

Unadopted Minutes of the BMFA North Eastern Area Meeting held on 4th January 2023 at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Burnmoor, Co. Durham, DH4 6EX



Officers Present

Y Chairman: Martin Johnson (Novocastrians)	Y Treasurer: Tom Walker (Sunderland & DMAC)
Y Vice Chairman: Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)	Y Delegate: Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)
Y Secretary: Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)	
Y Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator: Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)	

Clubs Represented (eligible to vote)

Newcastle MFA; Peterlee RMC; Area 51; Sunderland & District MAC; Hartlepool MFC; Weardale MGA; Tynedale Flyers MFC; Terry Bailey (Fellow);

Apologies for Absence

Tom Jones (Teesside MFC); Nigel Miscampbell (Glenluce & Galloway Flyers); Lez Scurfield (Tynedale Flyers MFC); Mark Cook (West Calder & District MFC)

Corrections to Previous Minutes

None.

Adoption of Minutes

Proposed: Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)
Seconded: Dave Riley (Novocastrians)

Matters Arising

None.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that his predecessor had presented him with a number of Area trophies which he had been storing as they had not been awarded for several years, there are also a number of others that are held by area members. The Chairman is to collate a list of what we have so that a decision on what we should do with them can be taken. The Chairman is also keen to create an events calendar for Albemarle covering the whole year and asked club delegates to forward suggested dates to him prior to the next meeting. On the subject of Area events delegates were reminded that the deadline for requests for area funding for events is the February meeting. All requests must be in writing and sent to the Area Secretary by 31st January 2023. Finally Martin asked anyone with photo's or videos from events held at Albemarle over the last year or so to forward them to him or the secretary to enable the gallery section of area website to be updated.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that he had sent the application to renew the licence to use Albemarle Barracks to the Commanding Officer Lt.Col. JM Hooper for approval, as part of the process the risk assessment and rules covering use of the barracks have been reviewed and amended as necessary, the updated documents are on the Area website. The Area website has also been updated with the new committee and contact details as well as the AGM and December meeting minutes being added to the downloads section. Gary also reported that he'd been contacted by a number of Scottish clubs that are affiliated to the North East Area who are extremely upset that they have not been contacted by the BMFA regarding the proposal to create a new Area called "Scotland" that will essentially be run by what is now the SAA (Scottish Aeromodellers Association). Most of these clubs have their own reasons why they are not currently affiliated to the SAA and do not want to be forced to become part of an organisation that they and their

members have previously chosen not to be a part of. A selection of the emails received have been forwarded to Duncan McClure the BMFA Members Director to make him aware of the situation and he has replied stating that discussions are ongoing with the SAA and the BMFA will be speaking to the clubs currently affiliated to our area to seek their views on the way forward.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurer reported the current state of the Area finances after paying for the AGM hospitality and the monthly bank charges. Tom also reported that no additional area funding had been received other than the initial £600.00 paid to all areas.

Delegates Report

The Area Delegate reported that there was to be an Area Council meeting on 5th January 2023 at 7pm via Zoom, the main agenda items being to approve the changes to area boundaries and the creation of the new Area "Wales" (formerly Mid-West). There is also to be an update on the discussions around the merger with the SAA and creation of BMFA "Scotland". The other items are the election of four members of the ASRC (Achievement Scheme Review Committee) from the five candidates, namely John Harris, Joseph Kemp, Chris Bradbury, Simon Wood, and Jonathan Land. There will also be an update on area funding and a proposal to hold an Area Treasurers meeting in the next few weeks to discuss how the funding process operates and will operate in the future.

There is also a meeting of the Full Council on 21st January, where the main business is the ratification of directors, areas, area officers, and submission of directors' reports. Under the new management structure Area Delegates are no longer directors of the BMFA so are not required to attend this meeting, instead the areas are represented by the Members Director and four non-executive area directors selected by a random draw at the last Area Council meeting (currently East Anglia, South East, South West and Wales).

Flying Disciplines Officers Reports

Free Flight

Nothing to report.

Radio Control

At the BMFA Fun-Fly Nationals held at Buckminster Martin Bell (Hartlepool MFC) was 3rd in Class 1.

Control Line

Nothing to report.

Indoor

Indoor events hosted by Peterlee RMC at East Durham College are now from 11am to 1pm, both sessions in February have been cancelled as the hall is being used by the College, full details are on the area website.

Any Other Business

Gerard Gaynor (Peterlee RMC) apologised for the late cancellation of the event his club were hosting at Albemarle Barracks on 18th December, the decision to cancel was made based on the weather forecast in the days leading up to the event. Gerard asked what the policy was if the event organiser was unable to make the event but didn't want to cancel the booking. He was advised that as it is the club that makes the booking not the event organiser, so as long as the club can appoint an alternative host then the event can proceed.

The Chairman advised that as our licence for Albemarle doesn't expire until February requests for dates in January can be accepted. Peterlee RMC requested 29th January, Martin is to check with the base and report back if it is available.

Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA) asked why CAA Registration could not be renewed via the membership portal at the same time as BMFA membership when using the "bulk renewal" facility but could be done if renewing each member individually. The secretary is to ask Andy Symons for an explanation and will report the outcome direct to Peter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 1st February 2023 at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Burnmoor Co. Durham, DH4 6EX.

Club Secretaries and PROs please note: if you have an event to publicise, give the details to either Tom Jones, tom.ip11@gmail.com or Gary Armstrong, Area Secretary: garyarmstrong13@virginmedia.com

The details of your event can then be distributed with the Area minutes in Forthcoming Events* if there is sufficient time and posted on the Area web site and Facebook page.

Forthcoming Events

Date	Event	Contact
3 rd Sept 2022 Then 1 st & 3 rd Sat each month	Peterlee RMC Indoor Flying @ East Durham College 11am-1pm. Note February's events are Cancelled. See Area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk	bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk
10 th Sept 2022 Then 2 nd & 4 th Sat each month	Washington MFC Indoor Flying @ Nissan Sports Hall, Washington 2-4pm.	peterjwatson@blueyonder.co.uk