



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the BKFA

held at the Royal Oak, Tabard Street, London

on 29 November 2009, commencing at 2 pm.

Present: Jon Caton (chair), John Dobson (minutes secretary), Jerry Swift (acting secretary and treasurer), Phil Scarfe (WHKF), Martin Croxton (WHKF), Doug Jones (WHKF), Michael Lowe (SKF), Keith Griffiths (STACK), Ernest Barton (NEKF), Malcolm Goodman (NEKF), George Webster (NEKF), Derek Kuhn.

1. Welcome

The chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Arthur Dibble.

3. Minutes of the last AGM

These were approved (proposed Jerry Swift, seconded Phil Scarfe).

4. Matters Arising

It was noted that no report had been received from Andrew Beattie and no contact had been made with Valerie Govig. It was reported that MKF had (possibly temporarily) abolished the post of Schools Co-ordinator in the absence of a report to the AGM and withdrawn its official association with Steve Sutton's schools project. MKF made clear that they continue to support the idea of the project. No further action need be taken on any of these matters.

5. Chairman's Report

A copy is attached to these minutes.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that an accident report form is available on the BKFA website. It is important that such a report be made whenever an accident occurs and asked members to bring this to the attention of all clubs and event organisers. Both the CAA and insurers expect air sports to monitor safety and to seek to learn from any incidents.

STACK have a small marquee and offered to place BKFA leaflets in it at festivals which they attend. The offer was gratefully accepted.

6. Treasurer's Report

A copy is attached to these minutes. The financial statement was accepted (proposed Jon Caton, seconded Phil Scarfe).

7. Secretary's Report

Ernest Barton resigned during the year for health reasons and Jerry Swift assumed the role of Acting Secretary. 4 affiliates had joined during the year but membership was otherwise unchanged. Ernest and Jerry were thanked for their work during the year.

8. Constitutional Matters.

- a) Review of representation.
Representation of clubs will continue as at present, but will need a formal review during the year with due notice being given for revision and ratification at the 2010 AGM.
- b) Status of affiliates.
It was recognised that if the number of individual affiliates grows, some mechanism needs to be introduced so that they can operate as an individual club, i.e. share knowledge and communication with each other. At the moment it is not a problem, but the Committee would continue to monitor the situation and Jon Caton undertook to manage such shared communication should it become required.
- c) Fees.
These were to remain the same but the Committee was instructed to keep finances under review.
- d) Changes to the constitution.
The Chairman presented a number of proposed changes to the constitution. A copy is attached to these minutes. These were acceptable to the meeting, and would be advertised well in advance of the next AGM for ratification at that meeting.

9. Affiliations to Other Institutions

- a) CCPR.
CCPR provide a lot of information to its member bodies, some of it very relevant to the BKFA. The annual subscription is considered value for money.
- b) RAeC.
It is not clear what benefit we get from our membership of RAeC though it seems that they are keen, for historical reasons, to keep us in membership. Jerry Swift offered to talk to the chairman and/or secretary of RAeC to see if a reduction in membership fees could be negotiated in view of our small membership and limited resources.

10. Children and Vulnerable People Protection

Jerry Swift reported on the current legislative situation, which is very confused. He will continue to monitor events and receive relevant information from CCPR. He reported that as the BKFA Child Protection Officer he had successfully completed the first part of a training course run by NSPCC and was currently attending the second part. Jerry was thanked for his ongoing work.

11. Insurance

Jerry Swift reported that a good offer had been brokered. The insurance company could provide comprehensive cover for £10.50 p.a. per person provided there was a minimum of 100 fliers covered. There were certain exclusions and additional fees might be required in certain circumstances (e.g. kite traction). A signed agreement to the BKFA Code of Practice would be required.

Keith Griffiths indicated that STACK might be interested in the offer. This would in itself provide (most of) the required minimum.

Jerry Swift would investigate whether children under 12 under the supervision of a responsible adult would be covered at no cost.

The position of the effect of the insurance offer on local clubs was discussed. It was agreed that, if the offer is accepted, then BKFA would provide information to prospective individual affiliates about KSGB and their local club, and recommend membership of these organisations. It was recognised that discussion with club secretaries is now required.

