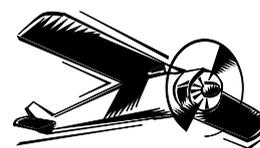


FENLAND AERO CLUB – Management Team

Fenland Airfield, Jekils Bank, Holbeach St Johns Spalding, PE12 8RQ

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FENLAND AERO CLUB COMMITTEE

Present:	David Petters (DP), Liam Leys (LL), Jeff Helm (JH), Braden Connolly (BC), Rynardt Spies (RS), Crosby Johnson (CJ), Phil Parsons (PP), Steve Brown (SB), Kerry Allen (KA)
Others in Attendance:	

THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST 2021 18:00

1) SAFETY MEETING

There were no items to raise.

2) APOLOGIES: Paul Brian

3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 22 July 2021 were approved.

4) MATTERS ARISING

BC reported he did not have access to post on the Facebook. JH replied he would post.

Guillaume Dhoore resigned from the committee shortly after the previous meeting.

Tony Short had emailed JH resigning from the committee due to poor health. JH asked who would fulfil the role of events manager. LL replied that aside from the annual Wings and Wheels which takes a lot of planning, the other events could be managed by the committee.

JH had been contacted by the CAP group to say that there were no legal proceedings at present and therefore the complaint should be dealt with. The evidence is compelling that the Cessna caused damage to the CAP, however no individual is admitting liability. A discussion followed.

Action BC agreed to meet with the CAP and Cessna groups.

Tim James had written to the committee asking for an appeal on his suspension, which has 3 weeks remaining. DP said the appeal window had closed. JH asked if one of the committee not involved with the original suspension should meet with Tim James to explain why the original decision was made. **Action LL to meet with Tim.**

5) CLUB ADMINISTRATION

JH welcomed new member Gary Phoenix (flying).

JH presented a draft declaration for committee members to sign, this was agreed.

6) FINANCE

BC presented the July accounts reporting nothing to be concerned about, although he did note that we are spending a very small amount on cleaning given Covid. JH stated that one of our members has requested to use the clubhouse on an ad hoc basis for their radio club (at a rate of £14ph) and JH had checked with our insurers who had no objections, this was approved. SB noted that we used to have a cleaner. A cleaner was approved. **Action BC to organise a weekly clean.**

Mrs Wright had asked JH if a professional sign could be placed in the carpark at her expense saying "cars parked at owner's risk", this was approved.

Our insurers had asked JH why the club wasn't a Limited company to limit the liability of members whilst still retaining our CASC status. JH felt this should be investigated with our accountants to understand costs and implications. **Action BC to investigate moving FAC to a Limited company.**

A discussion followed on how we can expand the club by increasing the hangarage, given the size of the hangar waiting list.

7) FUEL

July fuel sales were £14k. YTD sales are already £57k against a £100k budget. The Jet A1 gantry is now complete so once the fuel drops below 2000 litres, Forest Aviation will be able to perform an internal tank clean. The last fuel inspection noted debris in the Jet A1 nozzle filter, this will be monitored.

8) SAFETY MATTERS

JH had received an email from Gravitilab who are looking for airfields to perform VLOS UAS (drone) testing within the ATZ. Test flights would be short but the ATZ would need to be clear for the duration of the test. BC asked if there was any financial incentive for Fenland. **Action JH to reply to Gravitilab asking for more information.**

9) AIRFIELD GENERAL

JH reported that PB had received a quote for materials from a member who owns a concrete company, to resurface the concrete on the fuel apron. BC asked if we were responsible, JH replied FAC were responsible for maintenance. DP said the UL91 side of the fuel apron is worse than the

100LL side, there is also a dangerous drop on the end of bay 8 that needs concreting. As a safety issue, it was agreed to proceed with the concrete repairs. **Action PB to formalise a plan for concrete repairs.**

JH gave an update on the airfield tech. The broadband (8Mbps) and wifi is very slow, the CCTV is old with poor resolution and needs replacing. Elon Musk's Starlink satellite broadband is now available in the UK at a cost of around £400 for the dish and around £75 per month, giving us up to 300Mbps. This was approved. JH also asked for a budget of £1000 to upgrade the airfield wifi after Starlink was in place, this was agreed. Lastly, quotes would be then obtained for an improved CCTV system. DP asked about A/G recording equipment, LL replied mandated recordings by the CAA had been postponed.

