

Ramsey Model Aero Club AGM

Minutes of the AGM Meeting held at 1900hrs on 12th December 2020 via Zoom (53 attendees)

1. *Apologies for Absence*

- Robin Gowler

2. *Approval of the minutes of the AGM meeting held on 3rd December 2019*

- Zoom Poll - carried 94%

3. *Matters arising*

- Proposed 2020 events. F5B – 26th April 2020. F3A – 10th May 2020. Scale – 28th June 2020. Also events such as Open Day (June/early July?) and General Fly-ins. Zoom Poll carried 94%

4. *Committee 2020 reports*

- Chairman's report (See Appendix A)
- Site protection and Safety report (See Appendix B)
- Training report (See Appendix C)
- Membership report (See Appendix D)
- Treasure's annual report (See Appendix E)
- Site Maintenance Report (See Appendix F)

5. *Presentations and Awards*

- The Purser Shield for the most improved flyer was awarded to Howard Jones for going from non-flyer to passing his A certificate.
- The Chairman's cup was presented to Jack Channing for passing his C certificate – the youngest person so to do.

6. *Committee stands down, President takes the chair*

- Robert Neilson stands in for Robin Gowler and read President's address.

7. *Election of the Committee*

Standing for Committee positions

Robin Gowler- President
Jon Land or Tim McGivern – Chairman (ballot)
Alan Flockhart – Vice Chairman
Mick Sumpter – Secretary
Chris Godfrey – Treasurer
Graham Crossley – Membership Secretary
Andy Harrold – Site Protection/Safety Officer
John Davie – Training Officer
A N Other – Communications

Robert Neilson announced the result of the Ballot. There were 112 votes, 8 abstentions. The split was Jon Land 37 votes, Tim McGivern 67 votes (64.4%). The new Chairman will be **Tim McGivern** .

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The 2020 Committee will be

Robin Gowler- President
Tim McGivern – Chairman
Alan Flockhart – Vice Chairman
Mick Sumpter – Secretary
Chris Godfrey – Treasurer
Graham Crossley – Membership Secretary
Andy Harrold – Site Protection/Safety Officer
John Davie – Training Officer
Alan Flockhart – Communications (will cover)

8. **AOB**

Graham Haggar –

- Grass cutting during the first lockdown. This was managed in line with the BMFA and Government lockdown.

Peter Coles -

- The area of grass along the edge of the car park on the entrance side of the field should be paved. *Tony Peak and Peter Coles to discuss on site.*
- Paving slabs in front of two long seats – *in hand next year*
- Minutes of the committee meetings should be available to members upon application – *minutes are available from the secretary on request once approved by the committee. Members names will be redacted other than committee. Once the club hut is open a copy of the minutes will be made available.*
- Grass cutting schedule – this is largely weather dependent. As much notice as possible will be given. The safety of the site maintenance team and other members are paramount.
- Control of Rabbit population – Albert Barham has shooting rights. The Committee will keep on top of this before it gets out of hand.
- 25% discount for 2021 subscriptions (see item 9 below)

9. **Acceptance of the Treasurers proposed subscriptions**

- The Treasurer proposed to keep the club fees the same for the next year (currently 11p a day), the BMFA has kept the same fees as last year and the cost of the CAA registration remains the same.

	BMFA	Club	CAA	Total
Adults	£38	£39	£9	£86
Juniors	£17	£5	£9	£31

Family membership will be:

Adults	£38	£39	£9	£86
Partners	£25	£39	£9	£73
Juniors	£17	£5	£9	£31

- Zoom Poll - carried 85%

10. **Meeting closed**

- Around 53 Members attended the meeting via Zoom
- Meeting closed 2030

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Appendix A - Chairman's report

I feel somewhat of an imposter reading this report to you all, having only been co-opted in as Chairman a few weeks ago. I hope not too many of you nod off while I chunter on.

As you have all experienced, and for obvious reasons, 2020 has been a trying year. Our normal daily lives have been completely turned upside down. We have had the worry of our own health, the health of our family and loved ones, financial worries and employment worries. And, to add insult to injury, the worry of when the next stint of 'no flying' would kick in.

So it is no surprise that this year has been a stressful one, and being a member of the committee has not made things any easier. I'm sure you have all read the email from Ross at the point of his resignation recently as Chairman, so I will not mention any of the additional negative incidents that have occurred throughout the year. But, to quote another member of the committee, 'The committee has been a depressing place to be this year'. Quite right.

