

MVSA minutes of A.G.M 8th November 2017 **8.00pm at the Pavilion, West Meon**

Apologies:

David Field, Ken Bell, Roy Taylor, Tony Burbidge, Mervyn Dadds sent apologies for their absence.

A total of 28 members attended.

2016 AGM minutes:

The 2016 AGM minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting, this being proposed by Richard Docketty and seconded by Mike Harvey

Chairman's report:

Jim Hathaway presented the chairman's report.

- We lost the Soberton flat field. We attempted to use a flat field offered by George Atkinson, but it was too narrow for the winch and too occupied by cattle so this didn't really work. We have permission to use the Mercury field for electric thermal gliding (normal flying fees apply – reminder to all, did you know the flying fee is per person, not per car? As per the site rules on the Mercury gate). The committee is not actively pursuing any other options. There have been few complaints re lack of ability to use winch.
- We carried out several scrub-bashing sessions on Butser since the last AGM. We will be doing it again this year. We have option to loan medium and large tree poppers. The new Senior ranger at QECP has already topped all our slopes at Butser. There will be animals on Butser which should keep the grass under control and they can now mow it themselves as it is now short enough for their machinery. We need to look at doing the Hawthorn on the SW. On the NW there is a gap to the left to the spur along the fence line we could do. QECP are investigating whether the Ash tree off the NW could be removed as this seems to attract a few models and paragliders.
- We need to volunteer our services again next week to help to build our reputation and value to QECP. We scratch their back and they'll scratch ours.

Secretary report:

Jerry presented a round-up of the year.

Last year we had a vacant slot for Vice Chairman which Keith has kindly filled. Also since we no longer have a flat field, we no longer need a flat field representative on the committee.

4 committee meetings were held since the last AGM.

1 meetings with the QE Park and Skysurfers of which you will have seen a summary.

A reminder of the 2017 Club nights

Jan - Airbrushing etc. courtesy of Gaz Holland

Feb - Survey results (flat field) and discussion

Mar - Thermal talk courtesy of Jim Hathaway

Apr - Show and tell - thanks to all!

May - Boris tours presents - report of German trip courtesy of Chris and Keith

June - BBQ and Bring and Buy. Thanks to Rory for another excellent BBQ.

Sept - Moulded model repair techniques with Andy Schafer

Oct - Mini auction and Dave Kirk's talk about new technology

Nov - AGM

During the summer vacation a few of us also met up at the George & Falcon at Warnford for a pint and a chat.

Richard Docketty kindly arranged a trip to Lasham heritage centre attended by a good number of members.

Tri club day out with WSRFC and TVSF, a good event attended by Alan and Jerry this year.

Recent survey about possible activities:

NATS tour is of interest, Jerry progressing and pending a reply from a contact he has been given.

Lasham full sized gliding evening - enough interest and a few volunteers who are willing to arrange, expect this to happen around May 2018 - Ian Shilling has kindly agreed to organise and is aware of others who volunteered should assistance be required.

Trip to foreign model show - some interest, but needs to be further investigated to see if it can be made to work within the budget constraints of those interested. Andy is progressing.

There has been a rethink about MVSA 'test' following on from input from a member. More on that to follow. But this shows we do listen to our members, investigate and act where the committee believe it is appropriate.

So what about next year (subject to change):

Jan - Alan on Dartmoor thermal comps

Feb – Aerobatic flying techniques – Dave and hopefully Gaz

Mar - Alan and Perce on Guitar building, if I say including a recital by Perce, I think that means he has to give one doesn't it? ;)

Apr - John Passmore – Flying RN helicopters at sea

May - Show & tell night – so start thinking about what you can bring or tell about.

Jun - BBQ & Bring and buy

Oct - Possibly photo comp – details to follow, but start snapping anything club, model or flying related.

Nov - AGM

Unless you have any better ideas? If so, please let the committee know.

