Hartlepool Model Flying Club

Minutes for the meeting held on
WEDNESDAY 16th September 2026
at South Durham Social Club
(Former Steelworks Club)

1. **Apologies for absence**
   Paul Breckon, Paul Hewson, Steven Blackwood, Colin Kitching, Robert Kitching

   There were 5/22 members present

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

3. **Chairman's report**
   Chairman absent so 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**
  We have a problem with the flying field gate (the middle gate). The farmer has locked it shut and no longer wants cars in the field (all the gates are locked shut). I had a chat with him a few weeks ago and although he hasn't said anything specific there must be some problem with vehicles in the field. We don't think it's something our club members have done but we aren't sure.
  He has built an opening for us to walk through just to the left of the gate. This is now our access to the field. He may have this access blocked with temporary wire fencing to keep in any animals, just move it out of the way to get in. We now have to park outside, tuck your car in wherever you can, not blocking the road, and walk from there.
  The situation is not ideal so we're going to let things calm down a bit then approach him and try and find out what's going on. Please don't do or say anything to farm staff if you come across them, leave discussions to committee members.

  Of course the other option would be to find another field which, in the present climate, would be very difficult. A number of local clubs are also having field problems so finding a local land owner who would accept us AND making sure the field is outside of a no fly zone would not be easy.
  We are only just outside of a no fly zone at the moment. Check out no fly zones here.
  https://dronesafetymap.com/#loc=54.6349338,-1.2422551,12.039013339398917

- **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.
  Indoor flying has started with The Peterlee club on 1st and 3rd Saturdays and the Washington Club at Nissan on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays.

9. AOB

- **Club Web Site**
  The club website has been fixed and it now operational

- **Futaba Receivers**
  I think we've all had a safety email from the BMFA about updating certain version of Futaba receivers. If you use these please check them and update if necessary.

10. Next Months Activities.

The next Club meeting is on 21st October.
Postponed from the September meeting
After the October 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 8.30