

**Unadopted Minutes of the BMFA North Eastern Area Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Burnmoor, Co. Durham, DH4 6EX.**



**Officers Present**

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

**Clubs Represented (eligible to vote)**

Newcastle MFA; Shildon MFC; Area 51; Hartlepool MFC; Cramlington & District MAC; Novocastrians; Sunderland & District MAC; Terry Bailey (Fellow & Chester-le-Street RMC)

**Apologies for Absence**

Martin Johnson (Chairman); Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA & Vice Chairman); Yan Lockhart (Crook & District MFC); Ian Jones (Darlington & District MAC); Brian Worrall (Peterlee RMC); Keith Jones (Washington MFC).

**Corrections to Previous Minutes**

None.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Proposed: David Riley (Novocastrians)  
Seconded: Tom Walker (Sunderland & District MAC)

**Matters Arising**

None.

**Chairman's Report**

No report was received from the Chairman who was on holiday.

**Secretary's Report**

The Secretary reported that he had received the licence to use Albemarle Barracks for the next twelve months, unfortunately there has been a 50% increase in the licence fee from £400.00 to £600.00. Gary had queried the amount with the DIO but was informed that it is the military at Albemarle that set the fee and that it was in line with what other groups that use the base are paying. With the cost of preparing the licence at £150.00 plus VAT and a £30.00 insurance charge the total amount payable is £810.00, with the invoice expected in the next few days. The booking for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March was confirmed by the guardroom on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March, with some training taking place on the day we were asked to check with the guardroom when ringing to get the gate opened to see if any areas of the airfield were unavailable to us.

The Secretary apologised for the late distribution of the February meeting minutes and confirmed that in accordance with those minutes the informal verbal warning had been sent

to the member concerned via email. Gary also confirmed that he had submitted a funding request to the Hon. Treasurer along with a draft budget showing what we expect to spend in the coming year. Given the funds we already have which include monies received last year for events that didn't take place it is unlikely that we will receive anything other than the base funding of £600.00, and even that may not be forthcoming. Gary also reported that he had set up a test of the bulk email facility but had not yet sent anything out due to a lack of time. Finally, the plan to arrange a meeting with the new commanding officer at Albemarle is on hold until the Chairman is back from his holiday.

### **Treasurers Report**

The Treasurer reported the current state of the Area's finances and outlined payments and receipts since the last meeting. The payments to clubs that we have agreed to provide with event support will be sorted following the meeting but will not be despatched until the clubs concerned have provided the necessary advertising material for the area website as per our terms and conditions. As agreed at the AGM the paperwork to add the Chairman as an additional signatory on the Area bank account has been prepared and just needs the Chairman to visit his local branch with proof of ID to complete the process.

### **Delegates Report**

The next Areas Council meeting is on 9<sup>th</sup> May, the agenda for the meeting is not expected until sometime in April.

### **Achievement Scheme Coordinators Report**

All of the Areas Chief Examiners and Chief Instructors have been ratified for 2024, including our two new Chief Examiners Peter Farnell and Yan Lockhart.

### **Flying Disciplines Officers Reports**

#### **Free Flight**

Nothing to report.

#### **Radio Control**

The first UKF3A (new name for the Great Britain Radio Control Aerobatic Association) event of the new season is a training day to be held at Leicester on 24<sup>th</sup> March followed by the first competition of the year at Buckminster on 7<sup>th</sup> April. The 1<sup>st</sup> Centralised and National League competition takes place at Hurley (Warwickshire) on 21<sup>st</sup> April.

#### **Control Line**

The first competition of the year is a Vintage Combat event at Buckminster on 7<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **Indoor**

Peterlee RMC indoor events have resumed but Brian Worrall reported that they have had to increase the price for attending pilots to £5.00. Full details of indoor events hosted by Peterlee RMC and Washington MFC are on the area website [www.northeast.bmfa.uk](http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk)

### **Any Other Business**

Gerard Gaynor (Shildon MFC) offered an apology to the Chairman for him being unable to view his Facebook posts about Albemarle events, unfortunately during a change of mobile

phone the default setting had changed from public to private stopping Martin and others from seeing the posts, the problem has now been resolved.

Gerard also asked the Secretary if it was possible to have a copy of the Area constitution to pass on to one of his members. The member had emailed the Secretary to request a copy but had not had a reply. The Secretary responded saying that the only reason he'd not replied to the request was because he'd never received it. Gary agreed to email a copy to Gerard but subsequently found a printed copy which was passed on. Gary also commented that if the request was to find what he thought then the member would be disappointed as what he was looking for was part of the BMFA constitution which he thought was part of the council handbook which is currently unavailable as it is being reworked following changes to the BMFA management structure.

