



Season's Greetings



The Committee wish all Club Members
the very best for Christmas
and a Happy New Year.

Regrettably we must remind members that following notice given a couple of months ago we will no longer have access to the Towersey (Chinnor) field from 1st January, 2020.

The next club meeting will be

Saturday, 11th January, 2020

*and will be the next
Indoor Flying Evening
at the Wycombe Leisure Centre, Handy Cross,
High Wycombe, HP11 1UP (Just off M40 Junction 4)
From 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.*

For further details see October Newsletter on our web site.

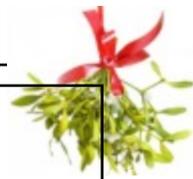
The next event will be on Sunday 26th January and will be
the **Winter Build/Social Event**

at

Studley Green Community Centre
Wycombe Road (A40)
Studley Green, HP14 3UY

In view of the impending visit from MicroAces we are suggesting their models as a group project.

If we can put together an order for 10 kits, whether basic airframe or complete, then we have been offered a 15% discount. Have a look at their web site <https://microaces.myshopify.com/> and if you would like to buy a kit then email Brian b.s.toolbox@btinternet.com in the next week or so.



Minutes of HWDMAC Annual General Meeting

Held on 28th November, 2019

Meeting commenced at 20.10

Item 1 Confirmation of quorum, minimum 20%.

It was confirmed that there were sufficient numbers to form a quorum with 35 paid 2019 members including the Committee and 6 non-members present. There were also representatives from Kensham Farm and BMFA.

Item 2 Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that not having the use of Flackwell made life difficult for the Club but on the positive side there had been a successful Achievement Scheme day at Towersey earlier in the year with three pilots passing. The Chuckie Challenge competition had been a great success this year with a good entry. Some indoor flying events had taken place at Handy Cross Sports Centre which were proving very popular and more were planned in 2020.

Unfortunately, in November we were informed that we would no longer be able to use the field at Towersey after the end of 2019. This put more pressure on the effort in finding a new venue.

A great deal of work has been put in to find a replacement field with much time and effort visiting land owners and assessing a number of possible sites. Some land owners were not very interested and some of the sites offered were not large enough. Kensham Farm at Cadmore End offered us a site and although very expensive the land owners are very helpful and progress had been made in terms of the site and agreeing a way forward. More details would be given later in the meeting and the members would be given the opportunity to scrutinise and vote on the proposal. The Chairman thanked all those who had given their time and effort into this project.

Item 3 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that subscriptions were substantially down to £6K from £9K in 2018. Due to reduced field rents, however, the overall profit for the year was similar to 2018 at £1500.

Mike Winston proposed and Bruce Austin seconded that the members accept the accounts.

A vote was taken and there were no objections.

Item 4 Communications & Membership

Communications

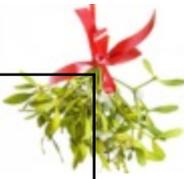
M. Connell requested if anyone would take on the role of communications but as no one came forward he would continue as Newsletter Editor for now.

Membership

The Membership Secretary reported between 2014 and 2018 the membership had increased from 125 to 132. In 2019 only 66 renewed but we had also attracted seven new members. He contacted all those who did not rejoin for this year and found that only 37 raised the loss of Flackwell as a reason. Other reasons given were mainly retiring from the sport.

Item 5 New Field

The Chairman gave a brief résumé of the work so far. Today a group from HWDMAC had visited the field together with Andy Symons, Club Support Officer for the BMFA. Andy took some background sound readings and Mike Winston flew his aircraft and the noise levels were checked again. As most of the background noise was generated from the motorway there was no increase in pressure levels when the aircraft was in the air. It was noted, however, that the sound of the engine was distinctive and so could easily be picked out. After some discussion Andy thought the site was good but because of the cost he recommended that the Club should seek planning permission.



Mike Winston presented some slides comparing the size of Flackwell and Towersey to the proposed new site and it was clear that the new site was much larger.

As representative of Kensham Farm, Alex Nelms, stated that Kensham Farms wanted this venture to work for both parties and that they would do everything they could to help the Club set up the site and make it a success. He also stated that they appreciated how expensive it is but they were not going to suddenly hike up the cost in subsequent years. He was very positive about the future and understood the amount of work the Club has been and still needs to be put in to get the site operational. He saw no reason why this arrangement should not continue for several years.

The Chairman thanked Alex for the support of Kensham Farm and then a discussion on planning took place. A request was then made for anyone with planning experience who would be able to take on this task. Chris Harvey offered his services as he had an architectural business and had previous dealings with planning applications. The Chairman thanked Chris and accepted his offer and stated that details would be forwarded on. Andy Symons stated that he would also advise and write appropriate site reports and letters in the name of the BMFA to assist in the process.

Fees relating to taking the New Field

The Membership Secretary gave a presentation of the proposed fees for the new field. Once fully operational the annual club membership will be £120. However, due to the field not being available until May or June 2020 the fee for 2020 will be £80 with an early bird discount of £20 for anyone paying before the end of this year. 2018 members would not be required to pay £45 joining fee. Junior membership will be 1/3 of the equivalent senior.

Vote on New Field

Bruce Austin proposed that the Club should go forward with the take up of the field at Kensham Farm. This was seconded by Jim Richardson. A vote was taken with 40 for and none against so the proposal was carried.

Item 6 Election of new Chairman and Committee.

The current Committee all stood down and Bruce Austin took over the meeting as temporary Chairman and asked for nominations for the Committee.

