

FENLAND AERO CLUB – AGM

Fenland Airfield, Holbeach St Johns Spalding, PE12 8RQ

EGCL / Tel: 01406 - 540330 / Email: facsecretary@fenlandairfield.co.uk

MINUTES OF THE FENLAND AERO CLUB (FAC) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY 18 JULY 2019

At 19:00 for 19:30 start in the club house

John Parker (Chairperson) opened the meeting promptly at 7.30 p.m. and welcomed the members present, of whom there were 48 attendees.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

David Beale, Steve Culpin, John Kitchen, Rob Masters, Simon Cooke

2. MINUTES OF THE 2018 AGM

Approval and adoption of the minutes was proposed by Tony Short and seconded by Patrick Duhig and agreed by the membership.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 2018 MINUTES

No matters were raised.

4. ADDRESS AND REPORTS

(i) John Parker requested that any questions regarding the reports be left to the end of the reports.

(ii) Reported Deaths: The Chairperson and President reported that since the last AGM, the following members and friends of FAC had passed away:

Roger Hinchcliffe, Bob Swainson, Karl Buckley, Lynsey Walton, Charles Johnson and Jeff Hare.

To access the full reports, please see the annexes at the end of the minutes.

(a) **Chairman's Address & Report** - John Parker.

John outlined the achievements and work of the Committee over the last twelve months. He thanked the Committee, Jeff Helm, Alan Plummer and Tim James, David Beale, Mary Payne and Margaret Hearn.

(b) **Secretary's Report** - Jeff Helm

Jeff gave thanks to Mary Payne as Membership Secretary and Margaret Hearn as Minutes Secretary for their work this year. He also gave details of the membership position.

(c) **Treasurer's Report** - Alan Plummer

Alan presented a draft report which included Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 March 2019 and commented that the financial position was much the same as the previous year. Alan finished by noting that the net equity attributable to the Club was £115,450 as at 31 March 2019 compared to £110,463 as at 31 March 2018, reflecting the net profit for the year of £4,987.

(d) **Hangar Manager's Report** - John Parker

John reported that the situation was good and that the hangars were all full.

(e) **IER Manager's Report** - James Baldwyn

James reported on the club's difficulties with meeting the lease requirements in providing IER cover to maintain the status of a licenced airfield. He pointed out that more volunteers were needed in order to be able to provide cover for two days per week rather than the current once day. If sufficient volunteers did not

come forward, the club would have to pay for cover and the membership fees would need to be raised.

(f) **Events Manager's Report** - James Baldwin

James reported on the events that had been planned for the year, including Wings and Wheels.

(g) **Airfield Manager's Report** - John Parker

John asked for help with the airside and non-airside tasks and for volunteers to become managers. FAC is struggling to find sufficient help from members to undertake necessary tasks.

(h) **Catering Manager's Report** - Kerry Allen

Jeff Helm informed the members that Kerry had seamlessly joined FAC in October 2018 to provide catering at Fenland. She was welcomed by members. Jeff remarked that a club needed a restaurant and one could not underestimate the value of the restaurant. He indicated that future plans included Kerry opening up the clubhouse for meals on a Friday night.

(i) **Fenland Flying School Report** - Steve Brown

Steve reported on the continued success and achievements of the FFS and its students. He informed the AGM members that he had been able to take on two new instructors, Pete Ring and Paul Brian.

5. **QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR ABOUT THE REPORTS.**

The secretary, Jeff Helm, wanted to make a statement regarding the position of Initial Emergency Response (IER) provision at Fenland and the Civil Aviation Authority. Jeff informed the members that the FAC licence may be in danger (the club is a licenced airfield) unless the club can provide IER cover for at least two days per week, at the week-end, instead of the current one day only with continual NOTAMs informing pilots that there is no IER cover for six days of the week. More volunteers are urgently needed, as the cost of paying for cover is prohibitive. This is an urgent and ongoing problem.

6. a) **PROPOSALS FROM THE COMMITTEE FOR MEMBERS' DECISION**

i) Toilet Refurbishment and Upgrade Project (cost will exceed £7,500)

a) Tim James spoke about the Committee's proposals regarding the refurbishment of the toilets and informed members that the plans were included on the back of the AGM agenda.

b) The Committee had agreed that the refurbishment was necessary and the rationale for carrying out the refurbishment is:

i) The current toilets are really old fashioned - out of date, hard to clean and wasteful in terms of water consumption, contributing to the overflowing of the soak away.

ii) New, more modern toilets will cut down on water usage and associated costs.

iii) Toilets using less water would almost certainly help the ongoing soak away problem.

iv) The upgrade would also provide much needed disabled facilities, currently unavailable.

v) FAC has no disabled toilet, although, Pooleys iPlates inaccurately shows that FAC has disabled facilities.

vi) There is a need for such a facility within the current membership and visitors.

vii) FAC receives a substantial rates reduction as a community friendly organisation.

c) Tim remarked that Building Control had been surprised by the fact that nobody had complained at the lack of disabled facilities. Tim also suggested that Fenland could benefit from providing facilities for disabled flyers and Fenland could be a destination for disabled cross country flights.

d) **Tim outlined the refurbishment plan.** The refurbishment would include a bigger doorway from the clubhouse to the corridor, a bigger external door leading to a ramp to the outside, a wider corridor and utilisation of an unused cupboard in the gentleman's toilet, to create space to incorporate a unisex disabled facility. The plan would lead to the loss of one urinal in the gentleman's toilets; however the

unisex toilet could be used if necessary, so there would be no overall loss of facilities.

There would be a complete refurbishment of the ladies toilets (not shown on plan). The cost was expected to be less than £10,000. Approval of the plan would allow the committee to agree the specification and tender process. Hopefully the project would be completed by the end of year.

(e) John asked the members if there were any questions.

Steve Pearson asked about possible new legislation regarding waste removal. Patrick Duhig remarked that FAC existing systems were O.K. as long as they didn't go into a water source. A septic tank is currently in use and a toilet refurbishment would be more water efficient. Alan Gray asked a question about the size of the gentleman's toilet. Tim responded to this to say that the unisex toilet would also be available for the gentlemen. Tim also mentioned that a grant might possibly be available. Ray Hearn asked that if there was a possibility of a grant towards the toilet refurbishment, would it also be possible to get a grant towards improving the water treatment facility? It was unclear whether or not this could be the case.

(f) Security: The current proposals would include the convenience of using the toilets after hours. The foyer will be capable of being locked separately, as would the signing in/payment area for visiting landing pilots. Another benefit for FAC is that it should enable the club to collect landing fees, which are currently lost, due to the clubhouse being locked and preventing access to the signing in and payment area.

Decision: Tim James formally proposed the spending of up to £10,000 for the toilet refurbishment plans. Paul Brian seconded the proposal and the proposal was carried unanimously by the members present.

Decision: Alan Plummer (Treasurer) asked for a proposer to adopt the financial accounts. The proposer was Claire Buckley and the members voted unanimously to adopt the accounts.

6b) PROPOSALS FROM THE MEMBERS: TWO YEAR MEMBERSHIP RULE BEFORE ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY FOR FAC COMMITTEE

i) Although there were no proposals from members received prior to the meeting, the two year rule item was introduced due to there being five nominees for the Committee who did not meet the two year membership requirement to join the Committee. John Parker advised the membership that there were enough members standing for the Committee who met the two year rule requirement, and that in the past when the rule had been suspended, this had been due to lack of sufficient numbers to form a Committee. This was not the case this year. John read out a letter from David Beale suggesting that the slippage of the rule requiring a two year membership to stand for the Committee should not be allowed to continue. John read out the relevant rules and the rest of the letter, in which David recommended that the two year rule would protect the aims and objectives of the club, which could be dangerous for the club if subverted. John suggested that there could be a sub committee formed of those who wished to stand for the committee but did not meet the two year rule.

6bii) There was considerable, sometimes heated, dispute around the two year rule and its interpretation. The rules were read out to the meeting. The chairperson came under considerable pressure from Flying School members in particular. As the argument persisted, at this point, the President took over the chair for a while to calm things down. There was a proposal put to the meeting regarding the two year rule. Following further disagreement, the President suggested that the meeting break for refreshments, then reconvene and vote on the proposal. This was agreed.

There followed a Break for Refreshments: a buffet which was supplied by the club.

Once the members reconvened, the President put to members a proposal from Claire Buckley.

Proposal: to suspend the two year club membership rule to one year, necessary for application for membership of the Committee, for this year only, providing the candidates had served the club, (or the Flying School), in some capacity e.g. IER.

The proposal was carried by the members present.

6biii **Commercial Interests and Eligibility for the Committee**

There was also some dispute as to whether Paul Brian, with his close links to, and being an instructor for, Fenland Flying School, should be eligible to stand for the Committee, which some members felt to constitute having a "commercial or personal Interest", which would be in contravention of the club rules (5.6). However, the Flying School representatives denied any such interest and Paul continued with his candidature to stand for the Committee. The following members were nominated and there was no vote.