Further to a topic Gerard reported on last year he confirmed that he was planning to hold an indoor static event at Barnard Castle on 7<sup>th</sup> September to include all types of models, a bring and buy and a possible control line demonstration.

Euan Galloway (Area 51) asked whether there had been any progress regarding the Areas Facebook page, unfortunately this was being dealt with by the Chairman and will need to be held over until the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

**The next meeting will be at 8pm on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 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.jp11@gmail.com](mailto:tom.jp11@gmail.com) or Gary Armstrong, Area Secretary: [garyarmstrong13@virginmedia.com](mailto: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**

| <b>Date</b>                                      | <b>Event</b>   | <b>Contact</b>   |
|--|--|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat each month | Peterlee RMC Indoor Flying @ East Durham College<br>11am-1pm. See Area website <a href="http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk">www.northeast.bmfa.uk</a> for details.       | Brian Worrall<br><a href="mailto:bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk">bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk</a>            |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sat each month | Washington MFC Indoor Flying @ Nissan Sports Hall, Washington 2-4pm. See Area website <a href="http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk">www.northeast.bmfa.uk</a> for details | Peter Watson<br><a href="mailto:peterjwatson@blueyonder.co.uk">peterjwatson@blueyonder.co.uk</a> |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2024                       | Shildon MAC Indoor Model Flying @ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre 12.00-4.00pm  | Barry Robinson<br><a href="mailto:barry1@talktalk.net">barry1@talktalk.net</a>                   |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2024                      | General R/C Flying at Albemarle Barracks hosted by Area 51 with control line, free flight, and light R/C on the sports field.                                      | Gerard Gaynor<br><a href="mailto:gerardgaynor@talktalk.net">gerardgaynor@talktalk.net</a>        |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2024                       | General R/C Flying at Albemarle Barracks hosted by Peterlee RMC with control line, free flight, and light R/C on the sports field.                                 | Brian Worrall<br><a href="mailto:bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk">bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk</a>            |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2024                      | Shildon MAC Indoor Model Flying @ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre 12.00-4.00pm  | Barry Robinson<br><a href="mailto:barry1@talktalk.net">barry1@talktalk.net</a>                   |

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| 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2024    | Shildon MAC Indoor Model Flying @ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre 12.00-4.00pm   | Barry Robinson<br>barry1@talktalk.net       |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2024    | General R/C Flying at Albemarle Barracks hosted by Area 51 with control line, free flight, and light R/C on the sports field. | Gerard Gaynor.<br>gerardgaynor@talktalk.net |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2024   | Shildon MAC Indoor Model Flying @ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre 12.00-4.00pm   | Barry Robinson<br>barry1@talktalk.net       |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2024   | GBR F2D Combat National Team Practice Session   | David Riley<br>dmriley1975@gmail.com        |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024   | Vintage League Centralised Combat Competition. The runway will also be available for general R/C flying.                      | David Riley<br>dmriley1975@gmail.com        |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2024   | Brian Park Memorial Trophy – <b>further details to follow</b>   | Allan Brown<br>allan.030@btinternet.com     |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2024   | Shildon MAC Indoor Model Flying @ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre 12.00-4.00pm   | Barry Robinson<br>barry1@talktalk.net       |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2024 | Shildon MAC Indoor Model Flying @ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre 12.00-4.00pm   | Barry Robinson<br>barry1@talktalk.net       |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2024    | GBR F2D Combat National Team Practice Session   | David Riley<br>dmriley1975@gmail.com        |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2024    | Vintage League Centralised Combat Competition. The runway will also be available for general R/C flying.                      | David Riley<br>dmriley1975@gmail.com        |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept' 2024   | Indoor Exhibition. Barnard Castle<br><b>Further details to follow.</b>  | Gerard Gaynor.<br>gerardgaynor@talktalk.net |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept' 2024   | Shildon MAC Indoor Model Flying @ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre 12.00-4.00pm   | Barry Robinson<br>barry1@talktalk.net       |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct' 2024   | Shildon MAC Indoor Model Flying @ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre 12.00-4.00pm   | Barry Robinson<br>barry1@talktalk.net       |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov' 2024   | Shildon MAC Indoor Model Flying @ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre 12.00-4.00pm   | Barry Robinson<br>barry1@talktalk.net       |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec' 2024   | Shildon MAC Indoor Model Flying @ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre 12.00-4.00pm   | Barry Robinson<br>barry1@talktalk.net       |