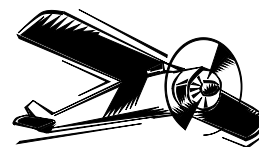


# FENLAND AERO CLUB – Management Team

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



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

<b>Present:</b>	David Petters (DP), Jeff Helm (JH), Braden Connolly (BC), Rynardt Spies (RS), Phil Parsons (PP), Steve Brown (SB)
<b>Others in Attendance:</b>	

**THURSDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2022 18:00**

### 1) SAFETY MEETING

SB reported that the IER crew had been stood down whilst the flying school were flying. JH replied that there had never been a formal process for standing down and that in the past the crew had been stood down prior to the weekend due to the weather forecast. It was agreed to check with the CFI prior to ending IER and also JH will liaise with SB if the weekend forecast is certain to not be flyable so that a NOTAM can be issued in advance. The fire truck also has a flat battery which JH will investigate.

### 2) APOLOGIES: Crosby Johnson, Kerry Allen.

It was noted Paul Brian had resigned from the committee.

DP will take over the safety officer role.

### 3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 13 January 2022 were approved.

### 4) MATTERS ARISING

BC showed the committee some styles of tables and chairs for the clubhouse, likely to cost between £6000 and £7000. BC to follow up to obtain a detailed quote and also look at replacement flooring options.

BC has received a quote for £9855 for replacement airside signs and steel frames for the whole airfield. New entrance signs are also included and nearly half the cost is for the steel frames. SB noted that the runway end markers need to be frangible and soft wood, which should reduce the cost to between £5000 and £6000. BC will ask for an itemised quote.

DP had received a runway lighting quote but was many thousands over budget. BC suggested to spend up to £100 to trial more domestic drive over lights, this was agreed.

JH had received another fencing quote for just under £6000. Work has already commenced and should be complete in the next couple of weeks. JH to obtain quotes for the same style of fencing by the entrance and also by the airside barrier.

The Flyer magazine landing voucher is confirmed for April.

The CAA audit has been moved to March 22.

DP presented the revised committee declaration. This was agreed and signed by the committee present in the clubhouse.

## **5) CLUB ADMINISTRATION**

JH welcomed new members Matt Staples (flying), Daniel Bright (flying), Roger Balcomb (flying).

JH asked for approval to send out membership renewal emails at the beginning of March. It was agreed to keep prices at the current rates.

SDHC has emailed JH regarding a new Omicron hospitality and leisure grant. **Action JH to apply for grant.**

## **6) FINANCE**

One member is still in arrears regarding hangar payments. It was agreed to send a final demand letter. **JH to write a letter giving 30 days notice.**

BC asked JH to include the monthly P&L from our bookkeeper when sending out the meeting agendas to the committee.

DP had approached Mrs Wright about FAC moving to a Ltd company as a change of organisation structure may require landlord consent regarding the lease. Although this would limit any future member liability to £1, Mrs Wright refused. BC thought the existing unincorporated FAC could be split from the new Ltd FAC. **Action BC to follow up with a solicitor.**

## **7) FUEL**

JH reported that the recent avgas delivery was +5.5ppl, the pump price will increase in due course when new stock is reached. Year to date fuel sales (122k) are on target with the revised budget. JH thought that fuel prices will continue to increase through 2022.

## 8) SAFETY MATTERS

DP reported that Mr Wright had suggested some alternative steel fencing after seeing the plan for replacement fencing in the committee minutes. DP had subsequently received a phone call from the airfield that Mr Wright and Mick had been working airside, erecting a section of steel fence near the fuel pumps. **Action JH to write to Mr Wright and Mick to thank them for their enthusiasm but ask them to respect the aerodrome manual regarding airside working.**

## 9) AIRFIELD GENERAL

DP will lead on the airfield concrete plan after Paul's resignation, and talk to Tim Dighton.

DP noted that after replacing the windsock at Bravo, both the pole and rotating top are very worn. An option for replacement could be a lit windsock and DP had obtained a quote of around £3500. JH replied that a previous quote was obtained but was pushed out of budget with labour and project management costs. A lit windsock could promote night flying at the airfield, a night landing fee would pay for the lit windsock. **Action DP to proceed with the lit windsock.**

Michael Humprey has kindly offered to apply weedkiller to the 08/26 markings when weather permits.

## 10) IER/RFFS

JH reported that some of the new recruits had dropped off, leading to a no IER NOTAM on Saturday. We only have 7 fully qualified crew until the 8 new recruits that had received theory training, complete their hot fire training and first aid. Incentives to retain IER crew were discussed.

## 11) HANGARS

RS had investigated electronic locks for the hangars, the cost would be £300 a lock and would give the club an audit of hangar entry. However it could be too technical compared with a traditional key. It was agreed more investigation is required.

The CAP 10 group have temporarily moved back to Bay 4 due to water ingress in Bay 1 from both the floor and ceiling. A discussion followed on how to work around the long term water issue in the hangars as previous quotes for spray insulation were in excess of £60,000. Tarpaulins could be fitted with a scaffold tower, RS will also look at options for swapping aircraft between bays.

SB asked if there was an appetite for the club to build our own hangars, given the size of the waiting list. JH had previously investigated and a hangar would pay for itself in 7 years. Temporary fabric hangars by McGregor that would not require planning permission are also an option. DP

had approached Mrs Wright in the past and she does not want FAC to build their own hangars, although the latest hangar has been under construction for a very long time and there are no timescales for it to be finished. It was agreed we should still investigate the cost of building new hangars and then discuss with the landlords who should pay for them. **Action RS/DP/JH to investigate the cost of new hangars.**

JH informed RS that Rex had approached the club to pay for two aircraft parked on the grass.

## **12) EVENTS**

The Flying Famers fly-in was cancelled in advance due to the forecast. Dave Almey would like us to host a Jabiru/Rans fly-in, in either August or September. This was approved.

A number of fly-ins are already scheduled and listed on the Fenland Airfield website. A gyro fly-in is also being planned.

More detail on a potential summer air show was discussed, however it was felt the cost would not be able to be recouped due to the limited car parking. Instead we will focus on planning a Wings and Wheels type event in the summer and need to try to find a member to help lead on the planning.

A Scotland fly-out has been finalised for July 30 to August 1 with overnight stops in Perth and Glenforsa. Several members are interested. More fly-outs to the West Country and into Europe have been suggested by the members, all ideas welcome.

Action DP to invite our twinned airfield Sezanne to visit Fenland in 2022 for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## **13) FENLAND FLYING SCHOOL**

SB asked if there was update on the licence agreement terms and conditions. JH will circulate the latest draft.

## **14) RUNWAYS RESTAURANT**

BC has ordered a new clubhouse thermostat but it is on back order.

SB reported ongoing problems with the boiler and we are seeking quotes for a replacement.

## **15) AOB**

There was no AOB.

The meeting closed at 20:03

Date of next meeting: Thursday 17 March 2022 18:00