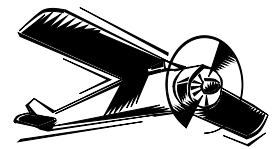


FENLAND AERO CLUB – Management Team

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), Jeff Helm (JH), Braden Connolly (BC), Rynardt Spies (RS), Phil Parsons (PP), Paul Brian (PB), Crosby Johnson (CJ), Steve Brown (SB), Kerry Allen (KA) |
| Others in Attendance: | Dave Capon |

THURSDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2021 18:00

1) SAFETY MEETING

DP reported that PB had noticed cracks opening up between Bravo and Charlie and that some sharp sand was needed to fill the gaps.

The CAA had informed us when investigating an infringement that our AIP entry states the Fenland ATZ is only active Tuesday to Friday. JH had filed a correction to the AIP. The CAA had also requested a couple of minor changes to the pilot information on the FAC website, these had been actioned by JH.

2) APOLOGIES: None

3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 23 September 2021 were approved.

4) MATTERS ARISING

RS had drafted an email to the committee regarding the airside change to the concrete in front of the new hangars. The wording was agreed and JH will forward to the hangar members.

Murray Spittal had spoken to PB regarding the soil pile between Bravo and Charlie. The soil is there for the winter but potential hazard signage and/or boundary markers was discussed.

5) CLUB ADMINISTRATION

We have 11 new members this month, 8 of which are IER recruits. Gerald Darling (social), Wayne Hall (social), David Kurdo (social), Chris Lucas (social), Rikki Elston (social), Paul Redgate (social),

Jonathan Teale (social), Andy Bone (flying), Paul Dean (flying), Gavin Donohoe (social) and Louise Geeves (social). Welcome to all new members.

Our longest standing member, Peter Farries since 1975, has sadly died recently.

The committee had received an email from a member stating that Mike Faulkner is moving away soon and has given many years of service helping around the airfield. KA to arrange a gift to thank Mike for his work done at Fenland. Mike had also requested through the treasurer a partial membership refund, unlike hangarage memberships have always been annual payments and are non-refundable. BC suggested we update the membership form for clarity.

Ray has requested an air conditioner service for the tower. JH to arrange.

The club had received another pre-action letter from Claire Buckley's solicitors regarding the 2.9 proceedings. JH relayed advice from our insurance company and a discussion followed.

6) FINANCE

BC had spoken to a specialist broker who had been involved with the purchase of a gliding club. Our affordability for a mortgage to buy the airfield was agreed, however the maximum loan to value is likely to be 65 to 70%. The next step is to have the airfield formally valued, a survey was undertaken this morning and we are awaiting the report. If the club purchase the airfield, then due to the clubhouse, tower, fuel systems etc. the value of the airfield would subsequently increase and this may allow a higher loan value.

The club had received a number of phone calls and emails from interested parties requesting more information on the sale of the airfield, these were referred to the landlords.

One hangar occupant is significantly behind on their hangar fees, BC to discuss a payment plan with them to resolve the debt.

7) FUEL

JH reported year to date fuel sales of 91k vs a 100k annual budget. Based on 2019 fuel sales, we are only 10% down this year. UL91 sales may increase in future as Lycoming have recently approved UL91 for Cessnas and Beechcraft. It would be helpful if the Jet A1 was automated like avgas, which would lead to more fuel sales.

8) SAFETY MATTERS

The committee had been informed there was a historical non-publicised ban on paramotors at Fenland and a recent visit by a number of paramotors prompted a discussion. CJ gave his

experiences from operating at Wingland, although Wingland being a small airfield means that there can't be segregation between paramotors and other GA traffic. JH asked if it was a problem given we rarely see paramotors at Fenland. DP stated that the club exists to promote aviation and it doesn't feel right to turn people away, although we should have procedures in place for paramotor visitors with PPR and a designated landing area. **Action PB/SB to draft paramotor procedures.**

9) AIRFIELD GENERAL

JH had spoken to our regular supplier of chalk but it could only be delivered loose as a full 20 tonne load making it very difficult to transport around the airfield. In the past, members had bagged the chalk on delivery. **Action JH to talk to Tim Dighton to enquire if he knows a chalk supplier that uses tonne bags.** We also have weedkiller being delivered ready for the working party.

Tim Dighton emailed the committee and is happy to supply the concrete works at cost. A discussion followed on the area of concrete required.

JH informed that we had received 2 quotes for replacing the fence around the clubhouse and towards the old hangars, both were around £7500. Another option is for the club to do the work ourselves. We will await a couple more quotes.

The runway lights are mostly all working although the flashing beacon still needs repairing. PB asked if it was possible to get a radio click system to turn the runway lights on at night, similar to the air ambulance helicopter landing lights. **Action BC to investigate.**

After advertising for IER volunteers, we have had nearly 30 replies. JH has been organising induction sessions for the new recruits to spend a day with the on-duty crew prior to formal training next month, with positive feedback from the new recruits. From November, we will have IER cover on Saturday and Sunday.

10) HANGARS

RS reported one vacant space in the hangars. The old hangar doors are becoming very difficult to open. **Action CJ to investigate the old hangar doors.**

11) EVENTS

We have been asked to host the following events in 2022:

Flying Farmers 26 February 2022

Aerobatics - Fenland and McAully Trophies 23 and 24 June 2022

Aerobatics - Tiger and Tiger Surprise Trophies 17 and 18 September 2022

There were no objections.

12) FENLAND FLYING SCHOOL

SB asked for an update on his licence agreement, this needs progressing. The committee declaration also needs to be re-signed with the revised wording.

13) RUNWAYS RESTAURANT

The boiler thermostat needs replacing as the heating had been left on for a full week. An easy to understand thermostat such as Hive would be better. **Action Braden to find a new thermostat.**

KA asked if it was possible to purchase a hot cabinet for behind the bar. **Action KA/JH to get a quote for committee approval.**

A plan to spruce up the interior of the clubhouse was discussed.

14) QUESTIONS FROM ATTENDEES

None

15) AOB

None

The meeting closed at 20:25.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 25 November 2021 18:00

Additional estates virtual meeting: Thursday 11 November 18:30