The following FAC members were deemed to be members of the Committee and their names were read out (rule 5.3 states a minimum of 5 and maximum of 11). There was no vote. The new Committee is as follows:

Peter Watson (who was nominated as Treasurer)

Angelo Sapiano

Paul Brian

Martin Williams

James Baldwyn

Neil Buck

John Parker

People that didn't meet the 2 year rule

Tim James 17/08/2017

Claire Buckley 22/04/2018

Robin Hoile 17/09/2017

Carl Husain 29/09/2017

John Parker invited the new members to stand up and give a brief narrative about themselves, which they did.

7 **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Ray Nicholson

- a) Ray Nicholson, the President, delivered his report. He spoke about his forty years at Fenland and shared how he had come to be at Fenland. Ray disclosed that HM Secret Service had asked him to get involved at Fenland, as they were aware of significant smuggling at the airfield and wanted help to catch the perpetrators. Ray explained that subsequently, there had been several arrests and the imprisonment of those FAC members who had been involved in tobacco smuggling!
- b) During his time as FAC Air Traffic Controller (Ray was at the time working as an Air Traffic Controller at Heathrow Airport) Ray had discovered that he loved being in the Control Tower at Fenland. After the close of the operation, Ray had stayed on. His wife, Ruth had also come along and assisted in the tower.
- c) Ray had enjoyed his time as President, and had appreciated the surprise celebration of his 80th birthday arranged by the club, but he felt that it was time to pass on the mantle of President. Ray himself had proposed to the Committee, that Alan Gray should be the new President. Alan was a long standing member who had been chairman twice, helped with the renovation of the clubhouse in the past and sadly, whose wife had passed away last year. At this point, Alan stood up and was presented to the members.

8. **NEW PRESIDENT: Alan Gray**

Alan Gray was recommended to members as the new President of FAC by the outgoing President and the Committee and endorsed by the membership. Alan then spoke of having a big pair of shoes to follow as President. He informed the membership that he would try to continue Ray's achievements. He also spoke of a symbiotic relationship in the club, a share of the love of aviation and camaraderie. He commented that one advantage of being president was that, "They can't make you serve on the Committee!"

9. **PROPOSAL FOR HONORARY MEMBERS**

Kerry Allen (Catering Manager FAC) was proposed Margaret Hearn and seconded by Tim James and Jeff Helm. Kerry was confirmed as a new Honorary Member of FAC.

10. RENEWAL OF HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS - Steve Brown (Chief Flying Instructor) and Humphrey Penney (Owner of E-Plane Engineering) were re-confirmed as Honorary Members for the coming year.

11.CLOSURE OF MEETING:

The meeting closed at 09:58

Signed: Date:
Chairperson FAC

Annex 1

FENLAND AERO CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – JOHN PARKER

Welcome to the 2019 Annual General Meeting of the Fenland Aero club

We now pay our customary respect of a minutes silence for those members who have passed away this last year, and my sincerest apologies if I have missed anyone. They are:

Roger Hinchcliffe
Bob Swainson
Karl Buckley
Lynsey Walton
Charles Johnson
Geoff Hare

I have felt very honoured to be your chairman of Fenland Aero club for the last year, a position I never imagined I would hold when I first joined 25 years ago. I would like to thank the committee for selecting me. This last year has seen several big changes at Fenland.

First is the departure of Katie of OK catering and who also doubled up as our events coordinator. A position Katie created herself several years ago and excelled at. This was a great benefit to us with increased revenue to the club through difficult those times. Thank you Katie.

We have seen the closure of E-plane aircraft maintenance along With the departure of James Dooley. Both will be missed. And we have sadly lost Carl our night watchman due to ill health.

On a positive note, we have gained Kerry Alan and her hard working family who now run “Runways Catering” and are making a positive impact to all who use and visit.

We have plans to refurbish the toilets which will be discussed later tonight by Tim James.

Ray Nicholson has coordinated the clubhouse refurbishment with the help of Gary Nye and Kerry Allan. Again thank you. And also thanks to Ray Nicholson, he has donated a very expensive projector and screen for clubhouse usage which will be installed very soon. Carl's caravan was donated to the club by his sister. This will be repurposed as an IER mess hut whilst still retaining 2 bedrooms for pilots who wish to stay overnight.

