

**Hartlepool Model Flying Club**  
**Minutes for the Annual General Meeting**  
**Held on**  
**WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023**  
**at Stranton Social Club**

**1. Apologies for absence**

Kevin Hunton-Young, Colin Kitching, Robert Kitching

There were 7/24 members present for the AGM

**2. Matters arising from the November 2022 AGM minutes**

The 2022 AGM minutes were emailed to all members in the last week as a reminder of what took place last year.

There were no matters arising.

**3. Chairman's report**

Nothing to report

**4. Secretary's report**

Membership this year has been down on previous years. We now stand at 24 members. We still have the problem of poor attendance at club meetings but have plans in hand to hold different events at the meetings next year, these will happen after the formal business is over. Thanks to Mike for organising these events. Once again thanks to Chairman Paul and Mike for keeping the grass strip cut and usable all year.

**5. Treasurer's report**

The Club's finances are as follows,  
Money in the bank = £1101.50  
Cash in hand = £139.19  
Giving a total of £1240.69

A full breakdown of the Club's finances sheets was circulated around members present.

Currently the club is down around £30 from last year but we still have hats and caps that were purchased during the year for sale. On balance we stand around the same as last year so I would recommend the £25 club fee remains the same for 2024.

**BMFA Fees**

According to the Finance Director of the BMFA in the 2023 Annual Report the BMFA in 21/22 had a surplus of £11K, 22/23 a deficit of £33K, 23/24 a deficit of circa £60K. All this due to a fall in membership (£60K is approx 1400+ members). The projection for 24/25 is more. The BMFA has started cost cutting, selling the Main BMFA office in Leicester and moving to Buckminster along with other cost cutting measures. They expect the fees for us to go up again this year but we won't know how much until after this Saturday's BMFA AGM.

**Club Fees 2024 - £25**

**CAA Fees 2024 - £10.33**

**BMFA Fees 2024 - £??** Awaiting BMFA AGM confirmation

Club members will be emailed the fees once BMFA confirm them.

**6. Welfare officers report**

This year there have been no specific welfare issues to deal with, so I have mainly been involved in offering general support to the Club Committee. In addition, I have been involved with the organisation of several Club and BMFA mass participation events. Some of the club evening events have been quite well supported and I would like to

thank those members that came along to take part. I plan to arrange a number of other club evening events next year, some of which are likely to be participation rather than competition events which I hope will be of interest to more members.

Mike Bell

#### **7. BMFA delegate's report**

No further information available other than financial already covered.

#### **8. Proposed Motions**

There were no proposed motions

#### **9. Changes to the Club Constitution**

The Club's constitution has been emailed to all members in the past week. No alterations have been requested so the constitution remains the same.

#### **10. Election of Club officers**

The club officials for 2023 consists of the following,

Chairman – Paul Hewson  
Secretary – Bob Waugh  
Treasurer – Bob Waugh  
BMFA Delegate – Paul Breckon  
Welfare Officer – Mike Bell

All of the officials are prepared to re-stand for 2024 if the membership agree. The proposal that the club officials be re-elected came from Richard Atkins and was seconded by Robert Walker. The re-election of club officials for 2024 was carried unanimously.

#### **11. AOB**

- According to BMFA / CAA rules we don't have a problem flying models at the club field up to the 25kg limit. However with the CAA and commercial drone companies pressing for more restrictions on us the BMFA have asked us if we fly in the under 7.5kg category and/or if we fly in the 7.5kg to 25kg category. I have said we fly in the under 7.5kg category (unrestricted height covered by Article 16) and not in the 7.5 to 25kg one (400ft height limit). The flying strip isn't really long enough for larger models. If anyone wants to fly a model over 7.5kg (16.5lb) please contact the committee with details and I'll alter the information I've told the BMFA.

#### **12. Club business**

- **Flying Field**  
After much deliberation from those who had been up the field recently the description of the gate entrance was deemed as claggy. Beware about taking your car in there, parking outside the gate may be the better option.
- **December meeting Christmas party**  
We will be holding the Christmas Party again next month on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Last year we went a bit over the top with food and had way too much. This year I'd like firm number of those who will attend and want food. Please come along and bring family etc. The club will foot the food bill and if we get accurate number we can keep the cost down.  
I'll send an email out at the end of November with detail and asking for numbers for those wanting food.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm