

Raydon & District Model Aircraft Club

Annual General Meeting
Held at the club hut at
10.00am Sunday 4th December 2022

Minutes

1. Attendance and Apologies for absence

There were 21 members in attendance.

Apologies :John Kinsey, Robert Jardine, Geoff Hodson, Trevor Williams, Steve Hart, John Hancock, Clive Penton, Paul Jefferies

2. Agreement of the Minutes of the previous AGM held on December 12th 2021

Proposed Tony Waters. Seconded Patrick Kelly

3. Matters Arising

None

4. AGM 2022 Chairman's Report:

Chairman's Report 2022

Welcome again to all of you who have come to the AGM.

Looking through the notes of Chairman's reports past I find that I have much to be grateful for – I have now done this job for 7 years and we have made progress in this time. People have stopped saluting; John Ranson has ceased to call me "Your Lemon Loveliness - I am unsure if this is because his eyesight has improved over time or maybe I have become less attractive.

Once again, we kicked off the year with a good attendance at the New Year 's Day fun fly, with more than 20 members attending. Most just wanted to have a natter with friends, rather than wallow in the mud with a model, but that is understandable, particularly in the "post Covid" period and the return to "normality", if people who spend lots of money on toy aeroplanes can ever be considered normal. Thanks to Dick and Irene for once more doing the cooking!

This is the time when I say a big "thank you" to all those who have kept the club functioning throughout the year. Without them nothing would happen.

Most of you will have noticed that by 2022 the BMFA (and SMAE) have been running the show for 100 years. They marked this in various ways and one of the things that we were asked to do was to send a couple of deserving members to Buckminster for their garden party and "VIP" day. Well, we havn't got any of those so we thought that we would send our groundsmen, Patrick and

Ian, who keep our site in good shape. Ian was unable to leave his wife, who was not well, so I took Patrick...for a "manky" sandwich. (Patrick's words, not mine)

It was quite enjoyable – the centenary exhibition was excellent – we got to meet the "great and the good"; there was a warbird event that weekend, so some good flying to look at too. One of our members, Dean Coxon was flying very skilfully in this event too.

In addition to the grass management, Patrick and Ian also service the mowers, look after the site furniture and regularly replace the windsock! These seem to have very short life span

Our Mid-Summer fun fly evening in June was well attended too – possibly due to the provision of a free burger and Paul Jeffries organised the vintage evening in July, again both with the support of the long suffering Dick and Irene on the Burger bar. That is, I think, the models that are vintage, rather than the people. We cannot thank Paul because he is not here, but the thanks are on record. Paul also took me to a vintage fun fly at Old Warden this year – and he gave me some aircraft to fly. Fortunately I didn't break any of them.

In late August we had our (postponed) Warbirds day, which was a little disappointing on its turnout – my thanks to those who came and who helped to run it. The same weekend was when the American vets families were visiting, but they were so far behind their schedule that we had cleared up and gone by the time that they arrived at about 4.30pm.

Alan deserves a big "thank you", again, for paying the bills, fiddling the books and managing the money so well – he has now been doing this for 20 years and I feel that this should be recognised, so I have got him a little surprise – I could not put it through in the normal way, because he would have had to approve it!

Chris Bush kindly elected to step in as secretary after Tony stood down last year through illness and as you know he looks after all the renewals, which is no small task. So much appreciation and thanks to him for stepping up. I was treasurer at Ipswich for some years and I used to do the renewals, so I know that it's a lot of work. (That was before I invented the post of membership sec – then it got easier!)

Dick is our site safety officer – another ongoing task, not to mention all of the cooking that he and Irene do. Irene, as you know also organises the Christmas supper for us. Thank you both.

Trevor Williams audits the books each year – again an ongoing task – and Lee Marshall / John Ranson give their time and expertise to run and update the web-site for us, as well as maintaining the Field and Weather Cam for the club.

Geoff Hodson orders and (eventually) obtains the kit with the club logos etc on it. He does this with great patience because our suppliers are not the speediest! Thanks Geoff and again, my thanks to you all.

Other items – we have 3 new members this year, 2 of whom are regularly active and I have done 2 taster sessions for potential new members so far this year – I do not know whether that has resulted in any applications to join the waiting list?

