

7th MEETING OF THE BMAA COUNCIL 2020

Tuesday 21 September 2020

By Zoom, 0930 hrs

MINUTES

1. PRESENT

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

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2.1. Eddie McCallum EM
- 2.2. Bill Davis BD

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (July 2020)

- 3.1. JW Proposed DL Second. Approved

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (July 2020)

- 4.1. None not covered by agenda items.

5. ACTION LIST

- 5.1. 464 GW *Look into enabling push notifications of news from the website to members.* Has asked Webboutiques to progress. GW to chase up. **Open.**
- 5.2. 465 GW *To expand information on website relating to the history of the BMAA awards and how to make a nomination.* No further progress. GW said that he has been unable to trace any further information to go on the website. RH said that as this was a project idea of his he would agree to close it and may review it himself at a later date. **Closed.**
- 5.3. 478 RG *Check Flying Video.* TB felt that the opportunity for BMAA brand awareness on the video had possibly been missed by using a film produced by Kemble Flying Club, although BMAA was quite prominent. RG suggested possibly re-branding the film in the future. JW suggested that BMAA may also reproduce a three axis in the future. RH said that there was now a copy on BMAA Channel. It was important to ensure that BMAA branding is not abused in future copies. RH Proposed BMAA Thank You Certificates for David Young and Ben Atkinson who had flown and filmed the production. Agreed by all. RG will create footage for a flexwing version in the next month. RH will edit the flexwing version if asked. **Open.**
- 5.4. 480 GW *To investigate how the database might generate electronic membership cards.* This has now been completed. Members can create and download a .pdf membership information page from the website. **Completed closed.**
- 5.5. 489 GW *To approach CAA asking for assistance to obtain access to IP to support members' aircraft.* This is part of the A8-1 review which is also part of the 600kg workstream. As it is ongoing it was agreed to close the Action. **Closed.**

- 5.6. 490 GW To ask CAA to review the requirements for A8-1 approval following the decline in UK manufacturers. This is the A8-1 review which is also part of the 600kg workstream. As it is ongoing it was agreed to close the Action. **Closed.**

During discussion the question of whether there was continued support for Mainair aircraft was raised. TB agreed to ask Graham Slater of Pegasus Sport Aviation Ltd if Mainair are supported. **Action 546 TB**

- 5.7. 501 GW Engage with CAA to obtain a General Exemption for banner towing with a microlight. This request has been followed up again and is waiting for CAA further response. Initial response was not in favour and the possibility that if granted there would be a cost to the BMAA. As the exemption would be likely to only benefit a very few members the BMAA would not pursue if there is a significant cost. **Open.**
- 5.8. 509 RG Plans for an Instructor Seminar in 2020. No further plans for 2020. Review in early 2021 and consider the potential for an online seminar. **Closed.**
- 5.9. 510 RH to talk with AL regarding making a BMAA promotional video as raised in her report. As Amanda Lord's contract continues to be on hold for the time being no further progress on this action. There appears to be an increase in activity at the moment. RG has had many new students following lockdown. Other schools apparently very busy too. RH said that the BMAA should maintain efforts to promote brand awareness. TB Suggested that the BMAA should re-evaluate promotional activities and ways to achieve them in light of changing world. We should continue with member contact to maintain awareness and loyalty. Should concentrate on understanding why some schools are not as engaged as we would like or expect. Suggestions included a refresh of BMAA flyers/posters. BMAA branded notices with aeronautical information. Following AGM Promotion and Marketing SC to review BMAA Approach to PR Strategy. **Action 547 Promotion and Marketing SC.**

(Richard Bisiker joined the meeting 1035)

- 5.10. 519 GW 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. **Completed Closed** Ask MF to contact members and ask for views / experiences etc. **Action 548 GW to forward list.**
- 5.11. 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. **Completed Closed.**
- 5.12. 528 All To read 2019 Survey in preparation for next strategy review. Agreed a review of BMAA Strategy plan limited to effects of Covid-19 to be discussed at the next meeting. **Closed.**
- 5.13. 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. **GW to check and close.**
- 5.14. 536 RH To write to the LAA Chairman making the point that his publicly stated reasons for withdrawing from merger discussions were unfounded. This has not sent. **Closed**

Merger. RH reported discussion with LAA CEO on potential for future further consideration of a merger. DL concerned with the influence of non-elected LAA members on the outcome of discussions. Felt that the BMAA financial loss at the time was a factor in the LAA decision. RG LAA must demonstrate a change before re-starting any discussions. JW BMAA should not

meet with unelected LAA members. Attitudes need to change before any further talks could start. RH to phone SS and explain BMAA concerns. **Action 549 RH**

- 5.15. 537 RH To obtain Forum page access information so as to judge value of retaining the Forum history.

