

MINUTES OF
THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE HAA BOARD
HELD AT THE WEST LONDON AEROCLUB
ON 18 JANUARY 2017

Present:

Rick Peacock-Edwards	President
Wally Epton	Chairman
Allan Vogel	Treasurer
Richie Piper	Webmaster
Malcolm Ward	Secretary

1. Introductory Remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting by reminding attendees that they had been given a mandate by the HAA Council to change the way in which the HAA was managed. The new HAA board would temporarily manage the affairs of the HAA, pending the results of the strategy review, which would report to the forthcoming AGM. The board would initially consist of 5 members: the President, Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and one "floating" member. This would be initially Richie Piper as Webmaster, in recognition of the importance of the current work to move the website onto a new platform and to regain the ability to update all aspects of the website, without recourse to external and often unresponsive specialists. Over the course of the year, once the new website had been brought on line, it would probably be appropriate to stand Richie down and to ask Chris Royle to join the board, to ensure that appropriate focus would be applied to the arrangements for the 2017 symposium.

2. Apologies for Absence. None.

3. Modus Operandi

The Chairman had circulated a suggested list of sub-groups, to take forward various issues facing the HAA and the wider historic aircraft industry. After some discussion, it was agreed that the majority of these groups did not need more than one person to function effectively. Where consultation was required, this could be conducted just as well by one person as by a group; conversely, routine business would be better handled immediately by one person, rather than convening a gathering of a sub-group. Accordingly, it was decided that a better title was required, to reflect the fact that the board was to be supported by representatives, not groups. "Topic Leads" was suggested, but was not felt to be quite right: ex-committee suggestions were requested. **Action:** All.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes of the council meetings held on 13 Sep and 6 Dec 2016 were approved.

5. Matters Arising

The actions from previous council meetings were reviewed. The updated open actions list is attached to these minutes.

Prompted by the action on the acquisition of pop-up display stands, which had already been completed, Barry Tempest had kindly offered to donate a display stand to the HAA. The Chairman

had agreed to take custody of this. Additionally, Nigel Foster had indicated that Haywards Aviation might be able to produce banner inserts for the display stands in-house for less than the HAA might be able to negotiate elsewhere. This would be borne in mind for future needs.

6. Strategic Review

Board members had reviewed the TORs for the Strategy Review Task Force (SRTF) and agreed that the TORs covered the key points. The Secretary reported that the date of the first meeting of the SRTF had been fixed for Tue 24 Jan 2017 at Old Warden. It was hoped to have at least initial conclusions in time to brief the membership at the AGM and Flying Forum on Sun 19th Mar 2017. However, it was likely that any significant changes would have to be proposed and voted on at a later EGM, as time until the planned AGM was short.

7. Political Developments

The Chairman briefed the board on the inaugural meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on General Aviation, which had convened the day before, 17 Jan 2017. The APPG on GA had been established by Byron Davies, the MP for Gower and had invited wide representation from the GA community to its first meeting; the HAA had been represented by the Chairman and Secretary. Steve Crocker had attended as an independent consultant. It was recognised that there was a plethora of issues threatening GA, but the APPG intended to focus initially on 2 key issues: airfields, and youth engagement.

The Chairman also informed the board that he had been invited to meet Lord Ahmad, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport (Minister for Aviation), to brief the Minister on the HAA's plans for Self-Administration. It was understood that the CAA would be represented at the briefing by Tony Rapson, Head of GA. The briefing was scheduled to take place on Tue 21 Feb 2017. The board agreed that it would be helpful for the HAA President to join the meeting.

8. Financial Update

The Treasurer reported that the finances remained sound, with a healthy balance at the bank. Outgoings had been similar to those of the previous year. It was observed that this was a creditable achievement, given that the HAA had agreed to make significant one-off investment in the website update this year. The Chairman asked for an invoice to be raised by the Treasurer to cover the speakers' expenses from the Symposium, and sent to WJE Associates Ltd for appropriate payment action. **Action:** Treasurer.

