FENLAND AERO CLUB - Committee

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FENLAND AERO CLUB COMMITTEE

| Present: | Braden Connolly (BC), Steve Brown (SB), Lisa Brian (LB), Josh Brown (JB), Colin Albone (CA), Peter Suckow (PS), Caroline |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Remote: | Rynardt Spies (RS) |
| Apologies: | Pete Begley, Oliver Wheeldon |

Wednesday, 28 February 2024 17:30

AGENDA OF THE SAFETY MEETING OF THE FENLAND AERO CLUB

1. Safety matters

SB raised the prominence of moles at the airfield as the only issue.

AGENDA OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE FENLAND AERO CLUB

1. Apologies

BC shared apologies from PB, and OW.

2. Minutes of previous meetings

Comments were requested on the minutes. No substantive changes or comments were made. The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as true and accurate by BC at the end of the meeting.

3. Matters arising

a. Powerlines and Solar Farm Plans

BC noted the powerline petition available at the flying school.

Discussion ensued regarding the impact of powerlines and a nearby solar farm. The attendees considered the general impact and increased level of risk but concluded there was no concern for airfield safety.

Decision: We oppose the powerlines and solar farm; however, they are no longer

considered an operational concern for the airfield and are to be removed from the committee agenda.

4. Club Administration

a. Border Force Update

JB shared an update regarding the current airfield status with border force since we do not currently hold a certificate of agreement.

The regulations changed and it is no longer possible to follow the old process, we are now required to become a "regulated aerodrome" under an amendment to Section 21 of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979.

JB noted he has given Border Force all the information required to proceed with our application; however, he also noted that Border Force are still in the final stages of their discussion with HMRC regarding the content of that approval and as a result cannot accept applications for a Certificate of Agreement.

Action: JB to continue following up with Border Force for updates on this matter.

b. Assessment for Annual Aerodrome License Charge

JB mentioned an upcoming document for the CAA that required completion to determine the license charge for the year.

Action: BC volunteers to investigate and handle the document.

5. Memberships

It was noted that we have had two new social members join. BC shared that it was advised we should check the ratio of non-flying to flying members to preserve the club's CASC status.

6. Finance

RS reviewed the figures provided and highlighted some discrepancies in stock accounting, particularly with fuel invoices.

RS also queried the old payment terminal and whether it was still in use as it would likely be costing us some money.

Decision: The committee resolved to review the fuel stock and update the financial records accordingly.

7. Fuel

BC noted the need for reconciliation between the physical fuel stock and account records, as well as potentially amending the fuel prices.

8. Safety matters

Discussion on moles and the need for repair of the fat trap.

Action: BC to find contractor to repair the fat trap

9. Airfield general

Nothing to report.

10. Accountable manager

Nothing to report as the accountable manager was not present.

11.IER/RFFS

a. CO2 + Foam

JB shared that he had received quotes from both Bond Fire Services and another supplier, for CO2 and Foam respectively. He noted however, that Bond Fire Services appear unwilling and unable to supply the CO2 without also conducting a 'manufacturer approved refill' of the foam in trolley unit.

PS expressed confusion regarding the quotes and the position from Bond Fire Services.

Decision: Proceed with the quote from Bond Fire Services for replacing and refill the trolley unit.

Action: PS to further clarify future requirements for obtaining CO2 and foam refills.

12. Hangars

BC mentioned a request from a hangar occupier to repair water ingress and suggested setting aside a budget for occupants to effect minor hanger repairs.

Decision: A standing allowance of £100 for hanger repairs approved

13. Events

a. Wings and Wheels

Scheduled for August bank holiday. Some suggestions had been put forward to the committee for some people who could run the event. The committee resolved to contact those individuals and find a volunteer manager for the event.

b. Aerobatics Event Proposal

In addition to the aerobatics even on the 18th May, the organisers have proposed an additional event on the 27th July with a range of activities including a fly-in.

Decision: The committee agreed to confirm the 27th July date as the second aerobatic event for the year.

14. Fenland Flying School

Nothing to report, no significant changes.

15. Runways Restaurant

Operating times were discussed as it had been noted the restaurant had closed early on

some days. It was accepted that the winter months have been quiet but also remarked that it needs to be clear when facilities are available otherwise there will likely be an impact to future visitors.

Decision: Restaurant's operating hours will be changed to close at 3:00 pm for winter months, but times will return to normal from April as it gets lighter.

16. Questions from attendees and AOB

No questions were presented by attendees.

17. Date of next meeting

Action: BC to propose some dates in WhatsApp as usual.

18. Closure of meeting

The meeting closed at 18:30