

Cotswold Radio Control Society
Minutes of AGM 2017
Aston Down: Thursday 2nd November 2017
Meeting at 20.00 hrs

Present

Committee: Jon Parker (Chair), Terry Clarke (Membership Secretary and Treasurer)
Gordon Bishop, Doug Garland, Ian Halliday, Sid King, Bob Maltby (Vice Chair)

Members: Tony Gillett, Steve Holland, Vernon Lidstone, Mario Malecki, Jeff Myers,
Trevor Robinson, Gerard York

Apologies

Andrew Evans, Paul Howey, Ben Weager

Minute's Silence

The meeting started with a minute's silence for former members Brian Ponting and Chris Ayliffe

Notes from 2016 AGM

After a Government review of the basis of funding of sports clubs it was decided that sports clubs in receipt of Government funding needed to be single purpose. The conclusion was that CRCS would be assigned a single membership number of the gliding club (9090, if you are interested) and things would continue as before.

The Cabin was purchased and slowly equipped.

The Scale day was success but with rather few CRCS members flying.

The LMA explored the possibility of Aston Down as a test site.

Sweatshirts, Polo and Fleeces with the club badge were designed and bought by many.

The membership fee was set at £115 with £10 of that for the actual club expenditure.

Matters Arising

None

Chairman's Report 2016/2017

Trouble at Mill: Cotswold gliding club used "our" runway frequently during the week causing concern (with one member joining Chedworth to avoid the issue). This has now been dealt with. I contacted the Gliding Club Chair and was put in touch with the acting Chair. The outcome is that the Gliding Club expect that Polish Instructor Stanislav the main culprit in using "our" runway will be replaced by Don Puttock; in either case the use of "our" runway will be minimized.

Night Flying: We started night flying this year in January. It seems to be quite successful. Members are taking advantage of the opportunity to invite guests and sometimes going for a meal afterwards. Night flying restarted again last week. This usually takes place on Wednesday evenings but it is possible at any time using electric power. Please organize yourselves using the Club Facebook Page and make use of the cabin.

BMFA: Club representatives have attended BMFA area meetings this year. There is nothing much to report but it's nice to keep tabs on what other people are doing. Examiner workshops are flavour of the year; three postponed due to bad weather!

BMFA are encouraging us , as members, to attend the new BMFA National .flying site .

Clubnights: The response from members regarding the winter club night talks and activities was positive. We have had two talks. One from a speaker from the Jet Age Museum on the manufacture and building of Hawker Tempests at Gloucester during WW2. The second from an EX RAF Red Arrows team rigger, Both were very interesting.

Future activities suggested :

- Day Museum trip? Hendon?
- See the Tempest being built at the Jet Age Museum.
- Visit the Electric Aircraft speed record project. Gordon Bishop and Terry Clarke will be contacting Roger Targett, in charge of the project.
- A presentation on composites and fibre-glass. Gordon Bishop and Doug Garland are investigating two options.

Reminder: The 2017 version of the famous Doug Quiz will happen, with mince-pies etc: on Thursday 7th December.

Website: This attracts new membership enquiries regularly. However it needs to be updated. I personally can't get my head around it but there are people here who say they can do it.

Tina Ponting: Tina has kindly donated both of Brian's Arising Stars as club trainers. I have thanked her on behalf of the club.

Scale Day: Numbers were down but it was still an enjoyable day. The food was good without as much choice this year as my better half was missing. The weather was outstanding again. A special mention goes to every body who helped to make the day possible, especially those who worked hard during preparations and on the day. You know who you are.

The Cabin: I believe nearly all member are using the Cabin. The list of work done is extensive.

Installation of kitchen units and worktop.

Manufacture and installation of storage /bench seat.

Secure storage lockers installed.

Outdoor storage locker purchased for the mower.

Donations to the Club this year include:

- 21 inch petrol mower(Spencer Davis)
- Digital Projector (Jon Parker)
- Projector Screen (Bob Maltby)
- Solar panels with controller and wiring (Bob Maltby)
- Kitchen Units from a local kitchen fitter (Terry Clarke)
- Coloured MDF to manufacture the storage bench(Gordon Bishop)
- Gas Stove (Nick Brotherton)
- Gas Bottles (Terry Clarke/Jon Parker)
- Generator Power lead (Jon Parker)
- Party Tent Marquee (Jon Parker)
- Secure Storage Lockers (Terry Clarke)
- Dust Pan/Mop (Graham Birt)
- Petrol Container for Generator(Graham Birt)
- Swing Top Bin (Gordon Bishop)

**Chairman's Initiative: -
2018 will be the CRCS Year of Safety**

Standards of flying this year and the disregarding of Club Rules can be described as **Undisciplined and Dangerous.**

- Sloppy safety attitudes during some flying sessions , which have become chaotic, are a great concern to me.
- Club rules seem to be non-existent for some members, coupled with the inability to fly within the designated areas.
- Flying over the car park is unsafe and unnecessary.