RH The forum has been taken down for a period because it needs upgrading. Quoted £300 to update plus annual hosting. Stats show that it is very little used. RH proposes that the forum be closed at the end of October as not cost effective. **Action RH** will ask for the latest back-up. JW may be able to make existing back-up a searchable source.

- 5.16. 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 GW has chased up. **Open. (After meeting note. The sum of £25,000 has been received from CDC into the bank on 25/09/2020).**
- 5.17. 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. **Closed.**
- 5.18. 542 GW 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. **Open.**
- 5.19. 543 RH will write a letter of thanks to all staff following the problems of lockdown. **Completed and Closed.**
- 5.20. 544 GW to forward a link to the check flying video. **Completed and Closed.**
- 5.21. 545 GW to arrange the AGM **Closed.**

6. TREASURER's REPORT

- 6.1. DL Report as submitted. Following the shock value of recent events suggested that the BMAA carry 50% turnover as reserve, £300,000.
- 6.2. DL has presented a budget for 20/21 which suggests a surplus of £30,000. The members reviewed the assumptions used to create the budget and agreed them. GW and DL to create a final budget for Sage.
- 6.3. Increases in fees, other than membership fees were discussed along with the budget assumptions and a general inflationary increase in fees of 2% was agreed. Aligning the Permit to Fly revalidation fees was discussed and in principle agreed to start a three-year alignment in 2021. For the financial year 2020-2021 all PtF fees will be increased by £3.50.

7. CE report

- 7.1. The written report was reviewed.
- 7.2. Remote working was still working, however as it now looks as if there will be another six months of remote working for some members of staff the BMAA phone system is being changed to a cloud-based system which will allow simpler diverting of calls to individual members of staff. This will be better for callers and members of staff. It is expected that the

installation will take place within one or two weeks.

- 7.3. RG asked about progress of the project to allow remunerated flight training in amateur built microlights. GW explained that the CAA were shortly to publish a Comment Response Document confirming the intention to allow the activity but that the implementation may take until early 2021.

8. CTO REPORT

- 8.1. The written report was reviewed.

9. CI REPORT

- 9.1. The written report was reviewed.
- 9.2. It was suggested that the Wings winners could be listed on the BMAA website to encourage others to take part. The website would be altered to show the number of each award that had been made, but to provide privacy members' names would not be included. **Action 550 GW**

10. TL&SO REPORT

- 10.1. The written report was reviewed.

11. ADMIN REPORT

- 11.1. The written report was reviewed.

12. NEW HORIZONS

- 12.1. JW Benenden School build had been delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions but is due to restart after half term. JW may visit at restart.
- 12.2. There was no news of progress for the Rugby build. GW to write to suggest the option to sell the partly completed aircraft, which might be a welcome alternative for the ATC Squadron.
Action 551 GW

13. AOB & MEMBER'S REPORTS

- 13.1. FAI planning online conference in November. President planning to re-stand on a policy of reorganisation. RAeC to send opinion that no change is needed and changes could make matters worse.
- 13.2. AGM. The proposed format of the AGM was discussed and agreed. Instead of continuing to a meeting of the Council afterwards to elect Council posts it was agreed to invite nominations and a subsequent vote by email through GW the following week.
- 13.3. Alex Ledger (AL) Proposal that BMAA reinstate the foot launch training scheme and represent foot launched members. The proposal was discussed and it was agreed that until the BMAA had advantages to offer to foot launched pilots, such as insurance or regulatory representation there was little to attract membership to offset potential liabilities created by resetting the BMAA FLM syllabus and training system. GW to respond to AL **Action 552 GW.**

14. DONM

- 14.1. TBD

Close 1215