

5th MEETING OF THE BMAA COUNCIL 2019

Monday 16 September 2019
At Deddington, 0930 hrs

AGENDA

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

1.1. None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (June 2019)

2.1. Proposed by FT. Second by TB. All in favour.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (June 2019)

3.1. None

4. ACTION LIST

- 4.1. 432 RH Commission a BMAA promotional video. Since the beginning of this action RH has made arrangements for a video to be made by two people. Subsequently one had increased the price considerably and the other had failed to follow through with their intentions. Both had now been dropped. RH did not want to continue with this action and suggested it was taken, possibly as part of the promotion remit, by someone else. DL suggested that Amanda Lord may like to take this on. **Closed.**
- 4.2. 464 GW Arrange for news items to be automatically notified to members. This action is still waiting for the move of the prime BMAA database to be completed before it can be completed. **Open.**
- 4.3. 465 GW To expand the detail on the website with regard to the history of the awards and making nominations. Some work has been done on this. **To be completed.**
- 4.4. 475 GW Develop a policy for use of the exhibition trailer. **Completed, closed.** New Action, the availability of the trailer for use by schools and clubs to be made public so that

- the asset is better used. **Action 502 GW.**
- 4.5. 477 GW *For the BMAA to conduct a raffle to raise funds and promote microlight flying, through the summer. Tickets to be sold at events.* The raffle had been held at the two Countryfile Live events and the LAA Rally. Around 700 tickets were sold which covered the cost of conducting the raffle. **Completed, closed.**
 - 4.6. 478 GW *BMAA Check Flying Video production.* There has still not been any progress completing this action. RG to liaise with the CTO to progress. Deadline for publication February 2020.
 - 4.7. 480 GW *To investigate how the database may be used to produce electronic membership cards.* GW has spoken with someone who claimed to be able to make this work, but had not heard back. GW to follow up.
 - 4.8. 481 *All directors to complete a Register of Interests.* **Completed, closed.**
 - 4.9. 482 GW *The Official Guide to Microlighting to be published on the BMAA website.* **Completed, closed.**
 - 4.10. 483 GW *Trailer and exhibition costings for 2019.* Completed by email 11 June. **Completed, closed.**
 - 4.11. 484 GW *Exhibition budget.* **Closed.** New Action to provide final account for events attended 2019. **Action 503 GW.**
 - 4.12. 485 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.* **Completed, closed.**
 - 4.13. 486 DL, RB, GW *to meet to discuss planning BMAA finance.* The meeting had taken place and from that meeting GW had produced forecasts for BMAA finances for 2019/2020 which the Treasurer has used in the Budget projection. **Completed, closed.**
 - 4.14. 486 GW *For the new BMAA Logo to be used on Facebook.* **Completed, closed.**
 - 4.15. 488 DL *to produce a budget and report against the budget at future meetings.* The budget was produced and reviewed by the Council. **Completed, closed.**
 - 4.16. 489 GW *to approach CAA asking for assistance to obtain access to IP to support members' aircraft.* No formal response had been received. GW to ask for formal response. **Open.**
 - 4.17. 490 GW *To ask CAA to review the requirements for A8-1 approval following the decline in UK manufacturers.* A further request will be made to CAA and Roger Patrick will be asked to write a supporting paper. **Open.**
 - 4.18. 491 TC *Promote a Flexwing Instructor Bursary.* Notification of the flexwing instructor bursary have been published in MF. There have been three enquiries so far. Details will be reconsidered and publicised again. **Open.**
 - 4.19. 493 GW *Website functionality for course bookings.* It has functionality to allow bookings. **Closed.**
 - 4.20. 494 GW *BMAA Member survey 2019.* Survey mostly prepared prior to sending. **Open.**

