

## **ESSEX AND SUFFOLK GLIDING CLUB LTD**

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 17th February 2016  
In the Clubhouse commencing at 19.00 hrs.

Present

Dave Wallis (DW) Secretary  
Steve Jones (SJ) Membership Secretary  
Ken Ward (KW) Treasurer  
Paul Robinson (PR) Publicity Officer  
Robert Godden (RG) Chairman  
Trevor Smith (TS) Joint Safety officer

Apologies for Absence.

Mike Haynes (MH) Technical Officer  
Dave Bolsden (DB) Joint Safety officer  
Martin Lawson (ML) Winch Master  
Alan Bilby (AB) Site Officer  
Jonathan Abbess (JA) Chief Flying Instructor

Approval of Previously approved Minutes for meeting held on 6th January 2016

Those present agreed the minutes unanimously.

### **Matters arising from those minutes**

A. At the last meeting we agreed to donate our spare logger to the TMG. *This is still to be agreed*

B. *It was decided that Trial lessons & Day courses will still get 3 months temporary membership but anyone using this will not be allowed to fly the club gliders solo.*

C. At last months meeting we discussed the possibility of restricting the use of turbo's close to the airfield as not to give the local protesters ammunition against our 2 year trial for extended TMG use.

*We had several comments and correspondence from the turbo users, and It was decided that a meeting of all turbo users should take place with a view of reaching an amicable agreement as a group. This will be chaired by Paul Robinson as the committee's representative.*

### **Membership Secretary's Report**

Welcome to new members:

Stephen Bloomfield, Full Member  
Nathan Sprawling, Junior Member  
Andrew Sullivan, Full Member

Updates to the website are in progress. The latest BGA medical requirements have now been included. Updates to reflect the new membership classes and charging are in progress and will be implemented as soon as possible after 1st April.

Preparation for issue of membership renewals is in progress with the intention to issue emails in the first week of March. Unfortunately it appears that revisions to the log system will not be ready in time for issue of the renewals so this will be largely a manual task.

## **Secretary's Report DW**

DW Requested that all committee members let him have their AGM reports in good time to allow him to circulate to the to the membership well before the AGM.

We also need to vote for the recipients of the trophies which are decided by the committee or CFI.

Jerry Newbery has asked us to make sure this year that the trophy in his name goes to the highest person on the club ladder who HADN'T done a 300K flight a this is what the trophy was originally provided for.

*DW will contact John Gilbert who runs the club ladder*

## **Will all members please note**

### **DUE TO A NUMBER OF REASONS THIS YEARS AGM IS POSTPONED UNTILL 2ND APRIL**

*As a result of this the committee meeting originally scheduled for 6th April has been brought forward to 23rd March*

## **Technical Officers Report MH**

Mike has been away for a number of weeks and therefore has nothing to report.

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## **Chairmans Report RG**

As a Further development of junior training RG suggested that a suitable glider could possibly be sourced and financed by sponsorship or a grant, for the exclusive use of juniors in club competitions.

If this was to go ahead it would be kept in its trailer and those juniors who were to use it would be trained to rig and de-rig and would be responsible for looking after it.

## **Site Officers Report AB**

Hard standing has now laid for the winch at the East end for use when the runway is to soft in the Winter months. This is to prevent the cable falling across the car park in cross wind conditions and Doug has notified all winch drivers.

We have filled all the potholes along the main track with road planning's and may thanks to all those who helped,

We have also filled one or two potholes on the peri track and we hoping that the contractor will assist with filling the rest with any surplus concrete over from the gas plant works.

The compound has been erected for the gas plant works and the fencing is behind the 12m strip which we agreed with the farmer under the land swap deal.

Jonathan is to mark up the peri track to prevent landing short when using the track in Winter.

I am to attend a meeting next Wednesday to discuss pipe line installation and will report back at the meeting later.

AB also reported that he has had talks regarding the pipeline and it is now known that it is to be of steel construction and will need to be laid in an open trench, welded and pressure tested before the ground is reinstated.

We are to be notified as soon as the contractors know the dates this will take place.

*This may affect club operations, especially if their is any northern component in the wind direction of any given day.*

*PR commented that if we were likely to receive any of the spare concrete from the gas plant works to repair the peri track, that a drum of bonding agent should be sourced to line the holes with, other wise the new concrete would soon break out.*

## Winch Master's Report ML

I have little to report other than:-

Progress on the Kia is going well and the vehicle will be ready for the Spring.

The new "lay-by" location for the winch appears to be working well.

I would like to thank the members who are helping roll the field, this will make a great difference once we start using the grass again.

## Safety Officers Report DB & TS

Not much to report on the safety front. Checking and timetabling safety paperwork is nearly complete. By the time we are at the meeting the parachutes will have been repacked I will report on any issues at the meeting.

