



Cotswold Radio Control Society
Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday 25-11-21 @ 7.0pm
The control tower, Aston Down airfield.

Present:

Chairman - Mario Malecki (MM)

Treasurer - Bill Cousins (BC)

Secretary - Malcolm Wood (MW)

Membership Sec. - Graham Birt (GB)

Member - John Veitch (JV)

Member - Richard Brook (RB)

MM introduced the meeting.

MW Read the minutes of the last meeting (previous committee) that took place 30-9-21.

MM and JV being the only persons present at that and this meeting, agreed that they were an accurate record.

1. Subs for 2022

MM introduced the subject of Subs. For the following year

- a. Notification to club
- b. CGC Fees
 - i. Associate £80.00
 - ii. Junior £57.50
- c. BMFA fees (yet to be announced)
 - . Senior £40.00
 - i. Junior £18.00
 - ii. Family Partner £27.00
 - iii. Family Junior £14.00

These were agreed by all present.

It was agreed that the CAA numbers and expiry dates be captured on the membership spread sheets.

We all agreed that it is up to members to ensure CAA renewal not the membership Sec.

2. Joining and re-joining fees

MM led a discussion

Presently a joining fee of £50.00 and re-joining fee of £20.00 exists.

It was agreed that if a member lapses membership they should pay the £50. Unless there were extenuating circumstances – which would be agreed at a committee meeting.

This change will be mentioned in the letter regarding all fees going to members soon.

3. Treasurer update

BC – BC and MM had been introduced to the bank and building society but as yet did not have overall control. Ian Halliday (last treasurer) is helping and will assist until BC and MM have full control.

4. Quiz night 2nd Dec 21

MM has spoken to Doug and the quiz is organised and arranged for Thursday 2-12-21 in the control tower.

Bob Maltby is bringing sherry

MM will bring mince pies

Action: MM to contact Cotswold Gliding Club (CGC) to ensure that the bar area is free for our use (it is currently having floor maintenance).

5. Meet the Cotswold Gliding Club chairman - David Roberts (DR)

MM and MW met with Dave Roberts in the last week.

We introduced ourselves as part of the new committee, and that the CRCS had operated from the site since the 1960's.

We found him very approachable and friendly.

It became clear that DR is a very experienced person and stated that he has had a lot of experience at national and international level with not only the CAA but also the BMFA.

He mentioned that the CGC are in negotiations to purchase the disused runway (our normal flying end). If successful DR said this would not interfere with our future as they will only ever operate from one runway at any one time. So if they did 'rock up' on our normal end we just go to the alternative site/ runway, just as now. He did say he would try and improve the communication for when this happens – Hence to conversation regarding the radio receiver mentioned in item 7.

CGC have building plans for more glider storage.

We mentioned that our outgoing committee had a worry about our tenure at Aston Down

MW - DR is happy with our continued co-existence.

He is aware that we do not have a formal contract or lease with the CGC or the Aston Down Farm Ltd. Who are the overall owners of the site, but does not see that as an obstacle to our future on the site.

He recognises that if we should wish to pursue we could do so and it would be considered at any future committee meetings of the CGC.

He recalled that in 1980 £2,000 was donated by CRCS towards CGC purchase of the site. (a substantial sum then, but a very small part of the initial CGC purchase cost)

There is no formal record or contract between us that he is aware of but will endeavour to put it into the CGC official memory.

Our meeting was concluded.

MW then discussed with CRCS committee reservations in making a lease agreement an issue with CGC. This would mean that our presence on the site would be reviewed at the end of the lease period and lead to an opportunity for the CGC committee to decline to renew. We should not pursue further with CGC until our fees to them are paid in February 2022. This was agreed.

Action:

MW to contact BMFA and ask how many clubs in the country do / do not have ownership or lease agreements with their land lords.

Does the BMFA have any suggestions regarding our position?

Report back to this committee in due course.

6. Membership status

GB states we have 71 current members and has a spread sheet prepared to manage the forthcoming renewals.

7. Radio receiver and two way radio.

MM

DR for the CGC states that CGC still wants us to have a radio link to monitor their activities.

A discussion followed and it was decided that we should show willingness to comply with the CGC – whose own web site to visiting pilot's states that their airfield radio is not always manned.

BC will bring his scanner with him when flying, to informally monitor airfield chatter and advise this committee in the future.

Action - MM will contact Bob Maltby to ascertain when he is going to fit the 12 volt supply from the existing solar panel on the roof of the club house so that any receiver purchased can be kept permanently charged.

It will then be used in the 'pilot's box' and monitored by the lookout/spotter.

8. Jason Bird - joining the committee.

Jason has offered to join this committee.

General discussion - as this committee was only just agreed at the AGM a few weeks ago it was felt that we have enough bases covered for now.

Action:

MM to contact Jason, thank him but decline his offer.

9. List items for discussion throughout 2022

MM brought as list of matters to be considered in 2022.

- .
- a. Events
- b. Club WhatsApp forums
- c. Training
- d. Update Constitution
- e. Update Rules
- f. Limit on member numbers
- g. Joining and re-joining fees
- h. Waiting list protocols
- i. Website improvements

10. Procedure for new member applications

MM stated that he had prepared a document for consideration that would be sent to anyone enquiring about future membership. Further discussion in the future needed to flesh out the consideration process at a future meeting.

11. Consideration for allowing Steve Holland complimentary membership.

MW As a result of a conversation with Steve he eluded to me that since his move to the Chepstow area he would not be using Aston Down enough to make re-joining himself or partner Sharon worthwhile. He did seek to reassure that he would continue to be our examiner.

I took it upon myself to offer possible alternatives, which included me asking this committee if he could be considered for honorary membership, or re-join but not Sharon as she had only flown/visited CRCS 3 times in the last 12 months.

Steve has now decided to re-join and bring Sharon with him as a guest.

Next meeting set for January 2022 – date to be set.

Meeting ended 8.45pm