CJ reported that a member with a flex wing would be happy to do jobs around the airfield in lieu of hangarage. It was thought the corners of bay 8 would fit a flex wing. JH stated that this arrangement could be construed as an employer/employee relationship, however invoicing for jobs done would be feasible. A discussion then followed about members being paid for jobs vs the existing volunteers. BC suggested emailing the members to see if anyone else would be interested in doing odd jobs.

BC and TS had spoken to Mr and Mrs Wright about her recent letter. Her main concerns related to the recent disciplinary procedures. They are both still positive about the club and this is shown by the maintenance Mr Wright still does around the airfield. The new committee will continue to communicate with Mr and Mrs Wright to talk through any concerns they have.

10) IER/RFFS

LL reported two potential new IER volunteers. In September there will only be fire cover on Sundays due to the number of volunteers. The fire truck will be serviced soon.

SB asked if Rex (in the maintenance hangar) might be able to cover IER during the week. A discussion followed on the need for 2 crew at all times. LL mentioned a future ICAO change that may mean small airfields should be able to remain licenced without fire cover, however LL didn't advise this as a solution.

Finally, LL is relocating as a FISO at Shobdon and therefore will sadly resigning from the committee in 2.5 weeks. The September rota is done but a new IER manager and Vice Chairman will need to be found at the next meeting.

11) HANGARS

RS reported some bay movements in the hangars, there are still 10 aircraft on the waiting list. Neville and Angelo had emailed JH about the ongoing issues with electrics and leaks, these still need to be addressed.

12) EVENTS

August 28 and 29 will be an Aerobatics weekend. A resident had emailed JH regarding potential noise, the Contest Director will do all they can to minimise disturbances.

13) FENLAND FLYING SCHOOL

SB informed that Mr Wright had mentioned to PB that he had heard someone in the old hangar threatening to set fire to the flying school aircraft. Mr Wright had replied that it wouldn't be a good idea since the school aircraft are covered by CCTV.

SB asked to discuss whether the aerodrome manual was correct in stating the concrete in front of the new hangars was non airside, given aircraft start up and taxi on the concrete. DP had talked to Murray Spittal and it was thought anything airside of the barrier outside E-Plane should be airside. There could be implications if an accident occurred whilst starting or taxiing non airside on the concrete. JH asked if vehicles would need airside insurance to drive on the concrete, PP said his (and most) aircraft insurance policy covers airside driving by default. CJ stated that Mr Wright wants to move the barrier to the end of the flying school to give more non airside car parking. It was agreed that since aircraft insurance policies now cover airside driving it would make sense to make the concrete airside. **Action RS to email hangar members through JH to check their insurance covers airside driving in anticipation of changing the concrete to airside.**

SB asked about the soil pile between Bravo and Charlie. JH replied a quote had been obtained to level the soil but we were waiting for Mr Wright to provide an alternative quote.

PB has asked SB to raise the issue of background noise in the tower, heard over the radio. LL said that signs had been placed in the tower. JH had spoken to Ray and Ray had said it has been like that for 40 years and that he wouldn't be happy with any restrictions in the tower. BC suggested we monitor the situation.

LL asked SB if there was any night flying this year as the beacon isn't working. This will need repairing if it is a legal requirement.

SB had emailed JH a number of proposed changes to the licence agreement. BC suggested it would be better for SB to produce an updated draft licence and then it can be discussed by the committee. **Action JH to collate the proposed changes into a draft licence**, for SB to add the reasons for change and the benefit it brings to both the flying school and the club.

14) RUNWAYS RESTAURANT

KA said the bins were full including a filing cabinet and therefore there was not enough room for food waste. It was suggested one bin should be dedicated to food waste. **Action KA to put a sign on one of the bins.**

The insurance company had stated to JH that the kitchen extractors need professional deep cleaning on an annual basis. KA added the extractor fat trap does not drain properly and needs to be repaired. **Action KA to find a company to repair and clean the extractors.**

A member had emailed JH with some information and costs for disabled toilets. It was agreed we should have disabled toilets and the previous proposals should be followed up.

15) QUESTIONS FROM ATTENDEES

None

16) AOB

It was suggested to have an interim online meeting given the amount to discuss and agree. It was agreed to have an extra online meeting 10 September 18:00 to discuss airfield works.

The meeting closed at 20:30.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 23 September 2021 18:00