As far as our site rules are concerned, we have only needed to make one change this year – that of the restriction of gas turbine engine size at our site to 100 Newtons. We have had two complaints regarding jet noise and the committee took this precaution to protect our site after consultation with the BMFA.

Maintenance – aside from the work mentioned, I have undercoated the steel doors on both buildings and I have bought the paint to top coat them, but it is still in the tin and not on the doors....it will be next Summer! Under our lease terms, we are responsible for maintaining the

buildings and after the work done over the past few years, we should be ok for the next 3 or 4 without further work.

Sadly, with the closure of A1 models, we have lost our last local model shop. We wish the two "Daves" a long and happy retirement. The Balsa Cabin in Maldon is still running as are Pegasus in Norwich, both an extra step away.

As a reminder, I still have a training aircraft, which I have converted to electric and which I am happy to do buddy sessions with anyone who feels that they would like some refresher or training time. I need to be told in advance so that I can charge up some batteries!

Nigel Banham
November 2022

5. AGM 2022 Safety Officers Report:

Another year almost gone by, with Covid still affecting some club members, so we still have to take some precautions.

In March some club members were not signing in guests who wanted to fly turbine jet models, following this after a noise complaint the turbine equipped aircraft were eventually restricted to a turbine size of 100 Newton.

The mid-summer club fly in went well with no incidents

The vintage night event was a great success, the only cause for concern was when two models did a close fly by near the pit area, and this was probably due to an increasing gusty wind and single channel radio.

The scale and war birds event was pushed forward one week due to excessive temperature 33 degrees on the first Sunday, this was a low turnout of members for this event, our chairman Nigel suffered a small cut from a prop under his arm, Patrick administered first aid.

Just a reminder the first aid kit is located in the club hut.

Following an article in the BMFA magazine regarding mobile phone interference with transmitter signals, it was left to the individual club member to either leave the phone in your vehicle or carry it with you.

Once again carry on with safe flying practices and procedures, read the RADMAC guide and site plan regarding no fly zones, which is available on the RADMAC Website under documents.

Dick Mathias.

6. Treasurers Report to 2022 AGM:

2022 AGM Treasurer's Report – Alan Jackson

Trevor Williams audited the accounts and agreed the figures are an accurate record.

I would like thank Trevor for doing a thorough job to ensure the accounts are accurate and correct. Trevor checks the summaries agree with the individual listed expenses before signing off the accounts.

I also want to thank Chris Bush and Patrick Kelly for providing detailed accounts of their respective petty cash expenditure. Their details made it easy for me to compile the accounts.

For my report I will refer to details given in the Accounts Summary in a following page.

The level of expenditure has been £300 more than 2021. The fixed costs account for the majority of expenditure which are the buildings lease, field rent and flying site maintenance.

The club accounts are in good health with a 'Surplus on activities' of £893.88. This can largely be attributed to:

- three new senior members joined (£100 joining fee and £96 senior membership fee)
- 2022 membership fees determined for 60 senior members. In 2022 there were 62 seniors and two juniors giving extra income
- £55.80 interest from TSB Business Instant Access account
- The actual 2022 expenditure (£5525) was £223 less than the estimated expenditure (£5748) (BMFA & CAA fees not included) when the 2022 membership fees were calculated.

The membership fees for 2023 will be covered as a separate item on the agenda.

The ground maintenance expenditure was significantly reduced by Ian MacFadyen and Patrick Kelly servicing the three ride-on mowers. Using a mower servicing company would cost significantly more and raise membership fees.

Sufficient parts have been purchased for servicing the mowers in 2023 thus reducing the expected Groundsman expenses next year.

Note: John Hancock arranged for the large Jacobsen mower to be on loan to RADMAC in 2005 and the club purchased it in August 2009. The mower was a prototype developed by Ransome Jacobsen, it's at least 17 years old.

In their Groundsman duties, Patrick and Ian have kept the flying site in excellent condition which is very much appreciated.

The club has a large reserve of funds for when we have to purchase a replacement large ride-on mower which will use all the available funds.

With the large flying site the club needs a large ride on mower to cut the large area of grass in a reasonable time.