From the outside looking in to Fenland, I have visited many Airfields around the UK this last year. Whilst visiting I have heard from many pilots on how friendly they say Fenland is, from the initial welcoming and reassuring voice of Ray in the tower, to the nice environment of the club that we provide, the guarantee of a quality meal or refreshments and also the ability to take on fuel out of normal hours. We must not forget how lucky we are to have an Airfield with such good facilities that is enjoyed by many, be it visiting pilots or student pilots, outside visiting clubs or just the general public. Our two main facilities being the Runways Restaurant run by Kerry and the professional flying school run by Steve Brown whose instructional skills are unquestionable. Again thank you.

I would like to pay thanks to

1. The committee for the work they have done, Jeff and Alan in their meticulous accounting and filing
2. David Beal for his role as accountable manager
3. Murray and Tim for the safety management

4. A special thanks to Mary Payne for the all the membership processing and banking
5. A big thank you to Ray who is a true ambassador to our club
6. Thank you Margaret for your minute taking, you did a superb job

Item 6b.

We have enough time served candidates as per the club rule 5.5 to form a committee (Committee members shall retire annually, but shall be eligible for re- election. No person may be nominated to serve on the committee (or management team) unless he or she has been a flying or social member of the Club for two full consecutive years. Only one related family member may serve on the Committee at any one time)

I can clearly see that the laxation of last years "two year consecutive membership rule" has endangered and jeopardised our constitution as in 4.1 (All Club Rules may be amended at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) / Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) by two thirds of the votes cast. Minor changes may be made by the Committee as required (which may be reversed or further amended by an AGM/EGM) but not so as to jeopardize the Club's status as a Community Amateur Sports Club, its objectives or constitution). Our long time and very active member David Beal, Accountable Manager, has responded to this by stating...

Dear All,

A small word of warning and suggest you talk to past and future presidents as believe there is some history.

Don't change the 2 year rule. It is there for a good reason to stop people trying to hijack the committee and club. If they are good members then 2 years gives people time to get to know them and nominate them but if not, word gets out to not vote them on. It is also very dangerous even if only have a few volunteers to not have voting for the same reason. Some people who are not good for the club could get on the committee when in fact the club members do not want them.

I suspect the number of names down for the committee is a sign of how well it has been run over the last few years. We do not want to go back to the old days of infighting and personal agendas. David.

However. I would like to think that "under time served" nominations would be welcomed to form a subcommittee. This would be a good introduction to becoming a full committee member. As in rule 4.11 (The Committee shall have the authority to appoint and delegate tasks to sub-committees for such specific purposes as considered necessary. Members of such Committees need not be members of the Committee or the Club. Sub Committee findings, proposals and or recommendations shall be forwarded to the Club Committee for consideration, amendment and authorisation as considered appropriate.)

FENLAND AERO CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

SECRETARY'S REPORT – JEFF HELM

- As always, thanks to membership secretary Mary Payne
- As always, thanks to minutes secretary Margaret Hearn
- 186 members at the time of the AGM (185 last year):
 - 101 flying members
 - 41 associate members
 - 32 social members
 - 2 corporate members
 - 6 life members
 - 4 honorary members
- Member renewals:
 - 78% flying members renewal rate (73% last year)
 - 120 flying members at the end of March (132 last year)
 - 26 non-renewals for flying members (36 last year)
- Changes this year
 - A/G radio refresh and transition to 8.33kHz
 - Contactless payments for landing fees
 - Illuminated windsock and anemometer relocation to Bravo (approved)

FENLAND AERO CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

TREASURER'S REPORT

Alan Plummer explained that his report would be based on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019. After questions from the floor he would seek a proposer and seconder for the meeting to adopt the accounts.

Alan first drew attention to the net profit figures on page 4 of the accounts which showed £4,987 profit for the year to 31 March 2019 and £18,599 for that to 31 March 2018. He then pointed out the expenditure (page 6) on Equipment Replacement of £10,664 and Repairs and Maintenance containing Electrical Upgrades of £3,321; these were items of a capital nature which had been charged to revenue which otherwise would have given rise to a net profit of £18,972 which was very similar to the previous year.

Alan then talked through the Income figures, pointing out that although Fuel Sales were higher than last year, the Club worked on a fixed margin which in times of rising prices resulted in a reduced Gross Profit percentage. He then noted that Landing Fees were up, Hangarage and Membership fees were largely unchanged, Parking Fees were down and Event Income was up arising from the excellent Wings and Wheels day.