I am very proud of this committee, including Ross, and I would like to thank all of them for their endless work and support this year through some unprecedented times. Rest assured, the chaps that currently sit on this committee, are dedicated, hard working and have nothing but the greater good of the club at heart. I would also like to add an extra thanks to Alan this year, he has maintained a virtual means for us to carry out committee meetings this year. He is also the sole person responsible for putting not only this zoom meeting together, but also the means for us to carry out the chairman position vote that is fair and anonymous. A lot of work has gone into this throughout the year.

At last years AGM, we all agreed to host the F5B, F3A and Scale competitions at our field. Inevitably they were cancelled, except the scale competition which was rescheduled. Who would of thought that JC and his band of old farts would have persevered and rallied through to organise a surprising turn out on September 13th. On the day the weather was quite warm but with a stiffish breeze that varied in direction throughout the day. There were seven entrants in 'Flying Only' and five in the Ripmax Trophy (nominally F4c, for aficionados).

The aforementioned breeze added interest and some models were clearly a bit feisty at first before their pilots got to grips with the weather. Club members who entered this year clearly relished the opportunity to compete on the home field and scores from the first round gave encouragement.

The charge was confirmed by the final result which put Adrian Hayward in fourth place in Flying Only with his Super Cub. The judges particularly liked his announced sideslip on approaching to land.

Members really made themselves noticed in Ripmax Trophy by securing third, Dave Toyer with his Tiger Moth, fourth went to Dave Tilbury with L4 Grasshopper and fifth to John Carpenter.

At the conclusion of the event the contest director thanked the club on behalf of the competitors and particularly commented on the work of those who had prepared the field.

The membership also voted on whether the club should host the Triple Crown Aerobatics weekend in September. With 54 in favour out of 76 voters, again this was taken out of the organiser's hands and was cancelled.

I don't want to steal too much of John Davies thunder, but we have had a smattering of BMFA achievements awarded to members this year. Welcome news considering how much of the year has been no flying permitted and poor weather. A testament to the hard work of the instructors, as well as the members who have achieved the attempted standard. Well done all!

Well done also, to Jon Land on recently becoming 'BMFA Area Chief Examiner', and, as I understand, there is already a que forming of individuals hoping to attain their 'C' certificate. Hopefully, we will also see a similar que for the members who don't currently hold an 'A' certificate.

On a more sombre note. I would like to recognise the sad news of the passing of Ken Dodd, Peter Harral and Mick Watson in the last 12 months. Ken passed away not long after the last AGM in December last year. Ken was a heavy supporter of the club, and until shortly before his passing was the Safety and Site protection officer. Peter was also heavily involved in the club for many years. An Mick had also been a member for many years, known for his trick of flying his large petrol models inverted for the majority of the flight.

I would also like to extend mine and the rest of the committees thanks to the Tony Peake, and his field maintenance team this year. The standard of the field they have achieved this year has been fantastic. Especially when you consider

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the team have had to protect themselves with social distancing and staggered working. The Club huts look great in their new paint scheme. The small club hut has had a new roof. Multiple paving slabs have been laid and the permanent pilots box has been laid. I know Tony and the team have some big improvement plans for next year, and I've no doubt will look fantastic. This is me instigating a virtual round of applause for Tony and the Team. Thanks for everything you guys do.

I've got high hopes for next year. I hope that we have a full season of enjoyable flying. I hope that we can all get along and show the respect to others that we all expect to see at the field. I hope we all get the hang of that one manoeuvre that keeps catching us out. I hope it is one of the best years for the club.

Stay Safe and I'll see you all next year at the field.

Appendix B - Site protection and Safety report

Since taking over in the Spring I am pleased to report that there have been no serious issues to report from both the Safety and the Site Protection viewpoint.

We did have one incident where a member of the public allowed his dogs to come on to the flying site and act aggressively towards a member stood at the tardis. Fortunately, the incident passed with no damage to member, model or dog. If you do have a similar event happen to you please contact me.

The few minor safety issues that I have addressed but would like to remind you all:

- 1) Have a 2kg extinguisher to hand when starting turbine models
- 2) No dogs in the pits or the flying area.
- 3) Make sure that your guests are aware of local rules, such as mobile phones in the pits area.

On the Site Protection side there was a minor incident where a member of the public came on to the field as he felt that a model had been flying too close to him as he walked the public footpath and that the model had also been flown in an aggressive manner. I spoke to the persons involved at the time, calmed the situation, and am pleased to report that the two persons are now good friends!

Finally, the CAA Exemption for us to fly above 400 feet, up to 1500 feet on models over 7kg is now back in place. The NOTAM should be in place within the coming few weeks.