- 4.21. 495 GW Review opportunities to gather information to show why members join to measure promotion success. GW had carried out a review and believes that the changes made to the joining webpage, and routine member surveys, capture reasons as best as can be done. **Closed.**
- 4.22. 496 GW Manage improvement of communications between admin staff and events planning to ensure no overlap of work or missed tasks. Discussions between involved parties have clarified responsibilities. **Closed.**
- 4.23. 497 & 498 FT To write an article for MF promoting the BMAA YouTube channel and asking for members' contributions. To manage the task of reviewing and uploading video content to the BMAA YouTube channel. Following an article in MF one video link had been received. The members agreed that much more positive promotion is needed to encourage BMAA members to submit video clips that could be hosted on a BMAA YouTube channel. JW offered to assist FT in managing the task of promotion and uploading content. **Open.**
- 4.24. 499 GW To write an article for members to promote the BMAA's involvement with the GASCo and GAAC. No progress. To be made available for publication in November MF. **Open.**
- 4.25. 500 GW To engage a Minute Taker for Council meetings. Efforts to secure a Minute Taker at reasonable cost had failed. The cost obtained was in the region of £600 which GW considered to be an unwarranted expense. Following discussion on the merits of employing a note taker or otherwise, and the importance of accuracy within the notes, it was decided not to employ a third party, but to ensure that decisions and actions were recorded accurately during the meeting. **Closed.**
- 4.26. 501 GW Engage with CAA to obtain a General Exemption for banner towing with a microlight. No further action following first discussions with CAA in June. GW will follow up. **Open.**

5. MEMBERS' REPORTS

- 5.1. RG Bursary report. 5 selected candidates had attended the Bursary Selection Day at Sywell. The selection process was carried out by Rob Grimwood, John Waite, Paul Dewhurst and Ian Macfadyen and Gil Greenall from GdeHFF. Five awards were made. Two from the GdeHFF amounting to £4,000 and three from the BMAA amounting to £4,500. These awards leave sufficient residual funds for the planned flexwing instructor bursary.
- 5.2. DL Reported a fall in MF advertising revenue. In response to request from DL a paper submitted by Ian Norris (IN) suggests hiring a specialist advertising sales person and increasing the commission from 25% to 30%. JW suggested having advertising on eMF. DL to approach Amanda Lord to see if interested otherwise will revert to IN. It was agreed to hire a specialist and agreed to increase commission. Preference to hire internally, AL or IN suggestion. DL to progress options. **Action 504 DL**
- 5.3. TB Has received an approach from Owain Johns who is proposing to start raising awareness of forthcoming WMC 2020 to encourage volunteers and interest. All agreed his efforts to be encouraged. RH suggested that the BMAA should start to encourage gyro entries in Open Series, who could subsequently take part in international competition to be part of the British Team. TB to contact Kirkbride gyro flyers to suggest participation. RG to contact Will Gayton-Jones of the LAA who is a gyro pilot to suggest participation. **Action 505 TB, RG**

- 5.4. RH FAI Joint Jury member at the 15th FAI European Microlight Championship in Lithuania. Colin Johnson had won RWL1 Bronze. Laurie Hurman had come 7th in the same class.
- 5.5. RH UK had sent 2 members to the European Microlight Championship. Due to personal circumstances 2 others could not go. BMAA has requested entry fee refund. GW to confirm whether payment has been made. **Action 506 GW**
- 5.6. RH RAeC A meeting group has been set up to develop financial solutions for FAI to be put forward to FAI.
- 5.7. RH The FAI President's recent Musings had been published.
- 5.8. RH The 113th FAI General Conference to be held in Lausanne, Switzerland between the 5th and 6th December 2019.
- 5.9. RH The next FAI World Air Games will take place in Turkey in September 2022.
- 5.10. RH CIMA Meeting in Romania November. Secretary Barney Townsend has other personal pressures. The CIMA treasurer has been sacked, RH taking on role. Section 10 changes will be published and RH asked that competitors be aware of changes.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

- 6.1. DL Reporting on the current year noted a particularly bad year. £74k loss up to end of July 2019. Currently the loss at the end of the year forecast to be between £60/70k.
- 6.2. DL had prepared a budget for 2019/2020 with the intention to have a break even, possibly in the black, year.
- 6.3. In answer to queries from TB on the way that the accounts and budget was presented DL explained how the accounts and budget had been developed and reported in line with accounting practices using Sage Accounting.
- 6.4. The meeting reviewed the detail of costs in relation to the promotional activities undertaken based upon decisions made previously by the BMAA Council in answer to members' requests for greater overall promotion. Following the review it was agreed that the underlying deficit was in the region of £30k.
- 6.5. Budget assumptions were based upon presumed changes in fees, forecast membership numbers, forecast Permit to Fly revalidation income and other expected changes in income and expenditure.
- 6.6. Options for saving costs were discussed including less expensive public non-aviation events, not employing a person to lead promotion and marketing, reducing the contracted days for promotions and flight safety specialists.
- 6.7. The budget assumption details were reviewed and amended where it was thought possible. A revised budget would be produced. It was agreed that for 2020:
 - A non-aviation event budget would continue to a maximum of £10,000, to include all expenses, and considered as drawn from the legacy left to the BMAA in 2018.
 - An aviation event budget would be set at £5,000, to include all expenses.
 - A budget of £10,000, to include expenses, set for the activity of a promotion and marketing contractor.
 - A budget of £14,000, to include expenses, set for the activity of the Flight Training Liaison and Safety Officer.