We will probably run a trip to Tangmere (Mike Toogood) - watch this space.

Treasurer report:

Quiet year, funds increased as not spending any money. Spending on BBQ, Xmas, flat field. Income £2076, increased funds by £887 have a balance of around £8500.

Expected expenses for this coming year

Don't really need a buffer any more as no significant expenses, fairly flat membership level.

Around half are doing electronic payments- Thanks, that helps!

Raised £176 from charity auction last month to go to charity – to be discussed.

Membership Secretary Report

The current membership is slightly down from last years 124 to 122.
This despite losing over a dozen members due to the loss of our Flat field site.
The addition of 16 new members compensated for this loss

The age breakdown of the club is

1 junior
12 under 50
108 over 50
88 over 60
52 over70

44 members have not yet been assessed as to their competence.

For those who renew their BMFA through the club, I will be sending out renewal reminders as soon as the BMFA publish their new prices.
It can take up to a month to process BMFA membership, especially over Christmas.
So please return fees promptly, before the 1st week in December.

The club only membership reminders will be sent out early December.

Fees can be paid by Bank transfer, by cheque or cash at club meetings.
Over half used the bank transfer method last year.

Safety Officer report:

Nothing specific to report which from a safety officer is always a good thing. Keep aware and be careful guys.

2017 Agenda:

Budget and expenditure.

We have what may be regarded as an excessive bank balance. Why continue to collect £18 for membership fees? Committee proposes to reduce membership to £10. Estimate is that would take us to fairly neutral cash flow next year
All in favour. Passed

What about spending existing money?

Maybe give some money to charity and subsidise events. Membership is supportive of idea of subsidies for events.

Assessments – simplify current scheme – assess that someone is safe to fly. We propose to moving away from tests, to all monitoring for safe flying of all. Watch this space...

Some may want assistance with flying – all were reminded of yahoo group and facebook group to request assistance. If you want help, please ask! Most are willing to help if you ask.

Foreign Trip

Andy briefly spoke about the possibility of a foreign trip to investigate how many may be interested. A decent number expressed interest. Possibly first trip just past Dortmund. Watch this space.

Election Of Committee:

Jim has decided to stand down from the role of chairman.

Alex is finding that work commitments are increasingly getting in the way of committee duties and has expressed concern that in the event of an incident, he may not be able to devote the necessary time to the incident so has been considering his position on the committee.

Jerry had expressed the desire to stand down from the committee, however given there were no offers for replacement, he agreed to continue his role if required.

Keith, Tony and Dave were all willing to continue on the committee if required.

With this in mind, Ian Shilling is willing to stand as chairman, no others expressed interest in or concern with this.

John Passmore is willing to stand as safety officer, again there was no concern with this.

The candidates for new posts were therefore

Chairman: Ian Shilling

Vice Chairman: Keith Clement

Secretary: Jerry Stone

Treasurer: Dave Kirk

Membership Secretary : Tony Burbidge

Safety Officer : John Passmore

This committee was duly elected.

Alex mentioned that he was willing to continue to provide input to the committee perhaps in the role of 'Committee Member without portfolio'. This was discussed however it was felt that since the committee are there to serve the members and already take input from members both at the AGM and throughout the year both in person and via email, there was no particular need for this position.

Richard Docketty expressed a vote of thanks to the committee for their work over the last year.

The committee would also like to thank Jim for his firm hand at the helm over the last few years and Alex who has been on the committee for around 10 years both as Comp Sec and Safety Officer, to a degree both thankless tasks. Thanks guys!

AOB:

Following on from last years AGM the committee sourced MVSA logo baseball caps. These are being sold at £5 per head (apologies for the accidental pun) with this money going to a charity to be decided. Please speak to Jerry for a cap next time you see him.

Raffle:

A raffle was held with a selection of food and drink prizes.

Next AGM: Will be held Weds 10th November 2018.

Another excellent selection of food from Rory concluded the meeting.