

Thames Valley Silent Flyers

Annual General Meeting Minutes via Zoom

1st December 2020

8.00pm – 10.00pm

Attendance=16

- 1) **Apologies:-** Ian Lancaster, Mike Fantham
- 2) **Request for Any Other Business (AOB) - NONE**
- 3) **Minutes from the 2019 AGM**

The 2019 minutes report was presented to the membership for approval and to agree that it was an accurate record of what was said and happened, all agreed, and a vote was taken.

Proposer-Tony Ridler

Seconded-Roger Stacey

For = 9

Against = 0

Abstained = 6

- 4) **Matters Arising –** There were not matters arising.

- 5) **Committee Reports:**

Secretary:

Steve Elkin

During the year, I have managed to attend all 10 monthly Club meetings, 3 at the Binfield club, 2 cancelled and 7 Zoom meetings, due to Covid19 restrictions and attended all the committee meetings. This is my 7rd Year, in the position as the club secretary, and it has been very much a normal year as far as secretary duties are concerned, with the routine minutes taking, report writing, and emailing out information to the club. I am one of the regular Sunday Morning flyers at the field, when conditions permit.

And finally, I am prepared to carry on in the position of club secretary for 2021.

Membership Secretary:

Andrew Douglas

This was my first year as Membership Sec.

We currently are running at 45 members with a 2 new members having joined during the year. Steve Hill (Snr) and William Stacey (Jnr).

There have been a couple of enquiries throughout the year however; due to the current situation they have not materialised into memberships. I will try to reintroduce the club to these prospective members once the current situation improves.

The BMFA portal seems to work well for renewals and no issues are reported albeit we had one erroneous member in the year.

My thanks to the membership and committee for their support over this year; I am prepared to carry on in the position of membership secretary 2021.

Comp. Sec. & Records Officer:

Graham James

What to say about the 2020 flying season that we haven't all experienced.

Actually in the good old days back in February, we did manage to fly the Indoor Chuckie event as scheduled. Ten, willing, if not necessarily able competitors, kicked up the dust and committed aviation at the Binfield Club. There were the usual innovative designs and trimming skills on show, flying rounds of distance i.e. how close or how far up the back wall one could get and duration, models trimmed to circle or fly as slowly corner to corner as possible. Starting his season off with a win, Colin Hutchinson led the pack and takes the Picton Pot, followed by Peter Williams and Barry Hood.

Come the summer and the outdoor competitions, things got much more complicated with restrictions as well as the usual field closures for silage making. Nonetheless, we did manage to enjoy some very pleasant Fridays on the field flying the Electric Midweek League thanks to some sterling work by Peter Williams, who as well as laying out the field and scoring each of the four rounds flown, put considerable thought into producing a protocol so that we might fly safely and in compliance with government Covid (there, I've said the C word) guidelines. There were seven regular fliers including Andrew Douglas joining for the first time with a beautifully built and trimmed Inside F5J, which became ever more competitive as he got used to the rules and format. Usually we flew two slots in the morning followed by lunch and a further two in the afternoon, which made for a great day. Although flights were all completed in a four hour window, the changing conditions were quite marked. Once again Colin dominated this event and takes the Miles Shield for consecutive years, with Roger Critchley in second and Peter Wood in third.

We had to wait for the weather and take our chances to stage the Electric Open event which in the end found eight of us gather on a very warm bright Monday in September, with good thermal activity and great flying conditions. Once again the C word caused us to operate under a safe protocol. Mike Fantham stepped up from his customary DLG class and showed us all that, it's not size but skill that matters. Despite a rocky start to the contest with what has latterly proved to be faulty wiring on his motor resulting in a very low launch, he went on to head up the leader board going into the fly off. Once again he stepped up to the extended 15 minute task with an opening flight of 14.34 and a second flight, in deteriorating lift of over eight minutes to win the event from Colin and Peter Williams.

Sadly we only managed one round of the R/C Miniglider League this year and therefore the league is not contested but the event was taken to be the one off comp for the Bill Hatton Memorial Trophy. Of the four competitors, 3 used

bungees and only Graham Stallard flew DLG. I went along to watch this event and it was interesting to watch Graham predicting where the lift was and launching directly to it, whilst the bungee users had to launch into wind and then chase off to find the lift. Launches were very even height wise. Colin once again managed to take the win, with Graham close behind and CD John Price taking third. Thanks to John for running the event.

Slightly outside the realms of club events, I would like to congratulate David Poole for winning the BMFA DLG League and making the British Team and coincidentally taking the Findlay Trophy for best placed TVSF member in a national league.

So as to give us some competitive flying in the midst of lockdown we also ran a virtual competition based on Picasim which proved very entertaining and despite it including slope, cross country and racing, David proved a very capable pilot at all and won the league very convincingly.

So despite the challenges of the year, we still managed a fairly full calendar, though no winch events took place and as a result the Thermal All Rounder and Club All Rounder will not be awarded but congratulations go to Colin Hutchinson, for winning the Bracknell Bowl as Electric All Rounder. Arrangements regarding Prize Giving are yet to be finalised but winners and runners up will be contacted in due course.

Next seasons calendar is in development thanks to Trevor and will be published soon. Let's hope we can enjoy it to the full.

Newsletter Editor:

Vacant

Webmaster & Background Admin.

Trevor Hornby

Web

- I update the web a couple of times a month but there seems to be very little use by club members!
- Paul and Keith continue to be the web masters behind the scenes
- Lift copies online are up to last issued by Tony - issue 91
- Photos from the eventful October Wales trip posted are online
- Forum is more or less stagnant now. Only a couple of entries in the last year

Admin

- The club contest results and awards spreadsheet has been forwarded to the Comp Sec
- A draft 2020 Calendar is been provided to the Comp Sec

The online Handbook was unchanged again this year but we agreed at committee that it needs to be updated at least to cover the recent GDPR requirements.

Vice Chairman and Safety Officer Roger Stacey

In my role as Vice Chairmen I have provided support to the Chairman and Committee members as required.

As Safety Officer I have had one incident to investigate. This was resolved with the member concerned and no further action is anticipated.

I am willing to stand again for both posts.

Chairman: **Graham Stallard**

There is a saying “May you live in interesting times”. To counter this, I like “Be careful what you wish for”. One last Clichés from full size aviation, “boring is good”! A year like no other in our life time and hopefully not again in ours or children’s.

All things considered we have managed quite a bit this year. Four actual physical meetings with one committee meeting. Club and committee Zoom meetings seem to have worked well. I know the committee have found Zoom useful. The comp guys have also done well to run and complete comps working around, lockdown, long grass and the weather.

Club members have been busy one way or another making models. Those that I am aware of are Paul Vale, Richard Thornton, Spencer Busby, Andrew Douglas, Steve Hill, Roger Stacey and myself. This resulted in a bumper crop of maiden flights during the October Wales holiday. Others I am sure have also been busy. Mike Fantham trying a new discipline wining the annual electric thermal first time out. Well done Mike. Our own David Poole making the UK team in F3K. Well done David. So much to be positive about.

My thanks to the other committee members for their continued support in operating our club. We need to put our hands together to show our appreciation. Also, thanks to our CD's for enabling our comps to take place. Hands again please.

2021 will initially see continued restrictions on our activities fortunately the best bit takes place mostly outdoors providing plenty of scope to get out and enjoy stirring the sticks. Hope to see you soon flying a model somewhere.

6) Treasurer Report on Accounts:

Richard Thornton

This year I really would like to say how wonderful and fulfilling the job as treasurer has been over the last eighteen years.....as I said, I would like to, but I can't.

The accounts for the financial year presented here show a surplus on the year of £219.25

BMFA subscriptions for 2021 stay the same at £38-00 and if you choose to register DRES through the BMFA you will pay the £9-00 fee, which they will pass to the CAA on your behalf.

The committee reviewed the current club subscription and will be recommending the fees remain at £30 for 2021 to be reviewed next year.

We received the princely sum of £14.68 interest on the deposit account.

In these strange times we have found ourselves in it was not possible to put on a free BBQ but we managed the free raffle for all members attending the January meeting which seemed quite popular.

I am presenting these accounts unexamined for now due to current restrictions with visiting other households. When restrictions allow Tony Morgan will examine these accounts.

Looking forward to some form of normality during 2021 both on and off the field.

Proposer-Colin Hutchingson

Seconded- Mark Curtis

For= 14 Against= 0 Abstained= 1

7) Elections of Officers for 2021

All existing committee officers agreed to stand again for 2021, a vote was taken to agree.

Proposer - Terry Pelling

Seconded - Roger Crichley

For= 11 Against= 0 Abstained= 4

8) Appoint Accounts Examiner for 2021

Peter Woods was approached for this position, as it is his year to do it, but due to a hip operation, his mobility is not good, so Tony Morgan will be asked to do it again for 2021.

9) Appoint a Data Protection Compliance Manager for 2021

Graham Stallard agreed to carry on in this position, and said that THIS YEAR he would concentrate on making the effort is get this actioned.

10) Subscription for 2021

After discussions at the last committee meeting it was decide to keep the club fees the same as last year £30.00.

Proposer – Colin Hutchingson

Seconded – Mark Curtis

For= 15 Against= 0 Abstained= 0

11) Proposals/Motions – None

12) Date of Next AGM is 7th December 2021

Meeting closed at 9.45pm

Established in May 1983