some

idea or out line of what is intended, so as to ensure that the funding remains sustainable for this under rated function, although some funds have been ring fenced.

Martyn Kinder briefly outlined developments that are ongoing with respect to the National BMFA web site and how it will support the BMFA Areas. At present the need for a BMFA NW Area Email listing will remain. The secretary looks forward with pleasure when communication of BMFA NW Area Agendas and Minutes will be delivered via a central BMFA IT provision.

Martyn Kinder indicated that both the Blackburn and Blackpool fly-in fliers would be include in the BMFA NW Area Web Site, when details were provided to him. Action required from Kevin Watson and Carl Brotherton

AREA MEETINGS 2018

With publication of the Full Council meetings. The following dates have been agreed for the meetings of the NW Area of the BMFA

Tuesday	September 4 th .,	2018
Tuesday	November 20 th .,	2018 Area meeting and the Area AGM

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

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