Turning to expenditure, Alan noted that the analysis produced by the Accountants Bulley Davey did not always match on a year to year basis. An example was Light, Heat and Power which was down compared to last year, whereas Hangar Maintenance was higher; this was due to hangar electricity being included differently between the accounts over the two years.

Alan then turned to the Balance Sheet, explaining that the figure for Fixed Assets represented the written down value of the Club House and other equipment. It was a matter for conjecture whether the assets were correctly valued but a revaluation would serve little purpose. He went on to explain that Stocks represented fuel stock, Debtors consisted largely of prepaid Insurance and Maintenance Contracts, Trade Creditors were bills arising from normal activities waiting to be paid, Other Creditors were mostly Membership Subscriptions received in advance and Accruals were items due but for which a bill had not been received such as Electricity and Accountants Fees.

FENLAND AERO CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

IER MANAGER'S REPORT – JAMES BALDWIN

- IER AGM 2019 Speech
- Good Evening Everyone,
- I've been IER Manager for 2 years now and I'm really enjoying it. We have a great group of volunteers and I've made many friends who all love aviation and want to give something back to their club. I hope that I've continued the great work that Neville and his predecessors have worked to create.
- We've had a few callouts this year, but thankfully nothing serious. A nose-cone tried to fly solo during one of our aerobatics weekends but luckily the pilot got down safely. We also had an aircraft passing by call mayday when their engine failed and landed in a field a few miles out, we went to offer drinks, comfort and support and ended up giving the pilot a lift home to Chatteris!
- All of this wouldn't be possible without our volunteers, I want to extend a special thanks to you all for the time that you give to keep everyone safe.
- I'd like to thank Simon Cooke as well for his time and efforts with training us all, as well as offering his expertise during the busier days of the year, such as Wings & Wheels. Although last year he was caught short during the major incident!
- We'll soon be opening our crew lounge as well which will feature an area for all volunteers to relax and unwind, as well as being prepped for any callouts. A special thank you to Kerry and her team for helping us get things ready.
- As many of you will know, E-Plane used to provide the fire cover Tuesday to Saturday, leaving us to run the Sunday cover. E-Plane has had some changes and cannot provide the cover they used to and that leaves us without any cover during the week and on Saturdays, which is far from ideal. We desperately need more volunteers to offer their help to build the team large enough to be able to cover Saturdays as well. We need another 15-20 volunteers ideally so we can double the team. We've got leaflets around the room along with some signup forms, so if you are fit and able, jot down your details and we'll be in touch. Remember, it might be you that needs our help next time.
- Thank You!

FENLAND AERO CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

EVENTS AGM 2019 REPORT - JAMES BALDWIN

- Hello again!
- I took over from Katie after she moved to the Chequers Pub in Weston, my wife and I have had a lovely meal over there and it's great to see them doing so well.
- So I just want to say thank you and congratulations to Kerry and her team for doing a cracking job at running the restaurant as I'm sure you'll all agree. Also, thanks to Kerry and Ray for the decorating and improvements made to freshen up the clubhouse.
- Onto our events. This year we welcomed the VAC for their Fly In which was a great success, with about 70 aircraft visiting which kept everyone busy! Thanks to everyone who helped out on the day.
- We also had 2 weekends of Aerobatics, and apart from one hitch with a nosecone, the day all went well. We didn't have any complaints from any of our neighbours either which is great to know.
- We also had a Jab & Rans Fly In, the weather wasn't perfect so the event was held over two days. Thanks to Dave Almey for organising it.
- There has also been an invitation from our twinned airfield S ezanne in France, which Jeff has been putting together as I was a little preoccupied getting married. It sounds like we have quite a crowd going which is great to hear.
- I've worked closely with Kerry to come together with the events for the year, and we've had a lot of them! The big one of the year of course is Wings & Wheels, which is now less than a month away on Sunday 11th August. Please all come down and show your faces, entry is £5 per person, but if you're being cheap, then you can volunteer to help out on the day and get in for free! We need more volunteers to help out with marshalling, charging for tickets at the gate, welcoming visiting pilots and so on. I'll be operating 2 shifts so you'll have plenty of time to have a look around and grab a bite to eat. I've got forms hanging around the place as well for you to jot your names down.
- We also need more traders and exhibitors. So, if you or anyone you know wants to attend then please let me know or head to the website and fill out a form!
- Thank You!

Annex 5

FENLAND AERO CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

FENLAND FLYING SCHOOL REPORT – STEVE BROWN (CFI)

Hello....

It's all good news this year.

