**Present:**

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| --- | --- |
| Stuart Willis | Chairman |
| Robert Richardson | Vice Chairman |
| Chris Searle | Secretary |
| Jim Tucker | Treasurer |
| Bob Hart | A.S. co-ordinator |
| Richard Pidduck | Member |
| David Lambert | Member |
| Terry Knight | Member |
| John Phillips | Member |
| Peter Royal | Member |
| David Stiff | Member |
| Roger Marples | Member |
| Paul Holmes | Member |
| John Collins | Member |
| James Gordon | Member |
|  |  |

**Apologies:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mike Richardson | Flying Discipline Secretary |
| Taj Manning | Education co-ordinator |

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Read and approved by Members.

3. MATTERS ARISING.

To be discussed under specific topics.

4. OFFICERS REPORTS

Chairman and Council Delegate: Chris Moyniham the BMFA Chairman has resigned with immediate effect due to health issues Ian Pallister the vice Chairman has stepped in to take on the duties of chairman until a new chairman can be co-opted He has indicated he is willing to be co-opted until the next election this is to be included in the January council meeting agenda

I attended the September Full council meeting.

The Morning was spent going over the account for the year ending March 2017 and the proposed budgets for the next financial year that are to be put forward at the AGM this 18th November. This includes the proposal for a £1 increase for the membership subscriptions. All clubs should have had the accounts for 2017.

Nomination for awards were discussed resented were resented these can be found in the full council minuets.

Dave Phipps has been elected as the president of EMFU (European Model Flying Union) the EMFU consists of 11 nations and represents 500,000 molders in the ongoing EASA negations.

The new BMFA had book will be sent out with the next BMFA Newsletter.

The National Center is being used on a regular bases most weekends there are events taking place. A local model car-racing club has booked the indoor area every Tuesday evening over the winter. Other organizations have been in contact inquiring about using the facilities.

The Nat's went off well this year. The CAA paid the event a visit and was impressed with the way the event was run adding to the BMFA's ongoing excellent relationship with the CAA. On small issue was staining on the runway from the control line areas. The clean up squad on the Monday spent a long time removing the stains before the site was given back to return to full operations.

Although not conformed by any way the BMFA will be in negations with the MOD to run the Nat's at Barkston heath in 2018

I will be attending the BMFA AGM on the Saturday the 18th November. I will also be attending a one day seminar on GDPR on behalf of the BMFA in a bit to understand what the BMFA and its clubs need to do to comply with the new regulations that come into affect May 2018. Once we have this information then the BMFA will be issuing guidelines to all clubs.

Clubs should be advised to check the location of buildings that have Solar Panels on them in the area of their Flying Sites as there has been issues with them being damaged when models have crashed to them.

The new Area website is now up and running although there is still work to be done on it. The old one currently points to the new one at <http://southeast.bmfa.org/> and will be closed down once the contract with the web hosting company ends in December. The Facebook page posts are getting out to a large number of people. Over 1,900 people saw the item about the AGM/OGM. The largest so far was 2,300, which was the item about Indoor flying at Beacon School Sports Hall.

The Area has been asked if the can help with providing some BMFA Darts by Ashford Radio Aeromodellers who been invited by a local Guiding group to do some presentations on model flying. The Area has a stock of Darts that were purchased last year so I sent off 12 kits for them to use. The after school model club I help to run at Warden Park academy has restarted after the school summer holidays and has gone from the 8 students we had last year to 15 most of them new to the club.

Vice Chairman: Nothing to Report.

Secretary: Nothing to Report.

Treasurer: Nothing to Report.

Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator: Nothing to Report.

Ed. Co-Ord: Nothing to Report.

Flying Discipline Secretary: Nothing to Report.

5. Review of Area events in 2017.

The Cloud Tramp took place on Epsom Downs and was very well attended with 29 pilots taking part.

The Epsom Electric Fly-in was considered a success with visiting pilots from around the Area.

The Epsom Scale Fly was rescheduled to 1st October due to lack of interest however the weather proved unsuitable on that date and the rescheduled event was cancelled.

The Scale day Hastings was considered very successful and would be run again with permission of the host club.

The Area knows little about the Towner Trophy event as none of those involved attends Area meetings.

The Free Flight competions are self contained and run by those involved.

6. PROPOSED EVENTS

This year the hall for the K2 meeting will have to be paid for in advance it is expected that it will cost around £1000 and in addition there are Trophies to be purchased. Stuart Willis will be working with Terry Knight in making arrangements and advertising the event. Terry requested that the Area provide people to take money on the door to ensure receipts are maximized.

Roger Marples offered liaise with the host club with regard to running an EFI and SFI in 2018. It was noted that efforts must be made to ensure the dates do not clash with other events.

The Cloud Tramp will be held on the 4th August 2018.

7. ASHDOWN FOREST AND THE LONG MAN FUNDING.

There was an extensive discussion on the subject. The treasurer again pointed out that we spend nearly 50% of our funding on these two sites. The members of ESSA and the Free Flight competions flyers have contributed but there are others, possibly from outside the Area that do not. As they are open sites it is not possible to enforce any form of control over that use them. The only solution appears to be some extra funding from Head Office to offset the financial impact on the Area. Stuart Willis advised the area could submit a proposal to the full council to request more funding. He will obtain the proposal form.

8. BMFA AGM.

The AGM will be held on 18th November. It will be proposed that the annual subscription is increased by £1.00. The position of PRO will be discontinued.

9**.** A.O.B.

The Treasurer stated that we have no overdraft facility and it is possible that the payment for the K2 meeting would not leave sufficient funds to cover the Ashdown Forest and Long Man costs. He undertook to provide a detailed forecast to the Area so that a decision can be made if that is the case.

Paul Holmes (Gravesend A.C) offered the use of their field again if another Examiners workshop is run in 2018.

Dave Lambert (Epsom D.M.A.C) reported that a drone had been seen over flying the road and car park at Epsom Downs without any operator being visible.

10. NEXT MEETING 10th JANUARY 2018