So whilst it appears the club has a large reserve (£18,759), this will be needed for a replacement mower and to cover liabilities on the club.

The available funds from 01-Jan-2023 will be dependent on the new buildings lease, which to date has not yet been agreed. A multi-year lease will significantly reduce the available funds in view of the liability on the club to honour the lease.

I am happy to stand for election for the Treasurer's position for 2023.

If I am elected it will be my 21st year as Treasurer and so I have decided it will be my last year. I will resign from the post with effect from 1st July 2023 to give the new Treasurer time to acquire signatory status for the bank accounts in time for the 2023 AGM.

The time period after the AGM does allow sufficient time for the new Treasurer to become a signatory to pay invoices and monitor the membership renewals by bank transfer.

I will arrange for the accounts to be audited before handing over to the new Treasurer. This will ensure there are no discrepancies inherited by the new Treasurer.

The Treasurer post is an ideal position to see how the membership fees are used to run the club. I am happy to explain the Treasurer duties to anyone interested in the post. The busiest time is in December with membership renewals and invoices for the buildings lease. The rest of the year involves occasional expenses for the groundsman and electricity bills. The use of bank transfers has made payments very quick and easy; no need to arrange for cheques to be countersigned and then posted.

Proposed: Alan Jackson

Seconded: Randolph Taylor

This was then voted upon by all present and was carried.

7. 2023 subscriptions

2023 Membership subscriptions

The membership fees are set to cover the predicted expenditure for the upcoming year. This is so we do not reduce the accumulated club funds which at some point will be needed for a replacement large ride on mower.

The buildings lease for 2023 to date has not been agreed with the landlord. Until received, a 20% increase has been assumed resulting in £2760 to lease both club buildings including the service charge. The current lease expires on 31-Dec-22. Until the new lease has been agreed the anticipated cost will be used to calculate the 2023 membership fee.

There will be £175.65 building insurance to pay, invoices received for 2023.

The landlord has confirmed the 2023 grass flying site rent will remain at £950.

The 2021-22 surplus (£893.88) will be used to offset an increase to the building lease greater than the estimated 20% to limit the RADMAC membership fee increase.

It has been previously agreed to use 60 as the number of senior members to calculate the membership fees in case we do not get the full complement [62 Seniors in 2022]. Four members have indicated they will not renew their membership for 2023.

Taking into account estimates for other expenditure e.g. ground, building and mower maintenance, **the Senior membership fee is proposed to be £98.**

The **Junior membership fee (50% of the Senior membership) is proposed to be £49.**

The buildings lease and grass flying site are the large expenditures the club will incur.

The ground and building maintenance costs are estimated based on the 2021-22 figures.

Appendix 1 shows a detailed breakdown of the figures used to calculate the 2023 Senior membership fee.

Appendix 1 – 2023 Senior Membership fee calculation

unit 45 Storage hut & unit 67 club house rent and service charge	2760.00	Have used 2022 rent & service charge +20% while waiting to receive new building lease, effective from 01-Jan-23
rent & insurance	175.65	building insurance for units 45 & 67 – 2023 invoices received
Flying site extension	950.00	John Peacock not yet confirmed rent for 2023 A 10% increase on 2022 rent assumed
Business rates in units 45 & 67	198.25	Estimated 10% increased business rate value in 2021 using 2020 rate demand discounts for CASC & Charitable relief and the new rateable values gives: £51.82 Unit 45 & £146.43 Unit 67 Babergh DC confirmed CASC top-up & charitable relief has been applied
Secretary expenses	150.00	Estimated using 2021 expenses; £133 for stamps, envelopes, paper, printer ink & laminating pouches. Rounded up to £150 to allow for increased postage costs
Mower insurance	0.00	BMFA now gives £10,000 free cover to club buildings & contents
Mower fuel & servicing	895.55	Fuel cost estimated as 2022 + 20% £600 for incidentals based on 2021/22 expenses Patrick estimates fuel £270.34 & other £197.87 = £468.21 Have used higher figure based on 2022 expenditure for cautious approach
Electricity meter	201.28	Estimated as 2022 + 10% (Fixed tariff contract ends 20-Dec-23)
Web site hosting & domain	160.00	2022 hosting charge arrived after 2022 accounts

name		closed so added to 2023
Hangar 53 - Broadband & electricity for weather station	145.00	Si has been happy with the cash contributions each year. £140 in 2022 in view of increased energy costs Alan J has increased the amounts annually by £5
Peacock's Xmas gifts	200.00	Hamper and four bottles of spirits
Sub-total of expenditure	5835.73	
60 members =	£97.26	RADMAC Senior membership fee
	£98	Total 2023 RADMAC Senior membership fee
	£49	2023 RADMAC Junior membership fee

