

BMFA Scotland Area Members' Meeting

Tuesday 10th March 2026, via Zoom

1. Apologies for absence: Iain Nicol; David Storey, Clyde Valley Flyers; David Bouchard, East Fortune Aeromodellers.

2. Club attendance and establishing voting strength:

Angus Model Flying Club, Ayr Model Flying Club, Balbedie Aeromodelling Club, Burns Country Model Flying Club, Clyde Valley Flyers, Country Members, Dornoch Model Flying Club, Glenluce and Galloway Flyers, Glenrothes Aeromodelling Club, Inverurie and District Model Flying Club, Warrix Flying Group.

Total voting strength of 11. Note - Glenrothes delegate joined 8pm after attending the BMFA Areas Committee.

Members present:

Alasdair Sutherland – Clyde Valley Flyers
Alex Kennedy – Warrix Flying Group
Alison Hicks – Clyde Valley Flyers
Charles Sutherland – Clyde Valley Flyers
Colin McCann – Warrix Flying Group
Derrick Allison – Warrix Flying Group
Douglas Cowan – Warrix Flying Group
Iain Bell – Angus Model Flying Club
Jim Dunlop – Ayr Model Flying Club
John Carson – Balbedie Aeromodelling Club
John North – Inverurie and District Model Flying Club
Jordan Pedersen – Cumbernauld Model Flying Club
Ken Ward – Country Member
Mark Christie – Glenrothes Aeromodelling Club
Michael Williamson – Country Member
Nick Reeves – Burns Country Model Flying Club
Nigel Miscampbell – Glenluce and Galloway Flyers
Stuart Savage – Burns Country Model Flying Club
Thomas Smith – Dornoch Model Flying Club

3. Minutes of previous meeting held on Tuesday 11th November 2025

Proposed - Country Members

Seconded – Glenluce and Galloway Flyers

No matters arising.

4. Reports from officers

a. Chairman, Alasdair Sutherland

As read out: I am compiling a list of events that may be of interest to modellers in Scotland. I have already started, and posted an early version on the Area website and Facebook page. Please, if you are aware of other events of interest, let me know the details and I'll add them in for future issues.

I should point out that this Friday, the Dumbarton Club is holding its annual Bring & Buy auction in Dumbarton's football Club, near the castle. Please make all your clubmates aware. Might be your lucky night for a bargain. And the F3A aerobatic season kicks off on Saturday 21st at Glenrothes Club.

Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust in Bridgeton, has invited a couple of model aircraft clubs, including Cumbernauld and CVF to take part in their model day on Sunday 12th April. We're not sure yet what is involved but if you pass the word around your clubs we may get enough interest to make it an annual indoor event and a chance to show off aeromodelling to the public, and the BMFA Scotland Area.

Strathclyde University Engineering has again used model aircraft design as a third year design project, involving around 80 students, male and female. The CVF has again agreed to host the end-of-year competition, on dates yet to be decided. More details under AOB

As Area chairman and committee member of the Clyde Valley Flyers, the SAA approached me with an idea to hold a scale event of some kind in Scotland. We discussed what type of event and I'd like to bring up recent developments under AOB.

If you feel that the CVF is getting a disproportionate amount of attention and funding, just because two of the committee belong to that club, I quite understand. And as I see it, the way to redress the balance and get your own club better known is to elect a member of your club onto the committee. I urge you to remember that when we comes to the item on the agenda, "elections for vacant posts".

Achievement Scheme Report (in the absence of ASC)

The successful T&T events last year were arranged jointly with the SAA as two-day weekend events to give a choice of weather conditions. We arranged four in Central Scotland, but one was cancelled in advance due to weather. I have agreed with the SAA that the Scotland Area would like to continue the same arrangement this year. That does not preclude the Area from agreeing to arrange additional Test days for a club too far from the events in the Central belt, and they need not be joint events if the SAA does not wish to take part. So if a club, in the far north or south of Scotland or out on the islands, has a need for Achievement scheme testing, please get in touch and we'll do our best. Examiners who travel outwith their own clubs may claim expenses.

b. Treasurer, Nigel Miscampbell

Account for Nov 2025 to March 2026: out going bank fees - £17, postage - £4.3.