Fly safe, fly responsibly,

Appendix C - Training report

First some good news on the training front – there were three successful BMFA 'A' test results this year. Howard Jones and Graham White both new flyers were successful, congratulations to both. Thanks to Chris Godfry and Andy Harrold for their successful mentoring. In addition Steve Bond a new member and experienced flyer also passed the test, more thanks to Andy.

As can be expected, with the current and ongoing public health issue, it has made for a very disjointed training programme this year. Things have progressed on an opportunity basis as the Covid 19 rules have allowed. Of the 16 club members who are rated as club instructors 7 of them have decided not to continue with instructing. For this reason, members who would like to become Club Instructors are encouraged to contact myself. Instructing fellow club members and assisting them to achieve a qualification, can be both rewarding and frustrating, as any of our

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team will tell you. However mentoring a successful candidate is very rewarding and of course you are putting something back into our hobby.

Of our existing members, 30 are still without the BMFA 'A' qualification, which is a club requirement to be able to fly unsupervised at our field. Of these 30, 8 are receiving training or have an instructor allocated. So plenty of work to do here still.

Appendix D - Membership report

The club lost 30 members since the last AGM but, over the course of the year we have signed up 19 new members.

We currently have 168 members: 160 Senior, 4 Junior and 4 Life members (2 of which are social only).

4 members have informed me that they will not be renewing their memberships in 2021.

CAA Operator renewals: The BMFA have informed me that CAA OP renewals may be paid at the same time as BMFA membership renewals. A new number will be issued this time but at future renewals members will keep the same number which will save having to change it on all our models every year. CAA registration renewals will not start until the current registration expires. Those members that buy the OP registration through the CAA will get a new number at every renewal.

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Appendix E – Treasurer’s report

RAMSEY MODEL AERO CLUB				
PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT				
For the year ended 31st October 2020				
	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
Income:				
Donations	109		125	
Interest	25		101	
RMAC & BMFA Subscriptions	<u>11,219</u>		<u>10,930</u>	
		11,353		11,156
Expenditure:				
Accountancy	168		162	
BMFA Subscription	4,965		4,370	
Flying site maintenance	2,852		7,687	
Flying site rent	1,650		1,650	
Fuel	101		-	
Sundry	16		18	
Modelling materials	28		45	
Open day	-		217	
Room hire	40		231	
Secretarial expenses	188		412	
Awards & engraving	100		-	
Treasurer’s expenses	6		13	
Website	<u>145</u>		<u>116</u>	
		10,259		14,921
Excess of Income/(Deficit) over expenditure		<u>1,094</u>		- 3,765
Opening balance		18,897		22,662
Excess Income/(Deficit) for the year		<u>1,094</u>		<u>- 3,765</u>
Cash		-		-
Current account	4,918		3,849	
Savings account	<u>15,073</u>		<u>15,048</u>	
Closing balance		<u>19,991</u>		<u>18,897</u>

Appendix F – Site Maintenance report

This year has been a busy one, as we were unable to have our usual spring and autumn clean-up day, and we have missed out on Phil’s lovely BBQ food.

However during 2020 we managed to carry on maintaining our site.

1 The gang mowers were serviced ready for the start of the season.

Two second hand rollers were purchased from Richard Stokes, the farmer to link together with our existing roller making a triple unit.

A new strimmer was also purchased with safety helmet and ear defenders.

2 The pot holes in the main drive in road were filled with cement and tarmaced over.

3 4 flight tables were modified, at the request of some members- and agreed by the committee. 4 remain

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unchanged to give choice.

4 The memorial board, dedicated to John Young. is finished and on display in the small hut.

5 The leaking roof, on the small hut, was felted by a local company in October.

6 The 2 huts were painted green with 3 coats of paint necessary to achieve a decent finish! The old tractor shed was painted black.

7 The pilots box is now a permanent feature with inserted paving blocks painted white which require very little maintenance.

8 Bob West has been working tirelessly to eliminate the fairy rings. This is an ongoing project !

9 4 tons of topsoil was delivered and is being used to level the site etc.

10 The field has been cut 21 times and rolled
4 this year.

The grass has had its final cut.

11 Plans for next year to address the untidy paving , under the canopy and around seating area, are under discussion and await approval by the committee.

Rabbits are still a problem , and we are working on it .

12 Finally I would like to thank all those who have helped with the maintenance of the site, and their commitment to the team ensuring the site looks at its best.

I would also like to thank the guys on the committee for working so hard to organise the AGM