



British Model Flying Association Southern Area

<https://southern.bmfa.uk>

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 19th June 2024

Venue: - **Popham conference room & via Zoom**

Start Time: **7.30 pm**

Those Present: Simon Wood, Alan Wallington, David Durnford & Peter Bennett via Zoom.
David Smith, Dave Franks, Peter Carter, Terry Weeks and Mike Pearson at the meeting.

Apologies for absence: Phil Stevens.

1.0 Approval of the minutes of the 10th of April.

These to be ratified as a true record so will now be shown as such on the website.

Proposed: Dave Franks.

Seconded: Peter Carter.

2.0 Committee reports:

2.1 Chairman's & Area Delegate's report: David Smith.

I attended an Areas Council Zoom meeting on 9 May, where the renaming of the BMFA Wales Area to BMFA Cymru Wales was agreed. The proposal to adopt a Club of the Year Award was narrowly accepted by use of the Chairman's casting vote and has been put to the BMFA Board. There was a lengthy discussion of Area outreach activities with the aim of bringing in new members, and we were also asked to give some thought to the criteria for appointing members to the ASRC.

The updated Safeguarding Guidelines and Policy can be downloaded from

<https://bmfa.org/bmfa-safeguarding-policy> and <https://bmfa.org/safeguarding> respectively.

Clubs are encouraged to use these documents to review their safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

I coordinated and ran a Southern Area display stand at my local village fair on 6 May, with the aid of our AS Coordinator and one of my HeliPad Model Club members. We had a lot of interest, including from the local MP and the Mayor of Test Valley.

I visited the Army Flying Museum on 29 May to agree the layout and facilities for our display stand at the Wheels and Wings show on 13 July. Access to set up will be from 08:00; the café will open early for breakfast, and power will be provided for the simulator.

2.2 Secretary's Report: Terry Weeks

Terry reported that he had written and distributed the 10th of April minutes, posted the draft onto the website, and emailed them to BMFA HO.

I have been largely out of action since the 1st May as I have undergone knee replacement surgery; however, I have actioned the various items required of me listed in the above minutes.

- a. I contacted Middle Wallop to get more in-depth information on the Wheels & Wings event, passed on what I had been told to David and put him in touch with my contact for further discussions.
- b. I collated and sent to Dave Franks the latest Popham Model Show pilots lists.
- c. I wrote to Mike Woodhouse regarding claiming for the capital equipment purchased as advised we could by Duncan McClure, only to be told on return reply from Mike that we would have to use our grant allocation.

- d. I further chased Mike & Duncan for information on what our grant would be and was advised it would be £1000.00 on the 9th of April, having not received anything on the 9th May chased receipt information. On the 20th of May Gemma at HO requested confirmation of our bank details due to payments being planned to be made w/c 27th of May – Some 2 months into the year! Even then this did not happen. Emailed Mike Woodhouse, Manny Williamson and David Phipps regarding the grant delivery on the 4th of June, not even the courtesy of a reply from any of them but as I advised you all it was finally received on the 10th of June some 2 months after it is normally received. *(At the meeting DS said he would raise the matter at the next Areas meeting)*
- In addition, I have been approached by Middle Wallop asking if we would be attending the Aircraft Enthusiasts event on the 24th of November – I have added this to tonight's agenda for discussion.

2.3 Treasurer's Report: Terry Weeks

Very little to report since the last meeting with just £31.20 having been paid out in expenses, and finally the £1000.00 grant was received from H O on the 10th of June as reported above. This means our current operating balance is £6955.59. (The actual bank balance is £7322.59 due to our £367.00 of self-generated funds.)

2.4 A S Co-Ordinator's report: David Durnford.

David reported that following three failures due to the weather it would be difficult to plan further attempts until later in the year but following some discussion David agreed to speak to Mike to try to arrange further date(s).

