Hartlepool Model Flying Club

Minutes for the meeting held on
WEDNESDAY 19th August 2026
at South Durham Social Club
(Former Steelworks Club)

1. **Apologies for absence**
   Robert Walker, Steven Blackwood, Richard Atkins. Paul Breckon

   There were 5/22 members present

2. **Matters arising from last months minutes**
   No matter arising.

3. **Chairman's report**
   Nothing to report

4. **Secretary's report**
   Nothing to report.

5. **Treasurer's report**
   The club finances now stand as follows.
   Cash at the bank = £1055.41
   Cash in hand = £115.95
   Total = £1171.36

6. **Welfare officers report**
   Nothing to report

7. **BMFA delegate's report**
   Absent so nothing to report

8. **Club business**

- **Flying Field Update**
  The field flying strip is in very good condition. Access is now through the new gate (what is now the middle gate to the field) and the farmer has recently upgraded the entrance through this gate with bricks and hardcore material. I've been through it a few times and most of the bumps and lumps have been smoothed out. You will need to take it slowly until wet weather beds it in but it's still very easy to cross.
  If the gate is closed it needs to be kept this way. If it's wedged open then no problem but if you're in any doubt then close it.

- **Membership 2026**
  Paid up club membership currently stand at 22 members of which 19 are full members and 3 are social members.

- **Flyer & Operator ID Information.**
  We have 17 members with a Flyer ID and 19 with an Operator ID. If you have a Flyer ID and haven't yet sent the information to Bob please do so. If you haven't got it yet organise it ASAP.
  If you have a Flyer ID it lasts for 5 years so you should be ok if you got it last year. If you haven't got one please get it sorted.

- **BMFA Achievement Scheme**
  Anyone wanting to take the BMFA A or B competency certificate please see Mike or Bob.

- **Club Merchandise**
  We have club hats, caps & sun hats for sale after the meeting.

- **Events on the club website**
  There are a number of events posted on the club website, if anyone knows of others that club members would be interested in please let me know.
  Kevin reports that the Sutton Bank Gliding Club has a Slingsby Week at the end of August/Beginning of September.
  Indoor flying is due to start at the beginning of September with The Peterlee club on 5th and Nissan on the 12th

9. AOB

- **Lost Model & Critical Incident Reporting**
  About a week or so ago Steven Blackwood had a model go down and although seen going down couldn't be found. We've informed the farmer in case he comes across it. We pondered as to whether this would constitute a Critical Incident in the eyes of the BMFA. I've looked this up on the BMFA web site and it would appear not although the loss of a model when we're unsure if it caused damage etc. is a bit of a grey area but reporting this should be done straight away. There is a link to reporting these events on the BMFA website.

- **Club Web Site not operational**
  I've contacted the BMFA twice about this and the reply I got from Andy Symons, the BMFA support officer, is that there is an issue with the web server and when fixed it will be restored. I'll update you when I know more.

10. Next Months Activities.

The next Club meeting on 16th September

After the September meeting we will hold a Build a glider night. You will get an A4 size sheet of 3mm Depron and have time to create a glider for longest flight time. We will be trying to build to a theme of being more scale like. … well vaguely :o)
More details nearer the time.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm