

White Sheet Radio Flying Club



AGM 2017

18/11/2017

THOSE PRESENT; - Chris Lamming (CL-Chairman),
David Bradfield (DB – Vice Chairman),
Ian Duff (ID - Treasurer),
Den Larkin (DL – Membership Secretary),
Julian Yelliah (JY - Secretary)

Richard Edmunds, Bob Biash, Martin Hodd, Jess Nichols, Greg Langdon, Keith Derbyshire, JohnMyers, Roger Mathews, Chas Andrew, Andrew Bevan, Den Larkin. Martin Church, Nigel Witchels, Nick Lear, Stuart Wallace, Mike Bleatham, Bill Povkin . (Vic Harris non member)

Apologies: John Trebble Dave Scott Geoff Crew David Guyan Roy Proctor lewis Hawkins Jon Fox Martin Smallwood Andrew Davy Chris Williams Ray Eggelstone Jonathon House

Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed the members and mentioned Chas Andrews who had come 200 miles to attend the meeting.

He read out the apologies that had been sent to him.

Minutes last AGM

He asked the meeting if they wanted the minutes to be read through or would accept them as they were. He gave a short precis of what had happened the previous year.

The minutes were proposed by DB and Seconded Nigel Witchels

Chairman's Report

He thanked the members for coming saying that he knew that a number of members couldn't get to the slope that often in the year as we had members all over the country.

Thanked den who had been unwell this year but had managed to continue with the membership duties. He asked for a round of applause.

Thanked secretary for past work and said he was standing down after more than 7 years.

Thanked Jess who had been back on the committee for the last few years coming to meetings and supporting the work. It was nice to see him taking part in the English Open. He said had been on the committee for 34 years.

Chris William couldn't be there as he had a gig that night and had to rehearse thanked him for organising the scale events which he said were always very inclusive and would always try the odd models brought if required.

He thanked Stewart for the English open which he had organised the work he had put in meant no problems through his organisation with 27 pilots attending all giving it a good report.

David super supportive and made sure that nothing was forgotten

Ian looking after accounts and keeping us on the straight and narrow over the year. He will be in the F5J team representing the UK in Bulgaria next year

Thanked other members who had helped or regularly attended the events saying it makes a great difference to have a well-attended event.

Vote of thanks for the work done by the Chairman was called for by Den Larkin

Several open slope events were run with good attendance, weather and good feedback. Last one had to be moved due to the weather onto the slope was going to be on the flat with a BBQ but wind too strong. They were put in as just some dates that could be put in the calendar to be used to get people together and they have worked better than expected.

Scale event well attended but a couple had to be missed due to weather but always good attendance and good photos.

Chris is happy to stand again next year.

English Open was a big success and ran like clockwork, very safe event and he is looking forward to running it again this year in conjunction with Stewart.

Maintained good relationship with NT working on new signage with them in the new year impervious to cows and vandals. New licence to be negotiated next year and correct some of the anomalies that have been put into the current licence.

The current license says that we are the only flyers who have got permission to fly on the slope along with guests.. Told by a member that you are covered by BMFA insurance on any site if you have permission from the landowner.

Chairman reported that he had talked to the BMFA on this subject and the bottom line was they will insure so long as what you are doing is lawful. As far as we are able we will control the site but we are not policemen so cannot control it 24/7. If flyers are met on the slope and are flying in line with our rules then leave well alone if there is any trouble then contact the NT ranger.

Web site looking good and there have been a number of postings from a number of people.

Wheelchair access was brought up by a member who has a friend who would like to visit the site but cannot as yet due to kissing gates being used. A short discussion took place and it was decided that it would be brought up at one of the meetings with the NT. It was reported that at one of the original meetings when the kissing gates were being planned access by wheelchair was not considered.

Monthly meetings going well and it is useful to meet regularly. Somerset Arms at Maiden Bradley is the venue but could change if it is not always available.

There has been talk that John Treble would like to run a single make contest using the Dream Flight -Ahi

Open slopes will go on again next year with a couple of extra dates first April 8.

Winter league is running again and this year there are four slopes being used one being ours so depending on wind direction there may be an email saying that the slope will be being used that day. It will also be on a number of other mediums.

