

MINUTES OF THE 4th MEETING OF THE BMAA COUNCIL 2019
Monday 10th June 2019 0935
Deddington

PRESENT

Rob Hughes	RH	Chairman
Richard Bisiker	RB	
Tim Burrow	TB	Vice Chairman
Bill Davies	BD	
Rob Grimwood	RG	
Derek Lamb	DL	Treasurer
Frank Thompson	FT	
John Waite	JW	
Geoff Weighell	GW	Chief Executive

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. INTRODUCTION AND NOTIFICATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS.

- 2.1. Rob Grimwood holds a position with Flylight Airports. All members were asked to complete a Director Register of Interests form. **Action 481 All**

3. POSTS AND COMMITTEES

- 3.1. The responsibility for posts and make-up of sub-committees was agreed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (April 2019).

- 4.1. RH asked for some changes to be made to the previous meeting minutes and so they were not signed.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 5.1. 4.12 Official Guide to Microlighting (OGM) .pdf to be published on the BMAA site and other widely. Report back on activity resulting. **Action 482 GW**
- 5.2. Full costings of Trailer and Exhibition costs. Prepare and distribute. **Action 483 GW.**
- 5.3. AL contract review. Fees paid to date. Decision on future contract to follow detailed review of costs to date. Exhibition budget prepare detail for review. **Action 484 GW.** The cost of attending events will be paid for using the legacy received in 2018.

6. ACTION LIST

- 6.1. 432 RH To prepare to commission a promotional video. Working with a provider. **Open.** Agreed synopsis with provider for £1,200. RG suggested a possible alternative provider based at Kemble. RG to forward contact details. TB suggested schools provide lesson guides as video which would link schools to BMAA and promote schools. Idea to be linked to AL work. **GW to BMAA to plan management of promotion activity and develop priorities. Meet in July. Review AL remit. BMAA follow up to make use of work so far. Action 485 GW**
- 6.2. 455 GW To respond to appraisal report. **Closed**

- 6.3. 458 DL To arrange recruitment of an advertising executive for MF. Had had initial discussion with MF. **DL has spoken with Geoff Hill. Ian Norris may take over advertising. Closed**
- 6.4. 463 RH Concerned that the BMAA is constantly losing money. RB to meet with GW to review accounts and budget. Action 463 RB. No action. DL to take over as Treasurer until the 2019 AGM. Agreed by the meeting. Closed. **DL and RB to meet with GW to discuss finance. 16 July 2019. DL to confirm. Action 486 RB,DL,GW**
- 6.5. 464 GW News Item auto notification. GW to review with Webboutiques. Action 464 GW. **Open. Waiting for database transfer to be completed. GW to chase.**
- 6.6. 465 GW to write: background for awards and tips for a successful nomination to be published on the website; wording change to nomination form to clarify that the Council may make an award other than that nominated. **Action 465 GW Open.**
- 6.7. 467 TB Considered it important to have an AGM report for members regarding progress for promotion. **Action 467 GW. Closed**
- 6.8. 468 DL To discuss fee structure for new advertisers with MF publisher. **Closed**
- 6.9. 469 Micro Avionics are upset with a negative comment in MF re comfort of their headsets and are asking for an apology. DL to liaise. **MF Has offered to host an independent review of their product which has been rejected. Suggested that Micro Avionics has used this as an opportunity to withdraw advertising. Closed.**
- 6.10. 470 (Exhibition Trailer\l) Artwork is being developed for the internal and external wrap. Members viewed the draft artwork and commented. AL to address the comments and return with updates for final comment. **Completed. Closed**
- 6.11. 471 AL to contact Ben Ashman to provide logo in vertical and horizontal form. PP to be changed to SSDR, main text to be black. **Completed. Closed**
- 6.12. 472 GW New Logo to be distributed for use by all. GW to publicise. **Closed** Check Facebook image. **Action 487GW**
- 6.13. 473 GW To create a list of microlight school owners/contacts and pass to Amanda Lord. **Completed. Closed.**
- 6.14. 474 DL BMAA membership among students. The percentage of applicants applying for an NPPL who are members of the BMAA remains around 50%. During discussion it was agreed that there is a need to continue to close the gap between the BMAA and schools. JW suggested a "Schools" feature in MF and eMF possible Facebook. DL to arrange with publishers. Open. **Already do airfield of the month. Schools are offered an opportunity to be part of the airfield of the month, which is rarely taken. Schools are offered opportunity for review but cannot be forced. Closed.**
- 6.15. 475 Oversight of [exhibition] Trailer and policy for use. Plan for use and policies to be developed. **Ongoing. Open.**
- 6.16. 476 Trailer costs. GW to confirm costs for storage and insurance. **Completed. Closed**
- 6.17. 477 AL Raffle suggestion for generating income. Council members agreed policy. AL to progress. **Open GW to lead.**
- 6.18. 478 GW Check flying video. Ben Syson to provide a progress report and costings, or alternative plan. **RG has agreed to film some flexwing footage. CTO and CI will film fixed wing footage. Film could be produced by a volunteer who is a student at Kemble. Open.**