- 6.8. BMAA fees were considered and it was agreed to increase BMAA fees, other than membership fees, by in the region of 3% to maintain income in line with general inflation. Proposed by DL. Second by RB. All agreed. GW to implement **Action 507 GW**.
- 6.9. BMAA Staff Salaries. An in-line with inflation increase of 2.4% was agreed for those staff that had not recently been subject to a remuneration package change. Proposed DL. Second RB. Agreed by all.

7. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

- 7.1. There is a possibility that the 600kg consultation will be delayed until after October due to Brexit. CAA believes that the DfT don't want to be among the first to adopt the opt-out, although three countries already have, and that after Brexit the UK will not be subject to EASA regulation, so there may be nothing to opt-out of. BMAA continues to push for a decision as soon as possible.
- 7.2. A third draft consultation document has been written for the proposal to allow remunerated ab initio flight training of non-owners in amateur built microlight aircraft. The target date for consultation was September 2019. The DfT GA Department has been made aware of the proposal and offered assistance.
- 7.3. Following a proposal by the BMAA the DfT will be raising an exemption from the current requirements for microlights to comply with specific noise certification requirements set out in the ANO which don't apply to other aircraft types. There will be a consultation and proposed law change in January 2021.

8. **CTO Report**

- 8.1. Roger Patrick is now in place as the CTO for the BMAA. We are actively recruiting for a replacement Design Approval Engineer.

9. **CI REPORT**

- 10. RG reported that an aircraft that he had seen appeared unairworthy and he believed that there was also evidence of incorrect procedures related to maintenance and signatory status. GW to follow up with CI. **Action 508 GW**.

11. **SO REPORT**

- 11.1. Report reviewed with no comments.

12. **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

- 12.1. Report reviewed with no comments.

13. **PUBLICITY AND MARKETING REPORT**

- 13.1. RH Would like to see more use of social media reporting as suggested by the reporter.

- 13.2. The report raised the question of how the video channel was to be managed and promoted. This has already been discussed in the meeting.
- 13.3. The report asked if there was any likely change that the BMAA could make so that microlight hours could be used towards gaining light aircraft licenses. GW explained that as the licenses to be gained are governed by EASA, not the UK CAA, it is not within our ability to seek credit. However we understand that EASA itself is reviewing the situation and there could be changes as a result.
- 13.4. The report suggests that the BMAA Instructor seminar become more of a social event as well as educational. The Council agreed to the idea as long as it is cost neutral. GW to discuss with AL. **Action 509 GW.**
- 13.5. Video RH to talk with AL regarding making a BMAA promotional video as raised in her report. **Action 510 RH.**

14. **NEW HORIZONS REPORT**

- 14.1. JW Rugby and Aston builds are going ahead.
- 14.2. A new kit has been purchased and will be supplied to Benenden who will work in conjunction with another school on the build. The kit is a Ninja LS which will be ready for 600kg changes that may happen before completion. JW will visit school to discuss PR opportunities. **Action 511 JW.**

15. **BMAA/LAA MERGER TALKS**

- 15.1. JW reported on the last meeting of the working group. There was open discussion between Board members.
- 15.2. Specific points of structure and management were discussed. The working group will develop proposals for details of how we see a new association. These will be agreed by the BMAA Council ahead of a presentation to the LAA ahead of their AGM in October. Target date for completion, end of September. **Action 512 BMAA WG members.**

16. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 16.1. CTLS Permits. EASA has imposed a requirement for moving these aircraft to a restricted type certificate with an associated cost in the region of £12,000. Owners have asked the BMAA to approach CAA to see if these aircraft could be Nationally Registered. The BMAA Technical Office has asked the question of the CAA and is waiting for an answer.
- 16.2. Purple Aviation French accident. An accident in which a UK Microlight was involved was briefly discussed.
- 16.3. The BMAA did propose to the CAA that it be approved to oversee UK microlight manufacturers in order to save costs and offer a more timely service. The BMAA had withdrawn the request in late 2018 as the CAA had been unable to come up with a funding model that was better for the manufacturers. BMAA has started to raise the issue of oversight again with the CAA and DfT.

17. **DATE/TIME OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

11/11/19 0930

Finish 1730