There was talk about the road that is now starting to form a gully again and what could be done about it. Two main contributing factors are the directors are being occluded by the gravel from the road surface and run off drains being blocked. It was pointed out that it is a roman road and also that it is a maintained roadway so work should be done in conjunction with the council. It was felt that it was not our job but it could be started to completion by making some money available to the council to get them to consider the project, but that will be considered later in the year.

The BMFA are going to be featuring us in their club corner hopefully after all the negotiations are complete with NT and situation of guest flyers is put to bed.

Ideas are always welcome.

Comp Secretary Report

English open 19 20 August

Sponsors South coast sailplanes, Steve Webb and Bucks Composites

Well supported with the exception of the Welsh open this is the biggest comp in the UK the Welsh being part of the euro tour so had participants from Spain etc which made it bigger.

We did have a flyer from Holland competing, 27 flyers in all 15 were White sheet members.

First day 7 rounds on south west bowl but with the wind coming over the spur some suffered from sink at times.

On the Saturday evening the meeting adjourned to the George pub in Mere and had a good time with a meal and a social evening with family and friends

Sunday wind was full on the slope and flew a further five rounds before the prize giving at around 4 PM. Sponsor Peter Payne of South Coast Sailplanes arrived late in the morning and stayed to present trophies. In addition to the trophies there were certificates made by our chairman there are photos on our web site.

Winner John Phillips

Second Tony Livingstone

Third Mark Treble

The rest of the results are on our web site.

Junior trophy was won by Samuel Wallace Stewarts son,

Youngest pilot by 25 years

Over the weekend a raffle was held and it raised £255 which went to two of Stewarts special charities in memory of his son Tom. A blood cancer charity Bloodwise and a charity Histio UK that deals with a very rare immune system disorders.

The prizes were donated by the sponsors and our club.

South Coast Sailplanes donated a two-night stay at their guest house Ross Court in Bournemouth.

Steve Webb Models a £20 voucher and Bucks Composites £20 of goods from their range.

White Sheet donated an Dream Flight Ahi aerobatic glider.

Thanks to Chris for being on the phone when needed and bacon sandwiches on the slope and John Philips who CD the event for me because of the trouble with my neck.

Treasurer Report

The treasurer apologised for failing in his mission to reduce our balance. Reporting that we were up £270 up this year.

He went through the accounts and detailed certain items

Over 100 members this year largely due to the slope events.

Went through committee expenses £35 spent on flower for funeral of hanglider pilot killed on slope.

Sundries all the items bought to provide tea, coffee and bacon rolls etc at the fly ins is now going to be extended to the scale days as well as something for the membership

Web domain renewal David has taken on the renewal of the web domain so it is a zero cost.

Considered free membership but it means that we have no control of the membership so it will stay at £10 and ways will be taken to try and defray the growth of the balance.

English open raised £212 pounds and we put forward a prize of £150 so we are still making a profit there. Even if we made a loss we could easily stand it and the running of it is more to raise the profile of the club than accrue funds

We lose members each year but gain more members than we lose.

Road fund is kept separate as the monies in it were specifically donated for that purpose and will eventually be used for such when the time comes.

Two members paid twice and on contacting said to keep it as a donation.

Affiliation membership dropped to 10 this year but is still more than the minimum. People wanting to take our club as lead BMFA club need to put money in by 10 January.

Two members joined in the last month and treasure extended their membership to the end of the next period asked if that was ok to do and the meeting gave their assent.

If taking BMFA membership through the club send two cheques one made out to club for £10 and the other made out to BMFA for £34 this saves time. You are covered by insurance from receipt of the cheque by the club.

Junior Membership free up to 18 years as per BMFA.

Treasurers report proposed by David Bradbury and seconded by Martin Church adopted unanimously.

