

6th MEETING OF THE BMAA COUNCIL 2020

Tuesday 20 July 2020
By GoToMeeting, 0930 hrs

MINUTES

PRESENT

Rob Hughes	RH Chairman
Richard Bisiker	RB
Bill Davis	BD
Derek Lamb	DL Treasurer
Eddie McCallum	EM
John Waite	JW

Geoff Weighell GW Chief Executive

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1. Rob Grimwood RG
- 1.2. Tim Burrow TB Vice Chairman

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (2 June 2020)

- 2.1. Approved

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (2 June 2020)

- 3.1. None not covered by agenda items.

4. ACTION LIST

- 4.1 464 GW *Look into enabling push notifications of news from the website to members.* Has asked Webboutiques to progress. Open
- 4.2 465 GW *To expand information on website relating to the history of the BMAA awards and how to make a nomination.* No further progress. Open
- 4.3 478 RG *Check Flying Video.* GW reported that David Young (DY) from Kemble had flown and filmed a check flight in a 3-axis microlight. The film was being reviewed and some small tweaks are required. When complete it will form a good guide for the filming of a flexwing version. Unless RG is able to progress soon GW will ask DY to consider filming a flexwing version. Open
- 4.4 480 GW *To investigate how the database might generate electronic membership cards.* GW has asked Webboutiques for progress following the initial request in 2019. Open
- 4.5 489 GW *To approach CAA asking for assistance to obtain access to IP to support members' aircraft.* This request has been tied in with the proposed A8-1 approval review which is on the CAA's project list.
- 4.6 490 GW *To ask CAA to review the requirements for A8-1 approval following the decline in UK manufacturers.* The proposed A8-1 approval review is on the CAA's project list. Open
- 4.7 501 GW *Engage with CAA to obtain a General Exemption for banner towing with a microlight.* This request has been followed up and CAA has promised a response within one month. BD has been unable to use the individual exemption so far this year due to cancellation of events and will seek to extend it if it expires before a General Exemption is available when he next wants to tow a banner. Open
- 4.8 509 RG *Plans for an Instructor Seminar in 2020.* No further plans due to Covid situation.

Open

4.9 510 RH to talk with AL regarding making a BMAA promotional video as raised in her report. As Amanda Lord's contract is on hold for the time being no further progress on this action. Open

Discussion Action 510 It was agreed that AL would not be reinstated until shows and exhibitions restarted in the wake of Covid-19. Communication with members through newsletters and the magazine would continue to remain engaged with current members.

4.10 519 GW 11/11/2019 to see if there were still any BMAA members from the first year of the BMAA. GW would forward the list that Karen Judd has made. Open

4.11 520 GW Discuss expanded social media with AL. Closed

4.12 523 GW to review the BMAA funding for UK team entry fees. Closed

4.13 524 GW To ask key staff if they would like to present their report to Council in person if available. To be extended to virtual meetings. Open

4.14 525 GW To clarify show programmes and priorities for 2020 with AL Closed

4.15 528 All To read 2019 Survey in preparation for next strategy review. Agreed a review of BMAA Strategy plan limited to effects of Covid to be discussed at the next meeting. Open

4.16 532 GW To review all costs with a view to reducing where possible. Closed

4.17 535 GW To see if it is possible within the BMAA structure to offer monthly DD for renewals. It has been shown that this is possible and will be started as soon as practical. Open

4.18 536 RH To write to the LAA Chairman making the point that his publicly stated reasons for withdrawing from merger discussions were unfounded. Open

4.19 537 RH To obtain Forum page access information so as to judge value of retaining the Forum history. This has proved more difficult than at first thought as the Forum software does not automatically collect this data. RH to see what is available. Open

4.20 538 GW To look into possible reason for non-delivery of email newsletters to members. No reason has been found and no further reports of unreceived newsletters. Closed

4.21 539 RH 600Kg RH agreed to produce concept ideas for promotion to be developed into a promotion campaign. He would ask the editorial staff to assist. Although RH had asked for assistance no real progress had been made. Closed