We're pleased to report the school is now busy enough to enjoy the services of another instructor... welcome to Pete Ring who has decided to relocate from a sojourn in Cyprus and is now helping out at weekends.

Instructors are like buses; I have been waiting almost 5 years for another Instructor and then 2 come along at once, as we are also delighted to welcome a local lad who has recently endured the rigors of the Flying Instructor's Course, the aviation equivalent of an Iron Man, and has qualified to become a Flying Instructor. He has achieved a lifetime ambition as now he can combine his passion for flying with his penchant for telling other folk what they should be doing! Congratulations to Paul.

At the moment we have 21 students learning to fly, 15 of whom have joined in the last year, and 28 people hiring.

We are pleased to report several student successes - in the last year we have had 9 PPL Skills Test Passes and 2 LAPL Skills Test Passes – more of that later...

Well on their way to getting their licence are 6 students who have enjoyed their First Solos this year. Congratulations to:

- Ted Smeeth
- James Fisher
- Kevin Robinson
- Colin Albone
- John Morris
- Andrew Mair

We welcome back into the fold 1 aviator whose licence had lapsed for a number of years and is now flying regularly. Well done to

- Terry Coulam

We've just had the one night rating this year - Congratulations to

- Sam Spendla who is one of many to have progressed into the airline industry.

We've had 2 IMC rating qualifiers. Congratulations to

- Luke Crunkhorn
- David Thomas

And congratulations to Braden Connolly who has achieved the level of competence needed to fly the Marchetti.

We're pleased to report that we've also introduced over 100 people to the joys of flying through our trial lessons and Introductory flights, the majority of whom have commented on how much they've enjoyed the lovely club, the food and the facilities provided, and quite a few have even joined up!

With all this going on, we have been lucky to have had some much-appreciated valuable help! Thanks to David Petters for instructing on a part time basis, and also to Jeff for helping out with the Introductory flights.

Also, thanks to those who have helped out with other important jobs, such as operating the radio, and holding the fort when we're away, so thanks to Gary, Alan, Jeff, Dave and Phil.

Also, a huge thanks to Carl for keeping the aeroplanes spick and span and all the little odd jobs that go unseen. Lisa apologises if she's missed anyone off the list, but she just hasn't been pulling her weight since last October. I shan't dwell on that subject, other than to say, I'd just like to pay tribute to Lisa for the stoicism and fortitude she has displayed in the face of so much more pain than she actually signed up for!

As you must know, the main annual event is the presentation of the CFI's Cup, not to be confused with the CFI's Sports Direct mug.

The Cup is awarded to the student, who, in the opinion of the CFI, is the overall best student.

This year it has been a particularly difficult task as all 11 new licence holders could have been a worthy winner as they have each impressed us in their own special way. The nominations this year are:

- Aaron Tivey for the best comeback after a set back
- Max Beckett for being the most technically competent
- Braden Connolly for his versatility and diligence
- Daniel Wade for completing in the shortest period
- Thomas Simpson for having the highest standard of airmanship
- Steve Dawson for being the most pragmatic and forensic
- Carl Husain for his overall aviation and engineering knowledge
- John De Pear for being the most persistent in the face of medical issues
- Robin Hoile for his entertaining RT and his uncannily accurate altitude reporting
- Tim James for being such a great role model for the older gentleman
- Linda Edwards for her enthusiasm and newfound self-belief

So..... the award this year goes to the student who has most impressed us with their meteoric level of improvement. They came in to the aviation world with no previous flying experience or knowledge, and have diligently and methodically applied themselves in a dogged and determined manner. In the face of adversity, they have always remained cheerful and optimistic which makes their achievement all the more impressive and rewarding. Congratulations to

Robin Hoile

As last year, I would like to remind you all again to not let your SEP (Single Engine Piston) ratings expire if you wish to revalidate by experience.

You can have your instructional hour any time in the last 12 months of your 2-year period and you can have your licence signed in the last 3 months and still retain the anniversary.

Just to remind you if you do let it expire, even by one day, it's not the end of the world, you will just have to renew by means of an LPC (Licence Proficiency Check) with an examiner.

Fenland Aero Club - AGM Minutes Thursday 18 July 2019

And finally, being the shop window for the Aero club, all of us at the Flying School are striving to achieve a happy, symbiotic relationship to further the aims and fortunes of our Club and our School. More school customers means more Aero club members!

If any of you have any suggestions, queries or advice, we would love to hear them, the door is always open.

That's all folks, Happy Landings!