Steve mentioned to me a couple of weeks or so ago that we have no procedure for checking the wellbeing of out landing pilots in the soaring season who have not returned or been heard from for a while or indeed since they launched. After giving it some thought, I don't think there is much we can practically do, but I am open to suggestion. we could of course always try "Spot The Glider" to see if we could find him/her.

In the unlikely case of an accident of some description I think the emergency services will have dealt with it in the first instance and hopefully got word back to us somehow. The only issue I can see is do we need to think about someone going to see next of kin etc. in the event of serious injury or worse?

*TS reported that the parachutes had now all been repacked, one was out of date, and one or two others were getting tired and would need replacing soon.*

*The monitoring of land outs and non returning aircraft on cross country days was discussed, and TS will work on a system to put in place so no pilot who has landed out and is unable to contact the airfield gets forgotten.*

***The K21 was damaged recently and no incident report was filed until George Green DI'd it on Sunday 7th February. It did not fly on Friday the 5th or Saturday the 6th so the damage must have been done on Wednesday 3rd February.***

***It looks as though we will have to make an insurance claim and therefore will need to know the circumstances, time and pilot concerned. The committee wish to make it clear this is not a witch hunt and just need the details. Will anybody who is aware of how this happened please make themselves known to a member of the committee***

## CFI's Report JA

Well done to Vernon Bettle and Mark Butcher who have completed their instructor "A" module and have started the "B" module work.

Eddie and I attended a CFI meeting where BGA accidents were reviewed and instructing techniques discussed. One decision arising from discussions of K13 woes was that the K21 cannot be used for spin training, even with the factory tail weight modifications.

I have got a loose agreement from PZL that they will bring the demonstrator Perkoz to Wormingford "in the spring" when they resume their tour of U.K. clubs.

## Treasurer's Report KW

Nothing significant to report. Will have the end of year report soon and the budget for next year.

## Publicity Officers Report PR

On the evening of January 19th. Ken Ward and myself attended a conference by Active Essex concerning funding for sports clubs. This was very informative and illuminating and I attach a PDF of the meeting. This will indicate what funding is available for various uses and the sources.

*The Committee discussed the various funding which could be available and will return to the discussion when a full committee is present.*

*PR suggested 14th & 14th August as our date to host the inter-club league.*

PR is looking for members to commit to helping on the clubs open days and will prepare a form to be handed out at the AGM

If any member has connections with car clubs or similar he is looking for displays for the Open day ( wings and wheels)

### Any Other Business

1.) Paul Foulger had notified the club that he is standing down from organising the Christmas Dinner.

We are looking for a club member to take this on, it doesn't necessarily have to be a Christmas Dinner, it could be an annual dinner and trophy presentation in say January or February when venue rates will be less expensive.

**Will anybody interested in taking this on please contact either Paul Foulger or the committee**

2.) The committee has received a number of negative comments regarding the proposed increase in fees particularly for caravan parking. The thinking behind this was that even at the new price it was still around half that of commercial caravan storage.

*However we have listened to your comments and have decided to reduce the fees for caravans to the same as for trailers. This was suggested by one of the caravan owners and we think that this is a fair compromise.*

*The proposed increase in membership fees will need to be ratified at the AGM*

3.) ML asked for approval to have the base for the MT shed extension laid as soon as possible as we have been quoted a very reasonable price of £2300 by the local contractor who laid the original base. This price is only available while the contractor is quiet and will increase substantially if we wait until later in the year.

*The committee voted in favour of this proposal unanimously by all those present.*

Secondly ML suggested that we consider purchasing a second tractor primarily for grass cutting. If the grass cutting head was permanently attached this would save around half an hour every time it was removed or refitted. Safety was also crucial factor as we cannot ask inexperienced members to carry out this task.

A second tractor would make the whole grass cutting operation much more efficient.

*It was agreed that this is a good idea which should be followed up when the MT shed extension is completed.*

*RG has a farming contact who is familiar with farm machinery auctions and has offered to help us source a suitable tractor and a reasonable price when the time comes.*

4.) Paul Foulger has indicated his wish to hand over the role of clubhouse calendar and Diary entries for gliding experiences, trial lessons, and day courses to some body else.

*Steve Jones has agreed to take this on in the short term.*

*It is planned that in the near future the booking system will be fully electronic and duty instructors will be able to print off the days bookings each flying day, and this will have contact details and all the other information required to process trial lessons etc.*

*It was decided in principle to remove the facility of 3 months temporary membership for Gliding Experiences noting that these are very rarely converted to full membership. SJ to report on any implications for this at the next meeting*

5.) JA has asked for clarification on how the instructor training subsidy should be administered.

*Ken will speak with Cath but proposed that instructors under training should inform the bookkeeper to claim their expenses on a monthly basis and she will credit their flying account.*

There being no other business to discuss the meeting closed at 21.25 hrs.

The next meeting is on March 23rd 2016 COMMENCING AT 19.00 hrs. in the clubhouse.