

Alton Silent Fliers

Minutes of the AGM that took place on the 23rd of November 2023

- 1. In Attendance:** Terry Weeks; Terry Pelling; John Barrow; Martin Gilbert; Phil Goldsmith; Arnold Parkin, David Durnford, David West, John Park, Jim Hathaway, Glyn Chambers and George Reynolds. Also guest Steve Hill from TVSF.

Apologies: Tony Ridler, Mike Fantham.

A great attendance, thank you all.

- 2. General Report:**

Terry W presented the following report (previously agreed with Terry P) for the year to advise the membership of how the club has fared during the past year and look to the future the COVID Years now thankfully no longer affecting us.

Should anyone have any suggestions following the meeting please send them by email to me (I already have one, see below), and I will collate them and put to the membership as a whole at the next meeting, any changes being made by majority decision will be acted on. The proposed changes to the subscription rates are based on the income for the last year exceeding our expenditure, even with the much-reduced income normally gained by running the Soaring National competitions. This position has also been helped by the increased membership being maintained during 2023.

It must go without saying that if membership should drop the reduction in subscriptions shown below may be reversed to maintain a reasonable balance.

As last year Terry and I very much look after the accounts together, Terry doing the vast majority of the legwork in banking cheques, sorting the BMFA memberships, these last few years having the added job created by arranging CAA registrations, I just assist with the bookkeeping. We continue to be up and running on the "Go Membership" system, and I would urge you to join through the club if not through another club, as country members remain all but extinct. Last year the CAA registration cost us £9.00 for Terry to pass on to the BMFA, this has been increased to £10.00 until the 1st of April 2024.

We have to make it clear that by paying this extra fee you automatically give the club and the BMFA permission to pass on your details: Name, address, telephone number, email address and finally your date of birth. The accounts are presented in the same format as last year. We have shown all 2023 membership monies as being collected in 2023 even if actually paid early, this keeps our income and expenditure for the year tidy. We will do the same for 2024.

The proposed new subscription rates mentioned above are as follows:

Senior £35.00 (new members joining after September 30th £25.00)

Juniors £10.00

Senior + Junior £43.00 (as above joining after September 30th £22.00)

Senior + Partner £49.00 (as above joining after September 30th £25.00)

Senior + Partner + Junior £62.00 (as above joining after September 30th £31.00)

Joining Fee to remain at £30.00.

Generally, a good reduction but still maintaining an annual increase year on year.

The above was unanimously accepted by those in attendance.

The BMFA subscription rate proposal has been put to their AGM, but the final decision is that it will rise by another £5.00 to £47.00. I continue to find it difficult to understand how these annual increases can be justified, at least the club fee reduction will more than pay for this increase.

The Final end of year balance is as shown £6633.16, an increase in funds over last year of £293.69. as mentioned above, this gives us the ability to again reduce subscriptions to that shown.

Terry and I are both prepared to continue as club administrators for 2024 if all agree.

Proposed: Jim Hathaway. Seconded: John Barrow. Agreed: Unanimously.

3. Membership:

We estimate this will remain similar to the current level.

Due to Tony's situation, Terry and I would like to propose that we award Tony life membership as he said he was prepared to continue being the ASF webmaster but is unlikely to be able to get to the site that often. Agreed unanimously. Terry to advise Tony.

4. Club Night:

It is proposed to continue as the 3rd Thursday of each month at "The Three Horseshoes", the new owners having looked after us. We propose continuing throughout 2024. We have therefore booked all future club nights for 2024 including the prizegiving and Christmas dinner for the January meeting. (18th January TBC)

5. Rulebook:

Two changes proposed.

1. The change of club night to the third Thursday of the month, this to avoid clashing with the pub's darts night.

2. Our Open competitions be open to non-club members, this to increase competing numbers.

Proposed: John Barrow Seconded: Martin Gilbert Agreed: Unanimously.

6. Website(s):

Again, this year has been maintained and organised by Tony who has done a great job in keeping us all up to date and is willing to continue as Web-Master for 2024 as stated above, Thanks Tony.

Please send Tony any items of interest to add to the website.

The site continues to be hosted by the BMFA and the address is:

<https://altonsilentflyers.bmfa.club/> The Southern Area BMFA website is also hosted by the BMFA – <https://southern.bmfa.uk/>, I am no longer the prime Webmaster for this as mentioned above.

7. Calendar of events:

Terry has assembled the proposed 2024 calendar and put to this meeting, hopefully COVID will not raise its ugly head and disrupt their organisation. We assume all will be ok with this calendar as it basically mirrors last year's. (Considering as usual the away trips)

8. A.O B:

a. Please ensure renewals are received by the December meeting date, now that the BMFA and CAA rates are known. As before you may choose to pay for the BMFA & CAA through the club or direct.

b. Please ensure you **pay your fees using the Metro Bank** NOT HSBC as this account is now closed.

c. I would like to propose that David Durnford is appointed as a club examiner and Tony Ridler be re-ratified as a Club Examiners. Terry Weeks remains an Area Chief Examiner all approved for Silent Flight for 2024.

d. C D's for Competitions: Phil Goldsmith – Foamy; John Barrow – Open League & Terry Weeks and Terry Pelling – Annual Open

Calling notice: The 2024 / 2025 AGM will be on the 28th of November 2024.

Have a good Christmas and a Happy New Year, if we do not see you before enjoy your flying for the rest of this year and in 2024.

Terry Weeks – Club Chairman / Secretary & Terry Pelling – Club Treasurer & Membership Secretary.