Closing balance - £3,947.60

Tonight is the BMFA Areas meeting for proposal of finance. Scotland Area has requested £3,700 to help with long distance travel of examiners, Mark Christie agreed to attend that meeting. He will hopefully join us later.

- c. **Secretary, Alison Hicks** - No correspondence. Nothing to report
- d. **Drone Representative, Michael Williamson** – nothing to report
- e. **Country Member Representative, Ken Ward** – nothing to report

5. Elections for vacant posts

- a. **Vice-chairman** – Jordan Pedersen

Proposed by Balbedie Aeromodelling Club. Seconded by Country Members.

7 yes votes, none against.

- b. **Area Delegate to BMFA** – Jordan Pedersen

Proposed by Warrix Flying Group. Seconded by Country Members.

8 yes votes, none against.

- c. **Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator** – Nick Reeves

Proposed by Burns Country Club. Seconded by Warrix Flying Group.

8 votes, none against.

- d. **Flying Disciplines Representative** – still to be filled

- e. **Communications** – Jordan Pedersen will handle FaceBook whilst the post remains vacant.

- f. **Outreach Officer** – still to be filled

Note – Around 7.30, Area Drone Officer, Michael Williamson, had internet issues and could not reconnect for the rest of the meeting.

9. AOC.

Scale Event – The chair elaborated on the UK wide Scale Event that has been proposed by the SAA for Sunday 19th July 2026. The SAA had approached the Clyde Valley Flyers with the idea of this major Scale Event could be held at the CVF field. The event will include the presentation of the Bill Grimsley Scale trophy, funded by the SAA.

It would be a good opportunity for BMFA Scotland Area to support the initiative, so promote the BMFA and scale fly-in events in Scotland. To that end a proposal had been submitted by Glenrothes Club to organize a joint scale fly-in event with the SAA at the CVF field in July with a pre-spend authorization of up to £750. The Chair had been authorised to put the proposal in front of the members if Mark Christie had not finished at the other meeting in time.

The proposal was shared on screen for all to read and later posted in the chat:

BMFA Scotland officers are granted the authority by the members representatives to allocate £750, from the underspent event funding in 2024-2025 (£1k) & 2025-2026 (£500), to support the Scotland wide scale fly-in being proposed to be held by Clyde Valley Flyers (CVF) Sunday 19th July 2026.

The event will be jointly hosted by CVF / SAA / BMFA Scotland, and as such the total financial support for the event will be evenly split between SAA and BMFA Scotland to support CVF.

The sanctioned pre-spend of £750 may or may not be the final funding request but should suffice to allow the event organisation to proceed.

It is further requested that if the pre-sanction is agreed then the BMFA Scotland officers update the club reps as to total final potential costs at the next scheduled meeting which will be in June 2026 approximately 1 month before the actual event.

There followed a frank and honest discussion.

At 8pm Mark Christie joined the meeting. He had attended the BMFA Areas meeting which had just finished. He stated that the Scotland Area received the full amount that had been requested. The additional funding was to help with the long distances that examiners have to travel to serve the BMFA clubs here in Scotland. The Chair and meeting attendees all thanked Mark for his original proposal as outgoing Treasurer and for his attendance at the meeting tonight.

Mark then answered some questions about the Glenrothes' proposal.

Seconded by Glenluce and Galloway Flyers. 7 yes votes, none against.

Outreach Event – the Chair detailed the outreach program which the Clyde Valley Flyers undertake every year with the University of Strathclyde Engineering Department. This brings annually between 80 and 100 mainly young people into contact with our hobby. The CVF are trying to widen this type of event by encouraging other academic institutions to provide a practical project as part of the study course; with the goal eventually to have inter-institution competitions similar those at Elvington. Initially, the institutions would need support from their local model flying clubs, where outreach funds could be made available.

As an outreach event the BMFA should be supporting these types of events. The Chair would like to suggest a fund of £300 be provided to the CVF to assist with this outreach event.

Proposed by Glenluce and Galloway Flyers.

Seconded by Glenrothes Aeromodelling Club. 8 yes vote, none against.

Next meeting agreed: 23rd June 2026

Proposed by Glenluce and Galloway Flyers. Seconded by Country Members. 7 yes vote

Meeting closed at 8:21pm