

EAST ANGLIAN AREA BMFA
Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th March 2022 at 19:45.
Meeting held via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- Alan Jackson - BTR
- Vic Blackwood - Bury
- Steve Bowles – Competition Secretary

2. Present – 9 members

- Paul Hoey – Chairman/Delegate – South Norfolk
- Joe Kemp – Vice Chairman - NERCMAC
- Mike Woodhouse – Secretary/Treasurer – Vikings
- Alan Paul – Webmaster – Impington
- Graham Gooch – Norwich
- Gary Hughes – Mid Suffolk
- Rob Wakes – Clacton
- Stephen Kessel – Kelling
- Richard Parker – Watton

2. Minutes of the previous meeting (6th January 2022)

- Proposed – Paul Hoey, seconded – Graham Gooch - Agreed.

3. Matters arising

- Some BMFA staff are continuing to work from home. This arrangement will probably be the norm from now on.
- Meetings continue to be held via Zoom with Andy Symons assisting and facilitating Technical Committees, Areas, and Clubs.
- Work on the New BMFA website continues, and the new site is expected to be up and running early in the new year. Graham Gooch reported problems that are arising with to changes to the classified adverts on the site. The Chairman will talk to Andy Symons.

4. BMFA Briefing for 17th March Area's Council meeting

- The purpose of the Council meeting is to move forward with the reshaping of the governance of the BMFA and the role of Areas within the new structure. The Chairman led a discussion and the meeting agreed with the proposals. The key to the success of the changes to the governance is down to the personalities that fill the various roles.

- The Chairman explained the work to revise the Area Committee constitution which was agreed.

5. Area chairman

- Paul Hoey updated the meeting on the plans to celebrate 100 years of SMAE/BMFA in 2022. Details of National and local activities would be published via the BMFA regular means with the addition of a “100” website. <https://100.bmfa.org> A discussion with respect to activities, in particular East Anglia, took place and those present were encouraged to get their local celebrations publicised through the website. The Chairman has arranged for a two-day event (April 30th and May 1st) at the Norwich Forum. Help from local clubs has been requested.
- The trophies for the Impington Club Cub event had been ordered and paid for.
- The Impington Club was encouraging interest from Cub Scout groups. It was proposed by Alan Paul that, subject to the appropriate financial case, and seconded by Graham Gooch that further funding could be made available. The proposal was accepted

6. Achievement Scheme coordinator

- A scale “C” test two-day Training-day is being planned at Buckminster for 29th March. The SCTC technical committee is involved to ensure that the training will fully meet the needs of the test requirements.
- In Liaison with the King’s Lynn Club a Club examiner training day is being planned

7. Other business

- The secretary advised that it is very early days, but renewals to the BMFA are holding up and includes drone fliers who are now returning to the BMFA. As at mid-March 2022 the overall membership is up by 500. which includes 1,000 drone flyers. Some drone flyers are joining existing model flying clubs. It should be remembered that due to Covid the renewal pattern compared year to year is likely to be distorted.
- An NPOD day was proposed by the Norwich Club. Proposed by Graham Gooch that funding up to a maximum of £225 be provided by the Area. This was seconded by Joe Kemp and approved. Payment will be made post the event when the actual costs are submitted.

- The Chairman reminded that the world record attempt of the most models in the air at the same time in the UK is scheduled for Midday on the Sunday 15th May.

8. Next meeting

- The date of Full Council is 14th May. The date of the Area meeting will therefore be Thursday 12th May via Zoom.