Elections

Chairman

Chris Lamming

Proposed by Nigel Witchels Seconded by John Myers

Vice Chairman

David Bradfield

Proposed Den Larkin Seconded Mike Bleath

Treasurer

Ian Duff

Proposed Jess Nichols Seconded Den Larkin

Scale Secretary

Chris Williams

Proposed Jess Nichols Seconded Den Larkin

Comp Secretary

Stuart Wallace

Proposed Chris Lamming Seconded David Bradfield

Secretary

Andy Bevan

Proposed Chris Lamming Seconded David Bradfield

Membership Secretary

Den

Proposed , Nigel Witchels Seconded David Bradfield

Jess proposed as local liason

Proposed Chris Lamming Seconded David Bradfield

The membership fee was proposed by David Bradfield and seconded by Andrew Bevan

Point 1 Excess fund donation and the charity chosen was discussed.

It had been proposed that the surplus from next year that is not required for any other plan is donated to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance as a way of maintaining our funds at a reasonable level and not continual growth. A number of other charities were mentioned such as various Cancer charities and support of the British teams representing model flying such as F3F.

After discussion, the proposal was amended such that:

1/The 2018 Charity for any excess funds generated in 2018, as notified by the Treasurer at the 2018 AGM , will be the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. The amount to be approved at the 2018 AGM after review of the accounts at the AGM.

2/ Excess Funds - from current year activities will go to the charity selected at the previous AGM. The amount will be presented and proposed by the Treasurer at the AGM and a vote to accept the proposed donation will be required.

3/ Chosen Charity – for support will be selected by committee over the following year based on nominations from members. The charity selection will be presented for approval at the next year's AGM. Thus for 2019 a charity will be submitted at the 2018 AGM. In the absence of acceptance of a charity at the AGM the existing charity (in 2018 this will be Wiltshire Air Ambulance) will be adopted automatically for another year. The amount to be approved as at 2/ above.

Proposed Jess Nichols Seconded Richard Edmunds. Approved by a majority show of hands in favour.

Point 2 CAA CAP 685 model flying

A discussion took place about the rules that have come into force about flying models which weigh more than 7 kg and more than 20kg.

Models more than 7 kg have a height ceiling of 400 feet above the launch point

Models above 20 kg have to be inspected throughout the construction and on completion by the LMA inspector and the pilots have to be examined to be able to fly that model. This is as well as the 400 foot flight limit.

The discussion was around whether we should put explicit instructions in to our rule book so that a CD could put a limit on flying to 400 feet if any model present was over 7kg This would be much more likely on a scale day where there are large models.

It would also affect anyone who brought a large model to fly.

The question was should we be the policemen on the slope which could leave us responsible for any infringements or just make participants aware that the rules exist and where the details could be found as the individual is responsible in law for knowing the law and complying with it.

The feeling of the meeting was that there should be a technical note added to the handbook to point to the BMFA, LMA and CAA rules and legislation that we fly under and also to point out that the site does not have an exemption certificate for glider flying.

Proposed John Myers Seconded David Bradfield

Point 3 Pre-Registration of visiting flyers

A discussion took place about the exact wording that we needed to put in the handbook to be as inclusive as we could to model flyers while complying with the current licence and the changes that would be need to be incorporated in the new licence to be negotiated next year. The licence at present says that only club members can fly but after clarification with the NT permission may be granted by club members to flyers to fly on the site.

People coming to a fly in or similar will have given their names to the organiser and as such be known flyers.

The people who fly on the hill that we know nothing about do so on their own.

The details will be on the web site along with contact addresses.

This will be put on the new signage that is hoped to be erected in the future and will be mentioned on the BMFA club corner article.

Proposal

An email from or being accompanied by any member constitutes permission to fly on the hill so long as they have BMFA insurance.

Proposed Ian Duff Seconded David Bradfield

Point 4 Frequency control

Discussion about the need for the peg board as the facility to store it has been removed from the Red Lion and it is in a poor state. The method of displaying the frequency in use and where it should be located was discussed for 35 and 27 Mhz flyers. The fact that we have a number of flyable slopes and can be flyable at the same time can cause troubles Going back to the old location for frequency control on the SW bowl kissing gate no matter what slope was in use.

Proposal

Peg on system on the disc placed by the southwest bowl for all 35 or 27 Mhz flying. The peg will have the frequency used on it.

Proposed Den Larkin Seconded David Bradfield

The last agenda item about sign design was not discussed as it would be part of the talks with the NT and would be designed in consultation with them if there was any signage at all.

The meeting then went on to the raffle and closed at 17:45