

Unadopted Minutes of the BMFA North Eastern Area Meeting held on 3rd January 2024 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; Tynedale MFC; Novocastrians; Weardale MGA; Area 51; Shildon MFC; Peterlee RMC; Crook & District MFC; Washington MFC; Sunderland & District MAC; Terry Bailey (Fellow).

Apologies for Absence

Ian Jones (Darlington & District MFC); Lez Scurfield (Tynedale MFC); Paul Brekon (Hartlepool MFC)

Corrections to Previous Minutes

None.

Adoption of Minutes

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

Matters Arising

None.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman had nothing to report, however he had received a photograph of a mystery model from the family of a deceased modeller which he circulated to see if any of the delegates could identify what it was.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that the application to renew the licence to use Albemarle Barracks had been sent to the Commanding Officer for approval. The CAA consultation on new UAS regulations closes on January 10th and delegates were reminded that they and their club members need to respond, the more responses the CAA get the more likely they are to listen to what modellers want. The BMFA's response and guidance notes are on the BMFA website. Gary also reported that the bulk email facility on the area website would be put to use as soon as the club support officer Andy Symons has hosted a Zoom webinar explaining how the new system works to the area website administrators, this expected to be early in the new year.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurer reported the current state of the Area's finances, the payment for the AGM Buffett and drinks still needs to be deducted from the current balance.

Delegates Report

There will be an Area Council meeting on Thursday 11th January via Zoom, there is very little on the agenda that requires input from the Area, the only votes being to elect members to fill three vacancies on the Achievement Scheme Review committee, and to ratify the full committee. The candidates for election are Charlie Cox, Russ Bowey and Kevin Watson and Gary requested approval to vote in favour, which was unanimously given. The four non-executive directors who represent Areas Council at Board Meetings are the delegates who represent the South West, Wales, South Midland, and Northern areas. There will be a meeting of the BMFA Board on 13th January via Zoom, there is nothing on the agenda that requires input from Area Council as most of the business is the ratification of various officers and technical committee members, as well as reports from elected officers and sub committees.

Achievement Scheme Coordinators Report

Following the last meeting the ASC reported that he had now completed the formal proposal to appoint Peter Farnell (Guisborough MFC) as a new Area Chief Examiner (fixed wing) and having had the paperwork signed by the Area Chairman it would be submitted to Duncan McClure for approval. The situation with Yan Lockhart (Crook & District MFC) is slightly more complicated as he needs to do the Helicopter "B" certificate flight demonstration before he can add the extra discipline to his existing examiner qualification. Once done the formal proposal to appoint him as an Area Chief Examiner (fixed wing and helicopter) can be submitted. Hopefully this will be done as soon as there is a decent flying day.

Flying Disciplines Officers Reports

Free Flight

Nothing to report.

Radio Control

Nothing to report.

Control Line

Nothing to Report.

Indoor

Peterlee RMC indoor events resume on Saturday 6th January. Full details of indoor events hosted by Peterlee RMC and Washington MFC are on the area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk

Any Other Business

Gerard Gaynor (Shildon MFC) requested financial support from the Area for indoor events hosted by his club which are being used by members of GB F2B (aerobatics) team to practice for the forthcoming World Championships in the USA. The Chairman asked Gerard to submit a formal request via the Area Secretary for consideration at the next Area meeting and reminded delegates that any other clubs looking for Area support need to get their requests in before the end of January. The Chairman reported that he had received requests from the Novocastrians to book Albemarle for competitions and Gerard on behalf of Peterlee

and Area 51 clubs for dates for events at Albemarle Barracks. There has been some confusion about how the booking process works which Martin attempted to explain. In general competitions take precedence over other events when requesting dates as these need to fit in to the national competition calendar, and need to be booked well in advance, where as general flying can be booked at short notice subject to approval by the military. There followed a discussion about the use of Albemarle for model flying and the perception from those that don't fly there regularly that it is only for "jet fliers". The Chairman and Gerard both stressed that this is not the case and fliers of all types of models are welcome to fly at the site providing they and their models comply with the site guidance notes published on the area website. The Chairman proposed submitting the eight dates that have been requested to Albemarle for approval, this was seconded by the Secretary and carried unanimously, the dates will be notified to delegates as soon as they are confirmed. Martin is to chase Albemarle about the booking for Sunday 7th January as this has still not been confirmed and he will circulate the outcome as soon as he gets a reply. Martin is to contact Tom Jones about promotion of Albemarle events via the Area Facebook page as not everything we do is being posted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

The next meeting will be at 8pm on Wednesday 7th February 2024 at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Burnmoor Co. Durham, DH4 6EX, and will be followed by a normal monthly meeting.

Club Secretaries and PROs please note: if you have an event to publicise, give the details to either, Tom Jones, tom.jp11@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
1 st & 3 rd Sat each month	Peterlee RMC Indoor Flying @ East Durham College 11am-1pm. Session's resume September 2nd, 2023. See Area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk for details.	bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk
2 nd & 4 th Sat each month	Washington MFC Indoor Flying @ Nissan Sports Hall, Washington 2-4pm. Session's resume September 2023 See Area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk . For details	peterjwatson@blueyonder.co.uk
11 th Feb 2024	General R/C Flying at Albemarle Barracks with control line, free flight, and light R/C on the sports field.	gerardgaynor@talktalk.net
10 th March 2024	General R/C Flying at Albemarle Barracks with control line, free flight, and light R/C on the sports field.	gerardgaynor@talktalk.net
7 th April 2024	General R/C Flying at Albemarle Barracks with control line, free flight, and light R/C on the sports field.	gerardgaynor@talktalk.net
12 th May 2024	General R/C Flying at Albemarle Barracks with control line, free flight, and light R/C on the sports field.	gerardgaynor@talktalk.net
22 nd June 2024	GBR F2D Combat National Team Practice Session	dmriley1975@gmail.com

23 rd June 2024	Vintage League Centralised Combat Competition. The runway will also be available for general R/C flying.	dmriley1975@gmail.com
14 th July 2024	Brian Park Memorial Trophy – further details to follow	
17 th Aug 2024	GBR F2D Combat National Team Practice Session	dmriley1975@gmail.com
18 th Aug 2024	Vintage League Centralised Combat Competition. The runway will also be available for general R/C flying.	dmriley1975@gmail.com