Discussion Action 539 There were suggestions that the BMAA might run either a Telford type show or even a virtual event. A Telford type show has proved to be uneconomic in the past, but the idea of an online conference type promotion, particularly aimed at the potential 600 Kg changes was considered an opportunity. It was agreed that GW would lead a promotion of the BMAA's talents with respect to airworthiness ability and create a reach-out plan to make the most of the 600 Kg changes. **Action 542 GW**

4.22 540 GW To appeal against the decision of Cherwell District Council not to award a Business Grant. A further grant application has been made and now waiting for the outcome. Open

4.23 541 GW To write a further explanation regarding licence extensions for members in the next newsletter. This will be included in a forthcoming newsletter. CAA is due to publish some further material soon which will be included. Open

5. TREASURER's REPORT

5.1 DL presented his report. Key points are:

Even with the Covid-19 problems it is conceivable that the BMAA will break even this financial year

We should continue to be cautious with spending, there may be further restrictions if the virus is not controlled.

The sale of the Aston New Horizons aircraft has helped to improve liquidity.

Airworthiness income is catching up, but still behind budget.

We must continue to encourage members to renew memberships to maintain a stable base for the work that we do. We can use the opportunity to renew by Direct Debit monthly as a way to encourage continued membership at this time which is difficult financially for many. NPPL income is still very low and is not expected to get back to normal levels for some months.

Expenditure has reduced slightly.

MF budget is now restored for contributions.

Staff salaries are back to normal following furlough.

The final part of Dr Ian Brewster's Legacy is expected to be paid in late July.

5.2 Everyone expressed their thanks to the staff for their support during lockdown. Remembering those who saw a reduction in salary and especially Karen Judd who worked through the period keeping the BMAA "afloat". RH will write a letter of thanks to all staff. **Action 543 RH**

5.3 RH said that it is important that when reporting income and spending plans to the members the details of exceptional income or spending are clearly explained.

6 CTO REPORT

The written report was reviewed.

Significant workload at the moment dealing with airspace issues including Temporary Danger Areas, usually for drone use.

Following lockdown there have been some significant airspace infringements (AI), including by microlights. This is a continuing concern. Information regarding AI is published on the ASI website at this link <https://airspacesafety.com/>

7 CTO REPORT

The written report was reviewed.

GW explained that the Technical Office has a duty to keep some projects confidential as they are commercially sensitive. Because the BMAA Council may have members with commercial interests then these projects were not included in detail in the report.

8 CI REPORT

The written report was reviewed.

Council asked to see the Check Flying Video. GW to send link. **Action 544 GW**

9 TL&SO REPORT

The written report was reviewed.

GW outlined the plans to develop a better reporting system for operational and technical occurrences.

10 ADMIN REPORT

The written report was reviewed.

GW reported that until there was a greater feeling that Covid-19 was in decline staff would continue to work away from the office as much as possible to reduce the chances of cross infection, which if it occurred would be a very difficult situation for the BMAA.

The SSDR Rally has been postponed until September.

11 NEW HORIZONS

JW reported that Benenden were not back at school yet.

GW has sold the Aston project and will review the Rugby build and sell if not progressing.

12 AOB & MEMBER'S REPORTS

RH Had attended an online RAeC meeting. Among subjects discussed was how the CAA would manage the demands of UK aviation after leaving EASA. Already the CAA are slow to respond, this might get worse.

RH The BHPA Chairman had verbally suggested that the BHPA and BMAA should consider a merger. The meeting did not feel that this would be a good move and rejected the idea.

RH BMAA AGM. As the May event had been cancelled another date and method has to be agreed. Changes to legislation allow a virtual AGM. It was agreed to follow that path and a date of 26 September starting at 1000 was initially set. GW to arrange. **Action 545 GW**

RH Has been approached by several members who fly at Stoke with regard to difficulties that have arisen between the airfield owner and the lease holder. Although this appears to be a commercial dispute RH will call both parties to see if he can influence a resolution.

RH Following lockdown British Skydiving is facing potential rivalry issues with a group formed by manufacturers.

13 DONM

21/09/2020 0930 Via BMAA Zoom