12. UK Club Newsletters

Jerry Swift undertook to consider how to send BKFA news to individual club newsletters in a form suitable for immediate insertion.

13. Conserving Kite History

George Webster reported on a conversation between himself, Malcolm Goodman and Paul Chapman

concerning how to catalogue and archive the wide range of historical material held by themselves and other individuals in the UK. It was suggested that BKFA could produce a central register of such material and that RAeC might well be interested in such a register. John Dobson undertook to create an electronic catalogue of the material. George would continue discussions with interested parties and keep BKFA informed of progress.

14. BKFA Competitions

Thanks were expressed to George Webster and Ernest Barton for organising the Edwardian Competition at Wirral this year. It was suggested that this could be continued at Rougham and/or Wirral in 2010. It was recognised that the competition was a participator event, not a spectator one, and so would require reconsideration of its relationship to the hosting festival.

It was agreed that innovation in kiting needs to be encouraged in the UK, but managing this requires a long lead time. It was suggested that BKFA consider how to link an innovation event to Olympic Year 2012.

15. Rokakku Challenge

Thanks were expressed to Pete Dawson for re-introducing the competition and Keith Griffiths for managing the scoring system. Tony Cartright won the competition on the last day despite not having entered the minimum number of rounds.

There was extensive discussion about the problem of suitably weighting the scores so as to better reward the winners of an individual contest with a large number of entries. There was general agreement to the principle of awarding points only to the top 3 or 5 contestants (depending on the size of the field). Keith undertook to examine the effect of making changes to the scoring system along these lines.

16. Kite Flying Hall of Fame

George Webster reported that he had written an article to appear in *The Kiteflier* suggesting a kite flying Hall of Fame. The suggestion had been made that George would select a nomination committee who would discuss individuals past and present for inclusion, but he himself would take no further part in the selection process. It was further suggested that these discussions would be mediated electronically (i.e. the committee would not meet physically). It was recommended that BKFA should liaise with KSGB.

17. Election of Committee

Keith Griffiths, Mike Lowe, Derek Kuhn and Ernest Barton, all being eligible and willing, were re-elected to the Committee (proposed Jerry Swift, seconded George Webster). The following were also elected: Doug Jones (proposed Jerry Swift, seconded George Webster), Jerry Swift (proposed Phil Scarfe, seconded Keith Griffiths), John Dobson (proposed Jerry Swift, seconded Phil Scarfe).

The meeting recorded its thanks to Jon Caton for acting as chair and for all his work for BKFA over the last three years.

18. Any Other Business

- a) Dieppe Kite Festival 30th year (i.e. 15th festival).
Derek Kuhn brought this to the attention of the meeting and said that he would be interested in borrowing anything relevant to the history of the Dieppe Festival for display. It was suggested that reports of previous festivals could be extracted from previous issues of *The Kiteflier*.
- b) Sports Council Representation.
Keith Griffiths will continue to maintain links with the Sports Council but unfortunately has lost recent emails, including those from the Council.

19. Date of Next AGM

The next AGM would take place on 28 November 2010 at a venue to be decided by the Committee.

The meeting then closed at 5.30 pm. and was immediately followed by a short Committee meeting.

Minutes of the Committee of the BKFA
held at the Royal Oak, Tabard Street, London
on 29 November 2009, commencing at 5.30 pm.

Present: Ernest Barton, John Dobson, Keith Griffiths, Doug Jones, Derek Kuhn, Mike Lowe, Jerry Swift.

1. Co-option of Committee Member

Jon Caton was co-opted onto the Committee (proposed Jerry Swift, seconded John Dobson). Jon Caton then joined the meeting for the rest of the business.

2. Appointment of Officers

The following officers of the Committee were appointed:

Chairman: Keith Griffiths
Secretary: John Dobson
Treasurer: Jerry Swift

3. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be electronically mediated by Skype. All the members undertook to have Skype installed on their computers if they had not already done so. The date of the next meeting would be fixed by email agreement and was planned for the week beginning either 6 or 13 December.

The meeting then closed at 5.40pm.