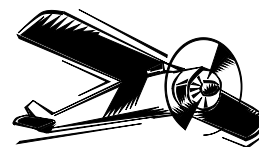


FENLAND AERO CLUB – Management Team

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), Steve Brown (SB), Kerry Allen (KA)
Others in Attendance:	

TUESDAY, 19 MAY 2022 18:00

1) SAFETY MEETING

There were no agenda items for the safety meeting.

2) **APOLOGIES:** Crosby Johnson, Phil Parsons

3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 19 April 2022 were approved.

4) MATTERS ARISING

It was agreed to form a subcommittee to take forward Carol and Jim's proposal to start a gyro and flex wing flying school at Fenland, and arrange a meeting.

5) CLUB ADMINISTRATION

JH welcomed new members Nick Richards (flying), Agne Storpirtsytye (social), Water Shaw (associate), Aaron Shaw (flying) and Clint Bartlett (flying). Membership renewals are around 70%, slightly lower than last year's 80% but not abnormal.

The airfield survey requested by the CAA is booked for May 24. Gary Nye will paint all the concrete markings as soon as he is available.

The members will be notified about the AGM on June 1 and the accounts/nominations on June 8. A discussion followed whether the AGM should be solely in the clubhouse, fully online, or a hybrid meeting primarily in the clubhouse but with the ability to allow members to connect remotely and speak through the clubhouse computer operator. A hybrid meeting was chosen.

JH had been emailed by CAVOK who had based a dry leased aircraft at Fenland in the past and would like to use Fenland to produce a promotional video. This was approved in principle. **Action JH to respond to CAVOK.**

6) FINANCE

JH shared the end of year accounts returned from our accountants, showing around a 10k profit. BC will feedback a 2022/2023 budget at the next meeting. JH reported the electricity is now on a variable rate contract at over double the current but and there are no suitable fixed rate deals at this time. Increasing the landing fee in future to £10 was discussed with options for a free tea/coffee to bring in more visitors.

7) FUEL

JH has increased non-members avgas to £2.26 as a result of the last delivery, members prices are held at £1.69. The 100LL pump was fixed under our maintenance contract but unfortunately we had to wait 2 weeks for a part. There was no detrimental effect in fuel sales with pilots taking UL91 instead. SB reported the Jet A1 nozzle is leaking.

8) SAFETY MATTERS

DP asked if FAC should subsidise an A/G radio course to give us more weekend radio operators. BC replied if FAC pay for radio courses we should expect a minimum number of hours in the tower, 20 days over 2 years was suggested. Social membership would be included. SB asked about remuneration, JH replied the tower team have the same food allowance as IER. SB asked whether Fenland could have an ATIS, it was felt without a qualified meteorologist this wouldn't be possible. We will email the members to ask for volunteers.

DP and Oliver Wheeldon will review signage.

9) AIRFIELD GENERAL

DP will ask Oliver Wheeldon to speak to the CAA in regards the proposed new windsock at Bravo, before any order is placed.

Our landlords had spoken to BC. They mentioned insurance, it was agreed to send them a copy of the annual policy when renewed. They would also like an onsite presence in a night watchman capacity, this had been discussed previously and the management burden of someone living on the airfield (insurance, employer/employee relationship, tenancy) outweighs the benefits.

Mr Wright had mentioned to JH that after his holiday he would be removing the fence and extending the car park. There was a safety concern over the asbestos fence, which requires specialist removal.

RS asked when the second phase of the fencing would be started, JH replied the beginning of June.

DP reported that Tim is ready to progress with the next phase of concreting, with the priority being the avgas apron.

It was agreed that we should continue the block paving from the front door to make a path to the gate nearest the flying school.

10) IER/RFFS

Hot fire training is being planned, with a possible additional theory course. A number of new volunteers have left but it should be easier to organise the rota once all the new volunteers are fully trained.

11) HANGARS

RS asked if a cherry picker was available to add tarpaulins to the ceiling of the new hangar, to minimise water in some of the bays. BC has scaffolding that we can use.

A discussion followed on how we increase hangarage on the airfield. Given the landlords won't let the club build our own hangars, we need to continue to engage with the landlords to come up with a solution.

12) EVENTS

With no volunteer members to lead on Wings and Wheels this year, we cannot run the event this year. However it was suggested that we run a Wings and Wheels type event in spring 2023. This would still be in the club's 50th year.

DP had been asked whether Fenland would support regular overhead aerobatic slots, 14 minutes a day, once a month, for a fee. It was felt that even with only limited aerobatics, there is a risk that the noise could affect the relationship with our neighbours and so we cannot support.

13) FENLAND FLYING SCHOOL

SB asked to be minuted that the only person that speaks and acts on behalf of the flying school is the proprietary of the flying school. Any other person will be speaking and acting on their own behalf as an individual member.

14) RUNWAYS RESTAURANT

KA is planning a Jubilee lunch in the clubhouse on the bank holiday Friday.

KA asked if one of the bins could be lockable and reserved for food waste.

BC asked if we could offer the existing clubhouse furniture to members next week once the new furniture arrives, this was agreed.

15) AOB

A number of proposed rule changes were discussed, these need to be submitted by June 15.

The meeting closed at 19:55.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 16 June 2022 18:00