BMAA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Adderbury, 7 October 2024, starting at 1000

Attendance

Tim Burrow (TB)	Chair
Giles Fowler (GF)	
Rob Grimwood (RG)	
Simon Heyes (SH)	
Cath Spence (CS)	Vice-Chair
John Waite (JW)	
Rob Hughes (RH)	CEO

1. Welcome

Roll call, apologies, conflicts of interest, confidentiality

2. Agenda approval, additional items

RH asked for 'Directors Register of interests, Activity Reports, Activities (Wings, publications, competitions), New Horizons and Airspace to be included.

3. Approval of previous minutes (17 June 2024)

CS to produce an updated version by 14 October, to be approved electronically.

Matters arising

None.

4. Action list

611 GF working with BHPA to update CAP804 to enable sub-70 pilots to gain their NPPL licence. GF to liaise with RH. RH reminded GF that the timeline is critical as CAA were already writing the new NPPL system, for publication early in January.

SH enquired as to the new government's stance on aviation. RH to attend the GA Private Strategic Forum meeting with DfT on 7 November.

5. Management reports:

Chief Executive Officer

Part-21 Light. EASA have issued the operational details and initial take-up is not encouraging as it is likely to not be popular.

Tech Office future staffing. Recruitment has been extremely difficult. There was discussion regarding possible future technical office staffing and developments in internal processing of permits.

TB reiterated the need for concentrated oversight of the technical office in the short term.

One job applicant was a foreign national. SH offered advice regarding potential difficulties as a result of their particular citizenship. SH suggested a meeting between the applicant and the CTO.

Treasurer

Finances are stable and in good shape. SH has access to the savings platform and also the accounting software. SH expressed his thanks for the work on the part of BMAA staff members.

Council and staff expenses are listed separately in the accounting software.

SH proposed that we continue with the existing auditor. APPROVED

1. *Annual staff salary increase (Sep/Jan?)*
   A small salary increase was due in January 2024 (to align increases with the new financial year) but not enacted. The previous policy on salary referring to RPI was discontinued.

   SH proposed an annual increase of [redacted]%, backdated to 01 September and then to re-visit in January 2025 to see if a further (small) increase was suitable. The next increase would then be January 2026. APPROVED.

2. *Budget (Sep/Jan?)*
   To be considered in January. RH asked for proposals for new or different spending items before January, to be included in the budget proposal. Future budgets will be agreed in the month of December.

3. *Fee increases (Sep/Jan?)*
   Fees will increase in January 2025.

Chief Technical Officer

No specific comments.

The Technical Office has currently frozen applications for new aircraft in the expectation that applications will be received again in early Q2 2025.

The topic of 'weight creep' was discussed with the advent of larger, more powerful aircraft requiring a higher fuel burn. There was concern that aeroplanes would again push the boundaries of weight limits and that technical regulations should be clear. Council expressed support for the CTO's concerns regarding aircraft being presented for approval that appear to exceed weight limits.

Chief Inspector (continued airworthiness)

No comments.

FTL&SO

Regret was expressed regarding the FTL&SO's resignation and there was a discussion regarding how to fill the position, possibly splitting into two distinct roles.

Given the NPPL changes, it was agreed to wait until March (when the FTL&SO resigns).

Administration

Membership is reduced; this is in the background of all other associations losing more members. This issue, along with promotions, was due to be discussed later in the day.

Business Manager

ii. *Youth schemes*
iii. *Event attendance*
iv. *Young Persons Bursary*

There was an extended discussion regarding promotions in general.

TB proposed a 5-yr youth plan in the form of a 'National Youth Day'. Clubs and schools would be encouraged to host a day at their locations and invite local youth groups. BMAA would provide a guide syllabus for the day plus supporting materials. BMAA would donate £250 per club/school to be used for the purposes of the event. TB instructed RH to liaise with KT to prepare a draft plan for the December meeting.

TB proposed a series of events spread geographically across the UK in collaboration with clubs/schools. The club/school provides an aeroplane and personnel, supported by BMAA staff members. TB instructed RH to liaise with KT to devise the outline plan and to report back for the December meeting.

SH agreed to provide a list of county shows that were relevant to his employer, for inspiration.

CS reminded that staff members were not contracted to attend events (other than Popham and the LAA Rally) and should not be relied upon.

6. WMC 2024 reports

Surplus account / legacy plans

The event produced a surplus of approx. £7000 and this will be used for:

1) Infrastructure to aid the British Team in the future.
2) Development of a suitable logger, in liaison with CIMA.
3) A reserve to provide for future national events

The four WMC2024 organisers will oversee the spending of this fund.

The British Team marquee is in poor condition, probably following being stored outside at Enstone airfield. The BMAA British Team has use of a trailer; this is in poor condition and RG reported that it is currently with a BMAA member, awaiting repairs.

a. *Event organiser's report*
b. *FAI Jury report*

These were presented and digested.

7. Round table

RG proposed that the BMAA Microlight Team is nominated for an award, preferably the RAeC Britannia Trophy. RG also proposed an award for the WMC2024 organising team. Deadline 13 December.

8. Any other business

There was one outstanding flexwing instructor bursary to be decided. GF agreed to liaise with RH.

SH stated he had been active with one airspace change proposal but did not have the availability to run the airspace team.

There was discussion regarding recognising Norman Burr's career as he is due to retire in February 2025.

<u>Frequency of council meetings</u>

One additional meeting in December. Not a regular reporting meeting, instead an additional meeting to concentrate on policy areas and with an agenda set by the Chairman. No staff or other reports required.

<u>MF Liaison role (after D Lamb resignation)</u>

GF agreed to take on the role.

<u>Directors' Register of Interest</u>

Non-Executive Directors were asked to provide updated details and all confirmed they had done so.

9. Date & time of next meetings:

9 December (Adderbury 0930) – non-reporting, agenda set by TB (RG indicated he may not be available, GF reported reduced availability but may be able to attend via Zoom).
20 Jan 25 (Zoom, including budget)
24 Mar 25 (Adderbury, including AGM preparation)

Council Airwaves rota:

November	*- SH*
January	*- CS*
March	*- JW*
May	- RG

The meeting closed at 1700.