So I want to make 2018 the Year of Safety.

- ✓ I want all members to reinforce **correct procedures.**
- ✓ **Look, Watch and Comment** on unsafe actions.
- ✓ **If necessary demonstrate what is expected.**
- ✓ **Nobody exempt**, including me.

The Committee has discussed re-issuing the rules in booklet form. New members receive a copy on joining. Perhaps a summary pamphlet will be produced for existing members to refresh memories.

Finally, we have had the best weather for many years so hopefully you are all flown out!

Membership Secretary and Treasurer's Report

Club Accounts

The financial accounts for the year ending Sept 30th 2017 were audited by Andrew Evans and Sid King. I'm pleased to report the books balanced albeit with a drop in surplus from last year (£142.40 this year, £276.67 last year). Revenue expenditure was £5,588.91.

The Treasurer and the auditors agreed not to include a figure for depreciation of the capital expenditure of £4,680 on the Club Cabin. The cost of a similar replacement would be well in excess of the original cost.

Copies of the balance sheet are available by e-mail request for anyone that requires a copy.

Club Membership

2017 membership was down on the previous year from 56 to 54, which includes 3 non-flying social members.

Although the website appears not to be frequently used by members it continues to attract enquiries to join the club. This year we have had 10 enquiries and 2 have committed to joining next year. We also welcomed 3 new or rejoining members later in 2017, so it looks like the 2018 membership will still remain around 50, unless of course the Gloucester club fail to find an alternative flying site and we have numerous applications for membership from that club.

Secretary's Report

Chris Edgar resigned from the post in mid-year so there have been stop-gap measures. Ian Halliday and Doug Garland have taken minutes at various times.

Presentation of Annual Awards and Trophies.

John Parker Scale Trophy: Scratch built Sea Fury : Mario Malecki

Nastend Brick: Sid King. Contributory factor removing struts!

In discussion it appeared that several trophies were missing

Secretary's Cup: Awarded for **biggest contribution** to Club

Bronze Spitfire: For novices.

Best Electric:

It was thought Graham Birt had historic paperwork which might contain clues to where the missing trophies may be.

Election of 2017/18 Committee

The proposed Committee is

- Chair: Jon Parker
- Vice Chair: Bob Maltby
- Secretary: Ian Halliday
- Membership Secretary and Treasurer: Terry Clarke
- Gordon Bishop
- Doug Garland
- Sid King

A vote for approval was proposed by Steve Holland and seconded by Gerry York. It was approved unanimously.

2017/2018 Subscriptions

The Committee has previously discussed raising the annual fee. Currently only £10 of the 2017 fee of £115 comes to the actual CRCS accounts. The rest goes to the Gliding Club £72 and the BMFA fee.

Next year the Cotswold Gliding Club will increase our fee by £1.50 while it is expected that the BMFA will not increase its fee.

Proposal from the Committee

The £10 income to CRCS has not risen for over 20 years. It is clear from the Chair's report how dependent we are on individual contributions. The Committee therefore believes that an increase of CRCS membership fee from £10 to £18.50 would give the club a worthwhile increase in flexibility.

This would mean the total annual subscription including increased gliding club fees would rise from £115 to £125.

This was approved unanimously.

Proposal from the members in attendance

Several members then raised the question of the joining fee. Comparison with other nearby clubs led the discussion to conclude that CRCS was perhaps selling itself short.

A proposal to raise the **joining** fee to £50 and a rejoining fee of £20 was also approved unanimously.

PROPOSALS AND AMENDMENTS CONCLUDED.

Matters Arising

The growth of weeds on the runway, a perennial problem, was raised. Doug will acquire a 5 gal container of creosote; which should sort the problem.

AGM 2018

Thursday 1st November 2018 , Aston Down

Chairman thanked participants and closed meeting at 20:55