- 6.19. 479 The BMAA Courses website to include the BMAA graphic initially and then to be brought into the main BMAA website. Action 479 GW to address. **Ongoing Closed**
- 6.20. 480 GW Membership Cards. Electronic alternative? GW to look into. GW **No progress. Open**

7. BMAA/LAA MERGER (RH)

- 7.1. RH outlined what had happened to date regarding talks with relation to working more closely with the LAA and the potential for a merger between the BMAA and LAA. RG expressed an opinion that RH should have asked Council for agreement to take further discussion. JW agreed with RG. TB was aware. RH stands by his actions.
- 7.2. RH LAA has, in the past, considered buying BMAA. LAA position is to merge not take over BMAA. LAA not totally adverse to changing their name.
- 7.3. RH asked members to confirm their views on taking talks further with no commitment. FT Agreed to exploratory talks. RB Agreed to exploratory talks, but wants agreed criteria before talks begin. DL Supports merger but not take-over. Requires protection for microlights within the organisation. Agrees to discussion. RH agrees to explore. BD Agrees to explore. TB It would be a disservice not to explore, should not make public until principles agreed. JW supports talks if it gives the opportunity to better the position for members. RG supports talks. Concerned that service to members may not be as good in larger organisation.
- 7.4. There was a general discussion on Red Lines, benefits and disbenefits. Flexwing support is important. Premises location and staff travel to be considered.

RG Benefits of scale for purchasing, e.g. insurance. GW expressed an opinion that two association voices at a table were more powerful than one, even if that one had a larger membership.

TB felt there may be a danger of BMAA members' interests, particularly flexwing pilots, getting lost within a large organisation.

Location not allowing flexwing would not be well accepted by members.

There should be no increase in fees as a result.

There must be protection from liabilities of existing companies.

Effect of 600 Kg on membership and new aircraft for the BMAA fleet. Loss of BMAA CTO may have an effect on BMAA credibility Agree to talks going ahead on 12 June.

- 7.5. It was agreed by the meeting that further exploratory talks with the LAA could go ahead. Staff and members must be informed of the exploratory talks early in the process.
- 7.6. It was agreed to propose a joint committee of eight members, four from each association. BMAA to be represented by RG, RH, JW, GW.

8. MEMBER'S REPORTS

- 8.1. DL Publications. Advertising revenue. P&M owed £1,000. Publishers to propose a cost restructure. Advertising Executive, Ian Norris proposing to take over all MF work including advertising instead of working through the current publishers. Geoff Hill has asked for an increase in budget of £400 and an annual increase in line with inflation. This was agreed by all.
- 8.2. RB To hold a meeting with CE after meeting.

- 8.3. TB Open series going well with a new following. Positive comments from participants learning new skills.
- 8.4. RH FAI Had attended mid-year meeting. FAI are proposing to change membership the system to reflect activity at competitions. Future strategy development plans. FAI still have finance problems, funding largely supported by drone events. Red Bull Air Racing will not happen after 2019, potential loss of £250,000 a year. UK to propose how systems could be changed to improve financial position.
- 8.5. RH Forum moderation is manageable.
- 8.6. RH RAeC. Awards Ceremony. Derek Blunt received an award.
- 8.7. RH World Air Games 2022 to be run by Turkish Aero Club. Potential problems with organisation based upon political difficulties.

9. TREASURER'S REPORT

- 9.1. DL Reports show an increased loss over last year. Details are included within the published report.
- 9.2. RH asked DL for a budget and reports against the budget going ahead. **Action 488 DL.**
- 9.3. TB Would like to see accounts amended to show investments, such as promotional activities, separately so that a fuller understanding of routine finance is clearer.

10. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

- 10.1. Report reviewed.
- 10.2. Suggested that there is potential for discount for BMAA members applying for a NPPL when the BMAA is able to issue the NPPL.
- 10.3. TB asked about the comment in the circulated CE presentation suggesting that flexwing flying is dead. CE pointed out that this was a heading from a question submitted in advance.

