



IVCMAC Committee meeting 3pm Sat 24th Oct 2026 – Minutes

1. **New membership sec** – The committee warmly thanked John Clarke for doing the job over many years and also Jon Sole for taking on the role. Jon confirmed that he has mastered the spreadsheets and black arts of the job.
2. **Club of the year trophy** – John Copsey has handed the trophy back and it will be awarded to the 2026 winners Keighley and District MFC. IVCMAC have been engraved on the trophy as the inaugural winners.
3. **Sponsorship of an aeromodelling class at IVC** - Tony Welchs daughter Holly is a new Arts teacher at IVC and hopes to run a model making club. We have agreed to sponsor her with BMFA kits up to £50 which Tony has bought and will send us the invoice. Note that as at present the club at the school has not started.
4. **IVCMAC 80th Anniversary coasters** – These have been made and donated to the club by new member Daniel Santos and we have offered him free membership for 2 years in return. We have 84 and plan to dish out to those attending the Christmas Party first and then offer to all adult members.
5. **Club Poles** – Bob Pigott has donated his 7m pole and we have bought a longer 11m pole. Alan has the small one and David Stopher keeps the long one. Contact details for David and Alan are in red on the Flying Sites page of the website.
6. **Review of summer flying arrangements** – We reviewed this and there was an increase in FF activity as well as a healthy turnout for RC and CL. Drone flying seems to have reached “peak drone”, but the gates we purchased help to keep low level drone flying away from others. In some ways the proposed new layout for 2027 will keep the FF away from low flying RC planes. A few things need action -
 - a. The Friday sessions are great for encouraging juniors, with plenty of help on hand. We need to keep this going.
 - b. RC Flightline discipline is average to poor at times. Safety Officer Stuart will remind everyone in the annual report and AGM, and we will need to be vigilant next year.
 - c. We could consider a marked “pilots stand here” line or use the windsock for this.
7. **Impact of new all weather sports pitch next year** – We don’t have any firm info, mainly rumours that building won’t start till April 2027. Key points were –
 - a. Once we see the scope of the build, walk the ground and firm up the current plan which looks like a good starting point – current 2027 plan shown overleaf.
 - b. New Risk Assessment required and new Friday guidelines.
 - c. Possibly ban fast heavy pointy aircraft capable of impaling bystanders.
 - d. Enforce better flightline discipline.
 - e. JCC and Alan to continue discussions with Girton Parish Council ref sole use on Friday evenings as a fallback position. Note that if we can get this, it may actually be a better option than IVC anyway.

8. **Review of indoor flying so far this winter** – The members survey voted to carry on with a mixed session and the 3 week cycle (rather than a 2 week cycle of 4 hours RC and 4 hours FF). There have been between 15 and 20 people coming to every session. For RC flying, we need to ensure that faster models don't start encroaching on the 15 minute "Ultra Slow" slot and this is particularly important when a lot of people are flying.
9. **Membership status** – Jon Sole gave an update. We are now at 118 members, 2 more than last year. Seniors are down 3, but Juniors are up by 5. We have 27 Juniors. A lot of members are irregular attendees, but the low fees encourage people to rejoin and this helps keep the receipts up.
10. **Financial position** – Treasurer George reported that the accounts will be finalised after the accounting year ends on 31st October, but initial indications are that we are about £100 down on this time last year with about £9,000 cash in the bank. The financial strategy remains to gradually reduce the cash fund in a sensible conservative manner. We agreed the following actions –
 - a. Annual subs from 1st Jan to be kept the same. £28 adults and £30 for indoor flying. Juniors remain free. BMFA subs will be announced soon, but as BMFA membership is well up this year, hopefully their subs won't increase too much.
 - b. There are no obvious big spends in the pipeline. Moving to Girton for Fridays will probably be cost neutral if we go down that route.
 - c. George will investigate an interest bearing account for some of our reserve funds.
11. **Christmas dinner** – This is being held once again at the Cambridge Motor Boat Club where Tony is a member. We are charging £15 per head with a cash bar. Buffet is £12 per head (was £10 last year) plus £100 for the room and barman so expect a small loss this year. We currently have 34 members signed up.
12. **Preparation of annual report** – Aiming to send to members on 7th November once accounts finalised and officers reports available.
13. **AGM** – This will be held on Saturday Nov 14th (Mixed flying Saturday with AGM held at 2.30 so uses 30 mins of RC time and should allow FF to start on time at 3pm).
14. **AOB** – The following points were raised.
 - a. Chris Hinson suggests a couple of summer indoor FF sessions. It costs £104 per 4 hour session. We agreed to fund one session next summer free of charge for all members as a trial.
 - b. Indoor flying in Histon Church – George to arrange another session.
 - c. After the meeting Paul Burling asked if we could have an indoor session next year in the large University sports hall (double the size of IVC). This would cost about £450 for a 4 hour booking, so needs careful thought. To be put on the AOB agenda for the AGM. Note that parking and drop off for models is an issue at the University and one of the reasons we did not do it this year. Also, if we have FF and RC at the same time, we lose the benefit of the big hall.

John Clarkes plan for Summer flying 2027

Red – NO FLY zone over the 3G Pitch with 4.5m fencing

Light Blue – Free Flight

Dark Blue – Control Line

Green – RC fixed wing Pits, Pilots ✦ and landing / take off area

Yellow – Low level Quad flying, Pits and pilots ✦

