BMAA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Adderbury, 18 March 2024, starting at 0930

Cath Spence	(CS)	Chair of meeting (also Vice-Chair)
Giles Fowler	(GF)	
Rob Grimwood	(RG)	
Simon Heyes	(SH)	
Rob Hughes	(RH)	CEO
Derek Lamb	(DL)	(via Zoom)
John Waite	(JW)	

1. Welcome

a. *Roll call, apologies, conflicts of interest, confidentiality*

Tim Burrow (TB) sent his apologies No new conflicts. GF was reminded that he is in a position of trust.

2. Agenda approval, additional items

None

3. Approval of previous minutes (22nd January 2024)

2 changes proposed by SH, seconded JW, approved.

a. Matters arising

The membership fee increase will be proposed at 4%.

4. Action list

As per the list.

Action 607: add concerns regarding a small number of members being able to take significant control to the risk register.

Action 609: The statement to members should be short and not include detail beyond a change to the accounts after Popham.

5. Reports:

a. *Chief Executive Officer*

The work of GASCo was discussed. It was agreed to donate £1000 and then a further 3x £500 if GASCo organise microlight-specific events. GASCo to be encouraged to make content relevant to microlighting, perhaps in collaboration with the FLT & SO.

b. *Treasurer*

i. *Appointment of new Treasurer*

DL had resigned previously. JW was nominated by DL, seconded by SH, approved.

c. *Chief Technical Officer*
Noted. Consider contacting armed forces resettlement organisations regarding the current vacancy.

d. *Chief Inspector*
Rob Mott joined the meeting to discuss inspector audits.

e. *FTL&SO*
Noted.
There was a lack of awareness of the 'Belt up' video release. ACTION: Safety Officer to address. (not added to Action list, instead message sent to SO)

f. *Administration / PR & promotion – DECISIONS REQUESTED*
The proposal to extend the student membership to 2 years was approved.
Merchandise items are an operational matter; refer to the CEO.

g. *Events*
There followed a long discussion regarding the 2024 and also future events aimed at youth. There is a need to clarify the objective of any such campaign before agreeing the format.

Should the youth bursary scheme be re-started? There are examples of former bursary winners still in aviation, though there are also examples of some not even taking up the bursary or then not progressing past the BMAA-funded lessons.

Were clubs/schools aware of 'local heroes' – youth who showed a determined effort ('washing aeroplanes on a Saturday morning') to get into aviation. Should BMAA funding be directed to them?

The plan as proposed by TB (to collaborate with flying schools) had not gained much traction; council instead asked the Events team to concentrate on STEM opportunities for 2024. Marketing opportunities could include merchandise, a competition, raffle to gain contact details etc.

BMAA member Brendan Digney had obtained a grant to attend an international air show in Northern Ireland and asked Kelly Thacker to liaise regarding a possible tie-in.

GF noted that the lighter flying community (free flying, paramotor, Sub-70 and even SSDR) had little or no awareness of the work of the BMAA. He was directed to www.bmaa.org/join as a starting point and agreed to consider how we may better get the message delivered. ACTION 611: GF to consider market penetration among lightweight flyers.

h. *Activity graphs*
Adjusted to reflect the new calendar financial year.

6. Activities

a. *Wings – Cath Spence*
CS to re-start 'Wingtips' regular feature in Microlight Flying.

b. *Publications – Derek Lamb*
Delete the 'logos page' in favour of more editorial content.

eMF had undergone a minor refresh, including less 'Not Microlighting But Flying' content.

c. *Competitions / Open Series – TB, but RH in his absence.*
WMC24 planning was going well. There had been a good response by competitors. RH had successfully negotiated a block exemption fee for competitors requiring either pilot licence and/or airframe overflight exemptions.

d. *Airspace – Simon Heyes*
SH was concentrating on the Caelus/East Fortune ACP and had concerns regarding the process; he had written to CAA with his views. RH pointed SH to the revision of CAP1616.

e. *New Horizons – Rob Hughes*
The Rugby aeroplane was now near completion. Two future candidates had expressed keen interest (Leicestershire STEM project and Hatfield University). It was agreed to fund a new Skyranger Nynja kit build. ACTION 612: RH to liaise with the two candidates and progress the next project.

7. Round table
SH noted the half-year survey and the many kind comments from members. SH proposed a formal vote of thanks to all staff members that they had delivered a service worthy of such praise. Unanimously agreed.

8. Any other business
a. *AGM arrangements*
No proposals from Council or members at this stage. The AGM will be 1300 on Saturday 4 May at Popham airfield.

i. *Membership fee increase*
The membership fee will be proposed at 4%.

ii. *Annual Report*
A reminder that the deadline for annual report submissions is 12 April.

b. *Council election 2024*
There was one candidate for two vacancies so Giles Fowler was duly elected and will transfer from co-opted to elected council member at the end of the 2024 AGM.

Council was reminded of the ability to co-opt to a vacant position.

c. *Financial Controls Proposal – Derek Lamb*
The paper was discussed at length.
Actions 613:
- REDACTED.

9. Date & time of next meeting

Next meetings:

AGM, 4 May 2024 (Popham)

17 June

30 Sept (NOTE: now moved post-AGM to 7th Oct (CS))

20 Jan ’25 (Zoom, including budget)

24 Mar ’25 (including AGM preparation)

The meeting closed at 14:45

The meetings will take place at the BMAA headquarters unless otherwise stated:
6 Somerville Court, Banbury Business Park, Adderbury, OX17 3SN.

Council Airwaves rota:
May: Rob G
Future rota to be decided after the 2024 AGM