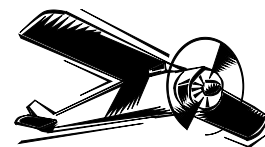


# FENLAND AERO CLUB - Committee

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## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FENLAND AERO CLUB COMMITTEE

<b>Present:</b>	Claire Buckley, Carl Husain, Tim James, John Parker, Angelo Sapiano, Peter Watson, Martin Williams
<b>Others in Attendance:</b>	Kerry Allen (Ex Officio)

**WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2020**

**Video Conference Meeting Convened 7pm**

1) **APOLOGIES:** James Baldwyn.

2) **PREVIOUS MINUTES:** 15 OCTOBER 2020 (BAA); 22 OCTOBER 2020.

The Secretary asked Committee to also approve the work of the Sub Committee on 01 October 2020 from the notes provided.

There were no objections. The Committee agreed the work of the Sub Committee.

The Minutes from the Committee meeting held 15 October 2020 at the presentation of the British Aviation Academy and decisions made.

There were no objections. The Minutes of 15 October 2020 were approved.

The Committee was asked to approve the Minutes of the Committee meeting 22 October 2020.

There were no objections. The Minutes of 22 October 2020 were approved.

2a) **MATTERS ARISING:**

There were no matters arising.

3) **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** (Peter Watson):

The Chairman reported that the airfield is secure. The runways are good. That others are making periodic checks. Peter reported that the porta-cabin is leaking water (from the roof).

The Chairman reported that he asked Dave Westall if repairs could be done. A quote was obtained. £1,600. This made up of £900 in labour costs and £600 in materials.

**There were no objections. The Committee will ask Dave Westall to undertake repairs when he is able.**

#### **4) TREASURER'S REPORT (Peter Watson):**

The Treasurer reported the bank balances at the bank as of the 10 November 2020

Charity Account: £138; Current Account: £34,827; Saving Account: £75,000.

**It was confirmed that £200 from the Charity Account was donated to the Klaus Risserman memorial fund benefitting the East Anglian Air Ambulance. The Committee agreed to donate £130 from the Charity Account to the British Legion.**

#### **5) SECRETARY'S REPORT (Claire Buckley):**

a) The Secretary reported on the Sub Committee meeting 01 October 2020; that information helped in the meeting 15 October 2020 with Adrian Willis, The British Aviation Academy.

b) The Secretary confirmed that Adrian supplied references 30 September 2020 and passed to the Landlords. These were from a Mr Mark Jeffries of Yak UK and Ms Philippa Schoburt CEO of Smart Control Systems. Claire read them out to the Committee.

**The Secretary confirmed that she had communicated these to the Wrights who were thankful and delighted.**

A comment was made that Mark Jeffries operated Little Gransden Airfield and is one of the best aerobatic pilots in the country.

**There were no questions.**

c) Copies of the signed licence with the British Aviation Academy through Adrian Willis had been previously distributed to Committee. The committee were asked if it would ratify the agreement.

**The Committee gave no objection. The Committee ratified the Licence with BAA.**

d) The Secretary told Committee that she had received an email dated 10 November 2020 from Jim Blaylock concerning the incident with his Skybolt aircraft. Claire read out the email to Committee.

Jim wished to make it clear that there was no issue regarding the quality of fuel purchased from Fenland. He said the aircraft technical log reveals that there have been several incidents of rough running and blocked fuel injectors before they purchased it and that problem had not been correctly rectified, and therefore repeated itself in June.

The Secretary said that Jim was hoping that this email will put an end to the allegation that the airfield and the fuel testing procedures in place at the time had something to do with the incident.

e) Request by Alan Gray (Club President) for funding for a possible postal ballot.

**The Committee agreed that up to £400 be available for a possible postal vote of the members.**

f) The Secretary asked the Chairman if he had informally contacted our insurance broker as to a potential breach of our tenancy agreement with our Landlords as a result of the proposals being set out to the members at the proposed EGM.

**Peter said he had not at this time but preferred to wait for more information concerning the EGM.**

g) The Secretary asked if any had received a copy of the 'petition' raised by the Fenland Flying School.

**The Committee had not.**

**The Chairman said we will request a copy at the appropriate time if it is relevant to this Committee.**

h) The Secretary wished to raise the point that Braden Connolly had not had two full consecutive years as a member as is required under Club Rule 5.5 to stand on Committee and a Management Group. This due to Club Rule 3.9 having stated to the Membership Secretary he was not intending to renew his membership following emails sent by Mary. Therefore he is deemed to have resigned his membership.

**The Secretary read out an email she had sent to Alan Gray 08 November 2020 informing Alan of this matter.**

**The Committee acknowledged this.**

i) The Secretary reported that on 05 November 2020 she had sent Mossop & Bowser the FAC solicitors a letter informing them our Landlords had not given us consent for us to issue Fenland Flying School another licence (or give extension) to operate on the airfield and that an EGM was being called to remove this Committee 25 November 2020.

