



WHIRLWIND FIGHTER PROJECT

Whirlwindfighterproject.org

The Minutes of the Annual general Meeting held on the 16th of September at White Waltham.

Apologies.

Rob Bowater
Matt Painter
Stuart Hawkins
Mike Eastman
Mike May
Hugh Wheeler

Minutes of the last meeting.

Due to a total failure of the secretary's computer there are no minutes available from the last meeting.

The minutes were accepted as read regardless and all were in favour.

Vice Chairman's Report

Glad to be here at this meeting and to see the project starting to gather pace again after so long. There was some concern that the build had stopped but assembly is now going ahead care of Airframe Assemblies.

Secretaries report

Apologised to all members present about the delay and explained that due to our chairman not being well and as he was the primary builder we decided to wait. Matt and I collected the parts that had been cut from Mike and took them to Airframe Assemblies which is where they now are waiting for the skins to be pressed and added to the framework.

We are now in the process of getting a new website built to replace the original one that was taken down. We would like this to be the go to site for all things Whirlwind.

Treasures report

We have £4000 in the bank account which should cover the build of the fuselage and hopefully some left over to paint it. Although this may have to be a separate issue but an undercoat would be the least painting needed.

Matt spoke to Steve Vizard at Airframe Assemblies and he said that the Spitfire project that they had been working on had now been completed and work should start on P7056 on Monday the 17th of September, this will take approximately 4 weeks using the English wheel that was purchased from Westlands. Steve stated that they were happy with the Templates that Matt produced but concerned about the corrosion that was found on frame 10.

Would it be possible to create a special section on the new website so the details of the French Dig could be highlighted.

Selection of Officers.

The committee stood down and a vote was taken and all were in favour of the committee standing for another year.

AOB

Patrice wanted to know if there were any parts recovered from the French dig that needed scanning and if so could we approach Matt Painter for his help, and would it be possible to produce small parts from a 3D printer.

Matt again spoke about the two Whirlwinds on Dartmoor and had hoped that one of the elderly ladies had ventured out on to the moor again to find where the engine was seen back in 1980ish. Matt said that he would ring her and find out.

Several searches had been made not only on the ground but also studying ariel maps but nothing had been found due to the difficult terrain.

Brian Barnes asked if mineral detecting was allowed but apparently it isn't.

A magnometer is needed but this requires a license.

David Eadsforth asked what sort of a plan do we have for moving forward and what section will be constructed next. After a discussion it was though that the best way forward would be this;

- 1) Finish fuselage
- 2) Tail plane
- 3) Cockpit section and nose
- 4) Main Spar

Once no1 is finished that would give as a good framework of visible parts to help raise money to complete the build.

The secretary asked if anyone new someone who could help with the fundraising and Daved Eadsforth said that Robert Plemming of the Vulcan to the Sky trust was a neighbour and that he would have a chat with him.

The secretary was asked to write to Hawkinge Museum to see if they are interested in showing the fuselage as a way of raising funds.

Also, to write to the RAF museum to see if they would be interested to have the finished P7056 there.

Thanks go to.

Ewan Watson for his kind donation and also to Colin Smithson for donating the money for our new bomb rack.

Jim Munro for sourcing the venue for the meeting.

The meeting was closed at 15:00hrs.