



Essex Gliding Club

Committee Meeting Wednesday 26th September 2018,
19.00hrs Ashen Hall.

Those present: John Whitwell, Allen Cherry, Bernard Parry, Vince Earl. By invitation – Dave Hertzberg.
Apologies received from: Will Burry, Steve Jessup, Chris Read, Alex Harris.

Opening remarks from our new Chairman John Whitwell. (A brief outline)

Attracting new members is vital, and Dave will set the scene on this, but we all need to contribute.

The Questionnaire has thrown up a lot of concerns, not least our Launch Point disciplines, poor launch rate and late starts: these, unlike some other issues, are entirely in our own hands and we can and must take immediate action.

There are a huge number of other things that we urgently need to discuss and this very full evening agenda will merely scratch the surface.

Above all we need to start thinking of EGC as though it is a business. Our Business Objective must be to make certain that all our membership work effectively together in order to ensure that they and each other enjoy the sport that we all love.

Minutes of last meeting agreed as correct – Allen C.

Items from previous meeting:

Sale of heavy Astir & Radio courses to discussed with Alex. Photos of Astir needed.

Next year's Open Day – Committee decided that we were unlikely to be sufficiently prepared with the limited number of active members to ensure a safe event and voted to suspend any arrangements for a 2019 Open Day.

CASC report submitted from Chris R

Names & current addresses required by Chris of all committee members and other members to allow him to process changes to the directors and enable the transfer of shares.

Allen could you please confirm all current member names & addresses to Chris.

Action item for Allen)

Chris – suggested the display of a glider in St Peters Church, Dave H to survey the practical implications of doing this. Once a date/s decided media & publicity material would be required.

Looking towards April 2019 as a possibility.

Chris also outlined various items relating to general field operating procedures, trainee progress, briefings and launch organization – all points that need addressing ASAP.

Vince E – Fleet report.

KRX will go to factory, 1st October for ARC & Checks + Necessary repairs.

KRU repair to be carried out by John Gilbert.

Club Astir needs ARC, to trailered over to John Gilbert, time scale ??

Club K13 will need ARC in April 2019, meantime it can go to Rattlesden for the winter period.

Suggested that more use of Marianne should be made – seconded & thoroughly endorsed by Allen.

Marianne is on Allen's insurance which includes club use. Available for visitor flights and for members, especially those trying to get xcountry experience.

Bernard P - Tug pilots now in short supply and no Rota being produced makes organizing visitor flights that require a tug very difficult. Without a tug the increased use of winch launches then causes a log jam and seriously interferes with trainee & member's flying.

Mike Harris had promised to contact all tug pilots for some commitment and that he would provide a tug Rota in due course. **John W agreed to follow up** and discuss further with Mike H about the problem.



Essex Gliding Club

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Allen C – Report of Accounts as of 25th Sept 2018, copies available upon request.

Due to the tremendous effort from Allen, considerable savings have been made, so at the moment the club is in good financial order. However no time to be complacent, low membership combined with the lowest launch rate since Allen kept records from April 2014, 999 launches in 2014 only 561 this year. Both low membership and low flying income will impact on the club seriously if these points are not addressed as soon as possible. Something can be done immediately about launch rates – it is in our own hands – let's get organized and do it !

Club fees for members will not be increased for 2019.

Short discussion regarding the sale of land. The committee members present felt that a new mandate from all members might be appropriate because of the changed situation of the expected sale revenue. This needs to be discussed further at the next meeting when all committee members can be present. *Steve Jessup's request for the £300 consultation expenditure should be discussed at this next meeting.*

Illegal parking of gliders up towards the windsock was discussed and again this should be pursued at the next full committee meeting. However prior to the Car Boot sale on the 14th of October 2018, notification to all members with gliders parked in this area to be issued, stating that "All gliders in this area MUST be removed & parked elsewhere or derigged into their trailer before the event."

(Action item for John / Bernard)

2019 flying weeks to be advised later.

2019 courses – Maybe 4 students & 2 instructors – Only one course week next year.
Discus options with Alex for his decision.

John W – Local media & advertising should be pushed as much as possible.

Judging by the Taster Day responses the efforts have been effective.

We must "Advertise" to our own members to make sure all are kept informed of all events and any new club guide lines such as Starting earlier and getting launches regularly by 11am or earlier.

An organized launch point – more to come on this subject ASAP.

Next committee meeting to be arranged as soon as all committee members can be present.

Committee to complete the questionnaire ratings & return to Allen.

AOB:

Suggestion from Tony Brook that over the summer months we should employ a full time instructor ?

Those present thought it not a practical idea – unanimous vote of No.

Drainage briefly discussed with no definite conclusion, more input required.

Meeting closed at 10.30pm

Minutes by Secretary Bernard Parry