11. CTO REPORT

- 11.1. Report reviewed.
- 11.2. Introducing a requirement to lodge IP with an organisation as part of their A8-1 approval if they fail. Approach CAA to ask for IP access. **Action 489 GW.**

12. MICROLIGHT MANUFACTURERS – CLOSURES (RH)

- 12.1. RH Steve Uzochukwu had contacted RH and asked whether in the light of the failure of UK microlight manufacturers if CAA microlight manufacturer's requirements too onerous. GW commented that in his opinion the current failures were not due to CAA requirements but other management functions. However, BMAA had in the past suggested to the CAA that the requirements for the UK approval, A8-1, be revised and to that end had submitted suggestions. There had been no further CAA activity on this subject. GW will raise with CAA again. **Action 490 GW.**
- 12.2. BD Flexwing support. Concerned with loss of P&M and lack of alternative flexwing manufacturers. There is likely to be an impact BMAA membership. BD looking for suggestions to encourage flexwing pilots through publication promotions, offer Instructor Bursary. The meeting agreed to use some of the Bursary funds to sponsor a flexwing

instructor course. **Action 491Bursary SC**. Possible ask the membership for ideas. BD to write article to highlight concerns and ask for opinion and suggested actions. **Action 492BD**

13. CI REPORT

- 13.1. Report reviewed.
- 13.2. Question if current website has the functionality to replace all within the BMAA Courses website GW Check with Webboutiques. **Action 493 GW**.
- 13.3. RB suggested meeting each Key member of the staff to help clarify their work and their reports.

14. SO REPORT

- 14.1. Report reviewed.
- 14.2. JT has asked for feedback and measure of success. Council members asked to respond. Suggested that BMAA members are asked by survey for feedback for all areas of BMAA. **Action 494 GW**

15. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- 15.1. Report reviewed.
- 15.2. Review joining questions to see if possible to find more detail. Review ways to obtain further information on why members join to measure promotion success. **Action 495 GW**.
- 15.3. Improvement of communications with events planning to ensure no overlap of work or missed tasks. **Action 496 GW**.

- 16. BMAA Activity report reviewed.

17. AMANDA LORD PROMOTIONS REPORT

- 17.1. Report reviewed. Further discussion to clarify communications procedure to be followed to avoid errors. Future initiatives. Suggested wider use of video through a BMAA YouTube channel. Content could be sourced from members. Offer incentives for members to submit video. FT to contact Geoff Hill to ask for space for an article to promote BMAA video initiative and invite members to submit. FT to write the article for MF. **Action 497 FT**. There will be a task to review and upload video to the BMAA channel. FT offered to take this role. **Action 498 FT**

18. NEW HORIZONS

- 18.1. DL Expressed the opinion that the environment is important to success of the build. Rugby organisation is good and the project is going well. Aston has poor leadership which has led to delays. Management structure and resilience is now considered a high priority for any future projects.
- 18.2. DL Questions whether the projects fit in with BMAA strategy.

19. AOB

- 19.1. GW GASCo and GAAC contributions. Requested approval for 2019 contributions at 3% above 2018 level for GASCo, £2,228, and at 10% of total 2018 contributions for GAAC,

£997.18. The Council agreed the proposed sums. GW to write an article for members to promote the BMAA's involvement with the two organisations. **Action 499 GW**

- 19.2. **RB** suggested that the BMAA employed a minute taker for meetings to allow CE to take a more active role in the meeting. RB Proposed BD Second. 6 for RG against. GW to arrange. **Action 500 GW.**
- 19.3. TB Parafest attendance. 11-14 July. Suggested a joint attendance with Flylight and Airplay and Ace Aviation. Cost in the region of £360. With expenses estimate £1,000 cost. Wide discussion but partly due to other commitments the meeting agreed that the BMAA would not attend this event.
- 19.4. BD Has was flown aerial advertising by towing a banner. He has requested an exemption from the CAA to be allowed to continue, possibly to fly a BMAA banner at events. Currently banner towing is only allowed by individual exemption. BMAA to pursue the opportunities for a general exemption, similar to that for hang glider towing. **Action 501 GW.**
- 19.5. GW has submitted a nomination to the Honourable Company of Air Pilots for consideration for the Award for Aviation Journalism (Awarded to an individual journalist, publication or organisation for an outstanding contribution to the promotion or public awareness of aviation in general or of any important aspect of aviation activity.) for Geoff Hill, Norman Burr and the publication *Microlight Flying*.
- 19.6. RH Mr R Goddin has offered an undisclosed of a sum of money towards a bursary or similar. In return intimates renewed membership. The offer was discussed by the Council, and is not accepted.

Meeting Closed 1708

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

September	16	2019
November	11	2019
January	13	2020
April	30	2020
May	2	2020 BMAA AGM