

## **Minutes of the Stansted Model Flying Club Annual General Meeting held at the Village Hall, Ugley, on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2012**

Committee Members:	Mark Pearce	– Chair
	Jason Channing	– Treasurer
	Laurie Poulter	– Membership Secretary
	Shahid Banglawala	– Safety Officer and Web Master
Apologies:	Bill Michie	– Secretary

### **1. Farmer's Concerns.**

The Chair reported that the Farmer was unenthusiastic about renewing the club's tenure of the flying site. Whilst the farmer was not concerned about rental or noise levels, he was concerned about the inconvenience of having a constant presence of club members at the site and, in particular, the increased evening presence experienced this year. He has stated that the weekend numbers are acceptable but questioned the membership level.

The Chair emphasised the importance of reducing the continuous presence of members at the site and advised reducing the evening presence by halting flying early.

**Proposal.** That flying at the site be halted at 18:00 with all club members to be off site by 18:30. Proposer Chris Cutting. Seconder: Shahid Banglawala. Proposal agreed.

Further discussion on limiting membership to reduce the impact on the farmer did not lead to a proposal but the Chair stated that this would be reviewed after the effect of the above proposal was assessed, as were special arrangements for the pits location during the harvest period to free up the main track for access by harvest vehicles.

Concern was expressed by members that the club could lose this site and that there was a need to seek an alternative site both to enable the club to continue if the current site was lost and to reduce the pressure on the current site. The Committee agreed to investigate.

### **2. Matters Arising from the 2011 AGM Minutes.**

**Proposal:** That a list of Instructors be published but that contact details would only be published if the person concerned agreed. Proposer: Alan Wild. Seconder: Howard Hatt. Proposal Agreed.

### **3. Field Maintenance.**

The Chair reported that Tim would not now be leaving his house near the site and that the current arrangements for grass cutting by Tim could continue. Some concern was expressed that the grass was, at times, too long. The Chair agreed to discuss extra cutting with Tim and to offer appropriate remuneration.

### **4. Membership Fees.**

In view of the potential loss of the site, many members felt that the club should increase annual membership fees to generate a larger income and an increased reserve.

**Proposal:** That the Annual Membership Fee be raised to £40. Proposer Martin Gill. Seconder: Ron G?????. Proposal Agreed.

## **5. Pits and Flying Arrangements.**

Concern was expressed by members about the present requirement to use the North-Side pits when late in the day this requirement led to landings being made into the low sun. The Chair stated that members on site could agree to change pit location when the sun was causing problems but pointed out that the earlier cut-off for ending flying would reduce this problem.

## **6. Committee Member's Reports.**

Secretary's Report. The Chair presented The Secretary's report (attached) in the latter's absence.

Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer reported that there had been a net gain to the club funds over the year of £129 and that the club's balance was now £8,736. He reported that there had been some difficulty in access those funds held by Santander and that these had now been transferred to TSB. Purchases during the year included spraying equipment and fertiliser, barbeque equipment and food, and prizes for Scale Day, Fun Day, and the AGM Raffle. The meeting expressed their appreciation to Jason Channing and Mark Pearce for their work on the field.

Membership Secretary's Report. The Membership Secretary presented his report (attached) to the meeting.

Safety Officer's Report. The Safety Officer presented his report (attached) to the meeting. He expressed his pleasure at being a member of this club and commended the good behaviour of its members.

## **7. Election of Committee members for 2013.**

All committee members expressed their willingness to continue as Committee Members, but Shahid Banglawala stepped down as Safety Officer, whilst retaining his role as Web Master. **All existing committee members were elected unopposed.**

Kevin Twitchet was nominated as Safety Officer by B ???....., seconded by Shahid Banglawala. **Elected unopposed.**

Neil ..... expressed an interest on serving on the Committee and was particularly interested it liaison work with the farmer. Nominated as an extra Committee Member by Mark Pearce, seconded: Shahid Banglawala. **Elected unopposed.**

## **8. Trophy Awards.**

A Banks Trophy. This trophy was awarded to Shahid Banglawala in recognition of the quality of his recent published work in various national aeromodelling magazines.

Nigel Smith Trophy. The Chair explained that this new trophy was being donated by Nigel Smith's mother, in his memory, and would be awarded annually for outstanding model design, building of similar activity. The Trophy has been acquired and will be presented at the December monthly meeting.

## **9. SMFC Web Site.**

Shahid Banglawala explained that, following Nigel Smith's death it had not been found practical to gain control of the SMFC Domain Name as this had been registered as owned

by Nigel. Whilst the web site content had been copied to a temporary location at: <http://unlimitedrc.co.uk/stanstedmfc/> the best course of action would now be to register a suitable domain name to be owned the club and to re-install and update the web site, although the use of a new domain would mean that existing web search engines would take some time to update their records. When the old Domain Name becomes available in late 2013 it is proposed that this also be acquired by the club.

#### **10. Member's Proposals.**

The Chair referred to a letter from Kevin Twitchetbcontaining a number of proposals, most of which had already been covered by the meeting. However, two proposals: the marking of runways using white lines and marking locations for helicopter take-off, landing, and hovering, were discussed by the meeting. The Chair agreed to consider the options on a site visit.

#### **11. Future Events.**

The Chair outlined the probable winter and summer events for the next year and asked for further ideas. Shahid Banglawala offered to give a talk on a suitable aerodynamic subject and Jason Channing proposed indoor flying sessions at the Lord Butler Leisure Centre. Other suggestions from the floor included a Helicopter Day at the flying site and bringing in an expert model flyer to demonstrate his skills at the flying site.

*Laurie Poulter*

for Secretary, SMFC

17<sup>th</sup> November, 2012

Attachments: Secretary's Report

Membership Secretary's Report

Safety Officer's Report.

## **Stansted Model Flying Club – Membership Secretary’s Report – 2012**

### **Membership Numbers.**

The current paid-up at membership at end-2012 is 90, comprising:

72	Adult Members	)	of which
10	Junior Members	)	61 pay their BFMA Annual
6	Committee Members	)	Membership Fees via the club
2	Honoury Members	)	

Adult members pay full SMFC Membership Fees. The other members above currently do not pay SMFC Membership Fees.

7 former members did not renew their SMFC membership this year

### **Renewal Forms and BMFA Fees.**

The cost of BFMA/Insurance for 2013 is not yet known. I will circulate updated Membership Forms once the BFMA and SMFC Fees for 2013 are known. I will also place an updated Membership Form on the temporary Stansted Model Flying Club Website at:

<http://unlimitedrc.co.uk/stanstedmfc/>

*Laurie Poulter*

Membership Secretary

14<sup>th</sup> November, 2012