The following were proposed:-

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Chairman, B Seymour, | Proposed, M. Mabbutt, | Seconded, N.Keates |
| Treasurer, M. Connell, | Proposed, B. Seymour | Seconded, M. Mabbutt |
| Secretary, P Burnham, | Proposed, B. Seymour, | Seconded, J. Richardson |
| Membership Secretary, M. Winston | Proposed, B. Seymour, | Seconded, B. Austin |
| BMFA Rep. M. Mabbutt, | Proposed, B. Austin, | Seconded, N. Keates |
| News Letter Editor, M. Connell. | Proposed, B. Austin, | Seconded, P. Burnham |

The proposals were put to the members and there were no votes against so the new Committee stands as listed above.

Item 8. AOB relevant to the AGM

There were no items presented for discussion under this heading.

BMFA Club Support Officer

There followed a presentation by Andy Symons, BMFA Club Support Officer on the CAA/DMARES laws. He gave a history of how the rules came about and how they are to be implemented. There followed a question and answer session. Following the talk, the Chairman thanked Andy and the room agreed it had been very helpful.

The meeting closed at 22.15



DMARES for the mildly (or totally) confused - by Richard Whitehead

At a recent BMFA South Midlands Area meeting it became clear that there was a significant lack of appreciation of the new laws for flying model aircraft and multi-rotors, that came into force on 30th November, and it was therefore felt important to try and make sure everyone is aware that they need to take action, and clarify what that action is.

The best advice for the most authoritative up to date information is to visit the BMFA website and view their "Quick Start Guide" on the subject - <https://rcc.bmfa.uk/quick-start-guide-to-model-flying-operation-of-unmanned-aircraft> - a series of simple bullet points, which can each be expanded for further information, ending in the simple mantra "If you want to fly model aircraft you must be Registered and Competent".

More detailed explanations of how to go about the process are provided in their "CAA Drone & Model Aircraft Registration and Education Scheme (DMARES)" quick start guide <https://rcc.bmfa.uk/caa-registration/dmares-quick-start-guide>.

However, if you do not want to read all that (why would you not, ignorance is not an acceptable defence?) then here is a resume.

Basics -

The basic change in the law from 30th Nov 2019 is that in order to fly (Pilot) any model aircraft or drone weighing more than 250gm you now need to take an on-line (very simple) competency test with the CAA, and if you are responsible for a model aircraft or drone being flown (the Operator), usually the owner, you need to be registered with the CAA, for which there is a £9 fee, and have your registration number on the model. Most model flyers are both Pilot and Operator.

Exemptions -

The BMFA has negotiated some exemptions from these laws for its members, the details of which are available here - <https://rcc.bmfa.uk/exemptions>.

Registration - You can register with the CAA **via the BMFA** at the same time as renewing your BMFA membership (either direct or through your club), and are exempt from displaying your CAA ID on the model until you are issued with it in early February. **NOTE** - you **must** carry your current BMFA membership card and a copy of the CAA exemption with you.

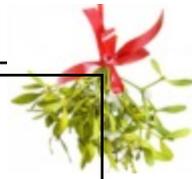
Competency - If you have any BMFA Basic Proficiency Certificate, or A certificate or higher, you are exempt from taking the CAA on-line test. If you don't have one of these certificates there is a new BMFA certificate (RCC) which you can take which is also acceptable. You **must** carry proof of competency (e.g. as shown on your current membership card) and a copy of the CAA exemption with you.

Other - "control line only" flyers are exempt from both registration and competency requirements.

NOTE - you can't fail the new BMFA RCC test as, if you don't get it all correct first time, you get an email with all the right answers so you can try again with the answers in front of you. Think of it as an education process rather than a test.

All of the above was in the last issue of BMFA News so you should already have read it. If not then please do so.

NOTE 2 - Although it says that the exemption documents need to be carried round, this can be achieved by simply downloading the .pdf files onto smart phones and shown on the phone screen when required. The same goes for BMFA membership. Eventually the Club will have laminated copies of the documents available in the clubhouse.



Reminder

Remember that if your BMFA subscription has not been received by 31st December then you will not be insured to fly from 1st January, 2020. If, therefore, you have not yet paid your membership subscriptions then please send them directly to the Membership Rep. Mike Winston at 22, Disraeli Crescent, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP13 5EJ as soon as possible so that he can send the appropriate payment on to the BMFA. Note that since we are an Affiliated Club then you will be insured so long as Mike or our bank has received the subs. You can also pay the CAA Registration fee at the same time and if you want one of the new BMFA Membership Cards then add £3.50 to your payment.

West London Flying Offer

West London Model Aircraft Club have generously offered to let HWDMAC members use their site on selected weekends in January, February and March. There are certain restrictions that must be followed so full details will be sent out separately in a few days.

And since it's Christmas

We are still in the 12 Days so https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t_oPfy6rysg

Committee Members for 2020

Office	Name
Chairman	Brian Seymour
Treasurer	Malcolm Connell
Secretary	Peter Burnham
Membership Secretary	Mike Winston
Newsletter Editor & Web Site	Malcolm Connell
BMFA Liaison	Mitch Mabbutt
Field Rep	Neil Rice

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My thanks to those members who have contributed to this and other Newsletters recently.
Have you got something that you could contribute?

Meetings and Events in 2020

Date	Day	Event	Location
11 January 2020	Saturday	Indoor Flying - 6.00pm to 8.00pm	Wycombe Sports Centre
26 January	Sunday	Winter Build 1 - 5.00pm to 9.00pm	Studley Grn Com Cent
8 February	Saturday	Indoor Flying - 6.00pm to 8.00pm	Wycombe Sports Cent
22 February	Saturday	MicroAces Fly-in - 5.00pm to 8.00pm	Wycombe Sports Cent
29 February	Saturday	Indoor Flying - 6.00pm to 8.00pm	Wycombe Sports Cent