**She read out the letter to Committee.**

The Secretary went on to say that on the 07 November 2020 she had written to FAC Solicitors again after realising that initial contact had been through her personal email address and that John Veasey of Mossop & Bowser was still using that address. She wrote to request this be corrected.

The Secretary apologised to the Committee for this mistake.

She also asked M&B that as we are in lockdown again (giving full disclosure) that we maintain the current arrangement for lockdown for postal documentation to her personal address until further notice.

**The Committee acknowledged this and agreed this arrangement for the time being until lockdown is over.**

She went on to read out the Communications from M&B stating they are fully aware of the circumstances.

M&B are prepared to write a letter to the Fenland Flying School pointing out to them that the Landlords do not give consent but await the outcome of the EGM and that we continue to have the authority to instruct them on the matter. In addition, that their current costs to date are £406, and that costs will continue to accrue at an hourly rate of £240 plus vat per hour, and that future costs will likely be dependent upon the outcome of the EGM.

**This was acknowledged by the Chairman and Committee.**

k) Recent Memberships: The Secretary brought the Committee's attention to recently received new and renewing membership applications. That there was a recent influx prior to and on the day the EGM notice was published. She named 5 members together saying there are another 11 at least whose applications should be reviewed. It would appear she said that those who were proposed on the same date as the notice of EGM should be reviewed and other enquiries made and this be raised with Alan Gray.

**The Chairman asked that this be discussed further into the meeting.**

**This was agreed.**

**6) SAFETY REPORT (Martin Williams):**

Martin Williams reported he has been attending the airfield every other weekend and things appear okay. He had nothing further to report.

**7) FUEL MANAGER'S REPORT (Carl Husain):**

Carl Husain reported that up to the 31 October 2020, the Club had sold 5,700 litres of 100LL; 1,032 litres of UL91 and almost 800 litres of JetA1 fuel about 25% of the Jet A1 tank left.

**The Chairman congratulated Carl, turning out to the airfield when required. The Committee agreed.**

**8) HANGAR MANAGER'S REPORT (John Parker):**

John Parker said he had nothing to report except to investigate a leak above Angelo's aircraft.

**9) AIRFIELD REPORT (Peter Watson):**

Peter Watson said we had contacted the local drainage board and met with them last week.

The IDB suggested we put a trench either side of the runway, close to the runway, 6-9 inches wide filled with gravel and pea shingle and be left open. It would have a pipe at the bottom to collect water and carry it to the top or bottom of R18/R36. Although there was some difficulty as our runways are only 18 metres wide.

Peter informed Committee that we haven't got a cost for this yet, but was likely to be many thousands.

The good news was the IDB could do this over days not weeks. Peter said him and Carl would put together a report and send to members (if this Committee still exists in two weeks' time).

**10) EVENTS REPORT (James Baldwyn):**

**James had nothing to report.**

**11) RFFS REPORT (David Westall):**

**The secretary said that she had emailed David and he had nothing to report**

**12) FENLAND FLYING SCHOOL REPORT (Submitted):**

**The Secretary said she had contacted the flying school and said they have nothing to report.**

**13) RUNWAYS RESTAURANT (Kerry Allan not present):**

Kerry Allen reported that they were doing a few take-aways but are currently doing nothing. She asked whether she should put drinks in the fridge for local pilots. It was felt this was not necessary as there were no pilots.

**14) EGM (Peter Watson):**

The Chairman said that with the requirement needed, an EGM has been proposed. The Club Rules do not make it clear who is supposed to run this and that we have to refer back to the President that he appoints someone, agree to someone or he'd do it and be fair between the Committee and the members organising this.

Peter asked if any would like to add anything concerning the letter Carl and Tim are putting together to the members.

Discussion followed.

It was put that some believe this Committee is being unkind to the flying school and not the fact that the Landlords do not consent to a new licence when asked.

The Chairman also read out an email from member Jim Blaylock.

The Committee were asked to vote as to whether the letter to members being prepared by Carl and Tim be sent.

**It was agreed to send a letter from the Committee via the Membership Secretary from the Chairman informing the members, but not flooding them with information.**

**It was also agreed that the Secretary would review the recent influx of new and renewing members and report back.**

**The President should issue his statement to the members.**

**That David Beale should put his statement together for the Committee to see.**

**15) AOB**

The names of recently new and renewing member applications to be reviewed were read to Committee.

**It was agreed the Committee would meet by electronic communication to conduct any further business as required.**

The Chairman told the Committee that Kerry Allen is struggling financially. She has been putting up her own money to keep things going.

**When Kerry comes back, this Committee proposes to provide her with £210 per week to support her in this period.**

**There were no objections. This was passed.**

**As there was no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:38hrs**

Signed .....Peter Watson..... Date .....27/11/20.....

**FAC Chairman**