# FENLAND AERO CLUB – Management Team

Fenland Airfield, Jekils Bank, Holbeach St Johns Spalding, PE12 8RQ EGCL / Tel: 01406 - 540330 / Email: secretary@fenlandairfield.co.uk



#### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FENLAND AERO CLUB MANAGEMENT TEAM

Present:	Jeff Helm (JH), Alan Plummer (AP), David Petters (DP), Michael Humphrey (MH), Dave Capon (DC), Steve Brown (SB)
Others in Attendance:	John Petters, Lisa Brian

## **MONDAY, 19 APRIL 2021**

Video Conference Meeting Convened 19:30

1) APOLOGIES: None

### 2) INTRODUCTION

JH apologised for the late start but Cyma had arranged a last minute fuel delivery at the airfield for 17:30.

### 3) MATTERS ARISING

JH reported that there had been no formal reply from Alan Gray although JH had received an email from a member to ask how to arrange an EGM and a response was sent. A number of members had wanted to know why they had not been asked for their opinion or a vote at the AGM, DP replied it was in our remit to do so. Lisa said the feedback from the flying school was that people were in the dark. DP said we needed to contact the members to inform them.

DP asked if the team had read the 5 page summary document explaining to the members why actions had to be taken. A long discussion followed on the content of both the summary and the 136 page full report. AP asked what was the potential liability of members and whether we required legal advice. DP replied that the club rules state the indemnity insurance is only valid if the committee are acting within the constitution of the club, which they weren't. JH said that having a letter from a solicitor stating the liability of the members would be more readily accepted by the members.

John Petters introduced himself as taking on the general secretary and chairman of the Musicians Union around 1990, to the trade union certification officer for a breach of the rules. He obtained

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professional legal advice who said that the union rules were the constitution and that breaking

the rules means no authority to act. The FAC Chairman had minuted the fact that the 2019

committee were not properly elected and that the club's CASC status is at risk. In terms of any

licences issued by the ex-committee, John said it was no different than if himself, as an FAC

member, signed up a new flying school under the guise of Fenland Aero Club. John also said that

the FAC Management Team have a duty to protect the membership and not to take a pragmatic

view. JH replied that if everything John had said was authored by a solicitor the members would

be reassured.

MH commented that the detailed report was factual being based on emails and gives the

opportunity for members to digest and make up their own minds based on the evidence.

AP asked if there was any way to pre-empt the criticism from not consulting the members. DP

replied that we ultimately have a duty of care to act in the best interest of members.

DC said that we are acting in the best interests of the club and that decisions are based on fact

and not opinion.

DP suggested a holding email go out to members asap to explain the actions taken of removing

the President, and offer the report on request. Action JH to send a holding email to the

members.

It was agreed that the team should engage a solicitor to follow up on legal advice.

JH stated it was getting late and there was still lots of day to day agenda items to discuss. It was

suggested to adjourn the meeting until the following Monday, April 26.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:56.

Continuation: Monday April 26, 2021 at 17:30.

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