



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the BKFA
held at The Hay Barn and Byre, Ploughley Lane, Bicester
on 27 November 2011, commencing at 2 pm.

Present: Keith Griffiths(STACK, chair), John Dobson (NEKF, secretary), Jerry Swift (MKF, treasurer), George Webster (NEKF), Vee Griffiths (STACK), Derek Kuhn (MKF), Jon Caton (MKF), Gareth Williams (KKF), Bill Andrews (KKF), Doug Irvine (STACK).

1. Welcome

The chairman welcomed members to the meeting and thanked Doug Irvine for providing the venue..

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Doug Jones, Malcolm Goodman, Mike Lowe.

3. Minutes of the last AGM

These were accepted (proposed Jerry Swift, seconded George Webster). There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report

Keith Griffiths gave the Chairman's report. This had been a quiet year for the Association.

5. Treasurer's Report

Jerry Swift gave the Treasurer's report. The insurance business went very smoothly and all member clubs had paid their dues. A copy of the accounts is attached to these minutes. The financial statement was accepted (proposed George Webster, seconded Keith Griffiths).

6. Secretary's Report

John Dobson reported a quiet year. He had given a presentation on kites and the role of the BKFA at the North London Flying School, and had also responded to a questionnaire on behalf of the BKFA for which he had received a £10 Amazon voucher, which it was agreed he could keep. It was noted that the BKFA feedback form was now getting more, and more interesting, questions.

It was agreed that the website could do with a checklist for those wanting to mount festivals. John Dobson and Jerry Swift undertook to provide such a list after consultation with Malcolm Goodman.

7. Constitutional Matters.

a) Number of Council Members.

It is a requirement that the Council reconsider the representation of member Clubs on a regular basis. Currently the representation is: up to 25 club members: 1 council member; 26-100 club members: 2 council members; more than 100 club members: 3 Council members. It was agreed that these numbers should remain for the time being. However, it is likely that North East, Essex and Kent will all drop to below 50 members.

b) Membership Fees.

It was agreed that these should remain at present levels.

8. *Affiliations to Other Institutions*

- a) Sport and Recreation (formerly CCPR).
Sport and Recreation provide a lot of information to its member bodies, some of it very relevant to the BKFA. Their information on current and changing legislation is very useful. The annual subscription is considered value for money. It was agreed to continue our subscription.
- b) RAeC.
RAeC are still keen, for historical reasons, to keep us in membership, and have agreed a reduction in membership fees to £75 in view of our small membership and limited resources. It was agreed to continue our subscription.

9. *BKFA Competitions*

The Rok challenge is no longer popular; for example, there was only one entrant at Portsmouth. Too many people are flying other kinds of kite. It was agreed to discontinue the competition.

Similarly, there seems to be little interest in children's competitions, though kite making workshops still attract entrants.

After some discussion, it was agreed to relaunch the kite innovation prize in order to demonstrate that kite development is occurring in the UK, with a prize (or possibly two prizes) for the best new kite produced in 2012 by a British resident to be awarded at Weymouth in Spring 2013. Jerry Swift would revise the innovation rules and circulate them to all clubs as soon as possible.

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. It seems not to be relevant to kiteflying activities at the current time.

11. *Risk Assessment and Reporting*

The main risk-related event reported was the recent death of a kite jumper at Dunstable, for which a verdict of death by misadventure was recorded at the inquest. In view of this incident, it was considered that the current risk assessment information on the website might need revision, and everyone was asked to review it.

Jerry Swift reported that the current interpretation of health and safety legislation was that it should only apply to important matters where someone has something to answer for. The recent ban on kite flying on East Yorkshire beaches for totally spurious reasons was cited by HSE as falling into the top 10 health and safety nonsenses of 2011.

12. *Insurance*

The numbers of individuals covered under the Association's policy was down a bit.

13. *Conserving Kite History*

John Dobson volunteered to take this up again and will discuss the next step(s) with George Webster.

14. *Kite Flying Hall of Fame*

Despite the fact that KSGB had told George Webster that they would be making an announcement on a similar initiative of their own in the January 2011 issue of *The Kiteflier*, no such announcement had in fact been made.

15. *Election of Committee*

The following nominations to the Committee were accepted: Vee Griffiths (STACK), John Dobson (NEKF), Jerry Swift (MKF), Jon Caton (MKF), George Webster (NEKF), Gareth Williams (KKF), Derek Kuhn (MKF), Mike Lowe (SKF).

16. *Any Other Business*

- a) Keith Griffiths

The meeting gave a vote of thanks to Keith Griffiths for his excellent work as Chairman.

- b) KARA
The meeting recorded its congratulations to Dennis England and the KARA team on their remarkable achievement.
- c) Doug Irvine
The meeting recorded a vote of thanks to Doug Irvine for hosting the meeting.

17. *Date of Next AGM*

The next AGM would take place on Sunday 25 November 2012 at a venue to be decided by the Committee.

The meeting then closed at 5.10 pm. and was immediately followed by a short Committee meeting.

Minutes of the Committee of the BKFA
held at The Hay Barn and Byre, Ploughley Lane, Bicester
on 27 November 2011, commencing at 5.10 pm.

Present: Vee Griffiths, John Dobson, Jerry Swift, Jon Caton, George Webster, Gareth Williams, Derek Kuhn.

1. Appointment of Officers

The following officers of the Committee were appointed:

Chairman: Jon Caton

Secretary: John Dobson

Treasurer: Jerry Swift

2. 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. John Dobson would assist George Webster in this respect.

The meeting then closed at 5.20 pm.