David has provided some lists of those wishing to attend grouped by discipline and test requirement i.e. All 'A' (FW), 'B' (FW), Heli, SF, Club Examiner etc.

At the time of writing, he said there were 13 Basingstoke candidates across the various disciplines, but many were also looking for training, this begged the question as to what was happening at the club when it was confirmed that they have 3 club examiners. (For information under "Help & Advice" on the website there is an article written by David Burstow that could be referred to.)

David said he had offered his services to the various clubs attending to assist with examining, certainly FW & SFE, during weekdays when weather conditions have been or can be favorable.

Other Area examiners agreed to join him as required to make in-roads into the tests / training required.

In the relatively few hours at our disposal on the AS Day, we will not be able to give the one-to-one individual tailored attention that a trainee ideally requires.

David continued to say he almost got the impression that by some magic on the AS Day, it is suggested novice fliers will suddenly become proficient pilots and sail through their AS tests!

Not meaning to rant but he said you can imagine his sense of frustration that clubs appear not to meet 'us' BMFA Southern Area, at least halfway, in fulfilling the Achievement Scheme requirements for training & tests.

Lastly David agreed to join us at the Middle Wallop Aircraft enthusiast's day on the 24th November and remarked it was good to see that I was recovering well. Thank you.

2.5 Events Co-Ordinator's report: Peter Bennett.

Peter reported that he had been busy moving house but plans for the Popham Model Show were well in hand and a site meeting should be arranged for a Saturday in early August. A Zoom meeting also to be arranged very soon to go over the final plans say on the 31st of July, Terry to organise.

2.6 Free Flight report: Peter Carter.

Peter reported that he had good news in that he had finally be given dates for the S Area free-flight gala at RAF Odiham and the licence was to hand already. The 18th of August is the date with a reserve of the 25th, even better news was that the 2023 licence fee that had been paid will be carried forward for the event. Peter said that those that had paid for last years event would not be charged again but many others attending would be charged to make up the deficit.

2.7 Webmaster / PRO report: James Hounslow. James was not present so no report.

3.0 Events already planned / in progress for 2023 / 2024 for information.

13 th July	Wheels & Wings at Middle Wallop.
*31 st July	Zoom meeting on the Popham Show arrangements.
*3 rd August	Popham Site Meeting to assess final layout.
28 th August	S. Area Committee Meeting via Zoom.
7 th /8 th September	Popham Model Show. Action: S Area Sub-Committee.
14 th /15 th September	Bovington Tank Museum Model Show
16 th October	S. Area Committee Meeting at Popham+.
18 th August	S. Area Free-Flight Gala at Odiham. Action: Peter Carter
24 th November	Aircraft Enthusiasts day at Middle Wallop.
27 th November	S. Area AGM at Popham+.

4.0 Items from the April meeting.

- 4.1** Terry to contact Middle Wallop for information on Wheels & Wings. **Actioned**
- 4.2** Terry to send the list of confirmed pilots for the Popham Show to Dave F. **Actioned**
- 4.3** Terry to write to Mike Woodhouse to claim for re-imburement of the Laptop and ancillaries, this due to the purchase being for capital equipment. Duncan McClure advise that we could do this when I expressed my disappointment of the Grant awarded. **Actioned**

5.0 AOB

- 5.1** Attendance at the Aircraft Enthusiasts Event at Middle Wallop on the 24th of November, this was discussed, and we agreed to attend, Terry to advise the show organiser regarding our attendance.
- 5.2** It was suggested that a circular be sent to all clubs explaining the system and procedures for ASC testing and training. Terry pointed out that some time ago Dave Burstow produced an article for the website. Terry to discuss with David Durnford whether there is a need for this to be updated before reminding clubs of its existence.
- 5.3** **I have added dates for the Popham show, a Zoom Meeting on the 31st of July and a Site Visit on the 3rd of August, please let me know ASAP if that is not convenient.**

The next meeting is to be on the 28th August via Zoom at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 20:19