2022 surplus (£893.88) will used to limit senior membership fee increase to £2 giving £98 for 2023.

The 2022 surplus will also be used to offset unexpected building lease and grass flying site rent increases not covered in the above table.

Proposed: Alan Jackson
 Secoded: John Ranson

This was then voted upon by all present and was carried.

8. Notified Business

To agree a change to the Constitution which had been previously submitted as required by the terms of the Constitution:

Appendix 1. Duties of Committee members

TERMS OF REFERENCE RADMAC HONORARY TREASURER

insert new paragraph after the second paragraph in item d. as follows:

“When the Chairman and/or Secretary are unable to acquire online access to the club bank accounts, another committee officer, agreed by the committee, can have Signatory status with online access to the club accounts.

This exception is to maintain access to bank account(s) that can only be managed online”.

The Terms of Reference for the Chairman and Secretary do not mention bank transfers so no amendments required to these sections.

Proposed: Alan Jackson
 Secoded: Tony Waters

This was then voted upon by all present and was carried.

9. Election of Committee Members for 2022

Committee positions generally

The following existing Committee members chose to stand again for 2023 – they were unopposed

Nigel Banham	Chairman
Alan Jackson	Treasurer
Chris Bush	Secretary
Chris Bush	Welfare Officer
Richard Mathias	Safety Officer
Richard Mathias	Bar Steward
Patrick Kelly	Grounds Man
Paul Jefferies	Members Rep
Mike Havard	Members Rep

All of the above were subject to a “Block” vote, after being proposed and Seconded:

Proposed: John Ranson

Seconded: Trevor Jipson

The block vote from those in attendance was carried unanimously.

The following amendments were additionally made to the Committee:

Ian Macfadyen transferred from Members Rep to Groundsman

Proposed: Irene Mathias

Seconded: Tony Waters

The block vote from those in attendance was carried unanimously.

Two new Committee members were inducted:

Tony Waters – Members Rep

Proposed: Nigel Banham

Seconded: Chris Bush

Jamie Hazelton – Members Rep

Proposed: Patrick Kelly

Seconded: Tony Waters

The block vote from those in attendance was carried unanimously

For clarification, this results in the following Committee for 2023:

Nigel Banham	Chairman
Alan Jackson	Treasurer
Chris Bush	Secretary
Chris Bush	Welfare Officer
Richard Mathias	Safety Officer
Richard Mathias	Bar Steward
Patrick Kelly	Grounds Man
Ian Macfadyen	Grounds Man
Paul Jefferies	Members Rep
Mike Havard	Members Rep
Tony Waters	Members Rep
Jamie Hazelton	Members Rep

10. Events for 2022

This was discussed and the following were agreed in principle

- a. New Year's Day fly in; as previous years with food. Members only. Please feel free to bring communal food.
- b. Mid-summer fly in; as previous years with a complimentary barbecue. To be held as close as possible to the longest day. Members only.
- c. Vintage; to be arranged by Paul at a date to be arranged. Barbecue to be incorporated if possible and, again, Members only.
- d. Scale/Warbirds; this to be held in September and although not an open event members guests will be permitted. Barbecue again if possible.

Thanks to Irene and Dick for organizing and running the barbecue.

11. Clubperson of the Year

Irene Mathias was nominated for her sterling work with the catering for the Club. This was officially proposed by Patrick Kelly and seconded by Chris Bush. The Clubman of the Year trophy was then presented to her by the Club Chairman.

The meeting was then called to a close

The meeting concluded at 11.15am

Chris Bush
RADMAC Honorary Secretary