9. Membership Update

The membership secretary had submitted a report ex-committee. Membership remained steady at just over 200.

10. HAA Events & PR Update

PR. Andy Smith as PR member had submitted a report ex-committee. The main PR task at present was publicising the review of the HAA's strategic direction. Some media outlets had expressed the view that the topic would be more newsworthy when the conclusions were available. However, he was optimistic that the press release would find resonance with the specialist magazines. The Board expressed disappointment that some magazines might not publish the press release and would await the outcome of the Strategic Review before reporting what the HAA was doing. The Board accepted that some magazines would like to know what conclusions the SRTF might reach, but nonetheless the news that the HAA had launched this review was felt to be worth announcing to the press. This Press Release would be included in the next HAA newsletter targeted for mid February. The Newsletter should also announce forthcoming visits and details of the AGM & Flying Forum.

Visits. Jo Ayres as the newly-appointed visits coordinator had also submitted an ex-committee update. She had proposed a comprehensive list of possible venues for HAA visits; details would be finalised in time for publicising in the newsletter. She had also made some constructive suggestions for the strategy review, which the Secretary agreed to pass on to the task force. **Action:** Secretary.

11. Website Development

The Webmaster briefed the board that the migration of the content from the old website to the new one was progressing. However, the new contractor had proved to be elusive in recent weeks and progress had been slower than anticipated. The new website would function independently of the hardware on which the content was viewed, i.e. it would automatically adjust to smartphones and tablets, as well as laptops and PCs. The new website would also contain links to the HAA's presence on social media. Ticket sales to HAA events would be priced inclusive of web payment charges, so that the total price was transparent to the user. Membership renewal was not yet enabled via the new website, but could be enabled via card payment (not BACS) in future. In summary, the Webmaster confirmed that the new website represented a viable start on the new platform, although it was not yet as mature as had been expected.

It was confirmed that the Tuonome domain name fees had been paid in 2012 for a period of 5 years. Accordingly, the registration currently expired in November this year. It was agreed that the Chairman and Webmaster would liaise with Tuonome on the important issue of Server Name Changes immediately. In addition Richie Piper would become the Registered Keeper of the Domain Name in place of Ken Peters. Richie would then liaise with Tuonome and the Treasurer to action timely renewal of the domain name and payment of the required fee. **Action:** Chairman & Webmaster.

(Post meeting note: The Chairman, Webmaster and the former Treasurer, Ken Peters, have communicated with Tuonome to action the required changes outlined above.)

12. HAA Trophies

DSMT Award for 2016. The winner of the 2016 award had been chosen. The winner would be announced and the trophy presented at a suitable occasion, in the near future.

Conrod Trophy for 2017. As the trophies officer was known to be away for the next few weeks, the Chairman kindly agreed to circulate members with a request for nominations for this year's award of the Conrod Trophy. **Action:** Chairman.

13. Arrangements for 2017 AGM & Flying Forum

Shuttleworth had kindly agreed to the HAA AGM & Flying Forum being held again at Old Warden. The agreed date was Sunday 19th March 2017. Details had already been published on the HAA website. The level of the donation to the Shuttleworth Trust was discussed and it was agreed to raise this to £200 this year. Barry Tempest had agreed to deliver his annual review of air display accidents, but time was running out to secure additional high-calibre speakers for the Flying Forum part of the event. Richie Piper kindly volunteered to approach Matt Dearden, a Catalina pilot, to see if he was available to speak. **Action:** Richie Piper. Additionally, Wally Epton offered to approach the AAIB and/or the CAA, to see if they would be willing to provide a speaker. **Action:** Chairman. As noted under agenda item 6, any changes to the HAA Rules arising from the recommendations of the SRTF would most likely be presented to an EGM during the course of the year, because the rules required one calendar month's notice of any proposed changes to be presented to the membership.

14. Any Other Business. None.

15. Date of Next Meeting.

It was agreed that a teleconference or e-mail exchange would be held to agree the final arrangements for the AGM & Flying Forum. The electronic meeting was scheduled for Mon 6th February 2017.

Attachment:

Open Actions List.