

REPORT ON APRIL 2016 BOARD MEETING

At our April Board meeting the first order of the day was to approve the 2015 audited accounts. The Board then confirmed the appointment of Steve Slater to the role of CEO after a six month probationary period. Steve took over at a very busy time, with renegotiation of the HQ lease, our A8-26 application requiring completion and the Association's 70th anniversary year just around the corner – to name just three of the major issues. All three of those items are now resolved or well advanced and Steve had impressed everybody with his boundless energy and practical approach.

Regarding HQ, with a new five-year lease confirming our commitment to remain at our current headquarters, we will be taking more space from mid to late summer and plans are afoot to remodel the current layout to better suit our needs. A budget has been allocated for the work and Steve will be presenting a costed proposal at the May Board meeting. It is expected that the work will be carried out later this year.

The A8-26 approval has now been agreed by the CAA and we will receive the formal document at an official handover in May. The Approval provides future opportunities for the Association as well as 'tidying up' a somewhat mish-mash set of changing and growing agreements that we have run the Association under since the 1950s.

The 70th celebrations are taking form with a cross-channel event, a Round Britain Tour and additional Rally features in the pipeline. A £15,400 budget was agreed to cover these and additional events.

A celebratory formal dinner is being arranged which will include the presence of some of our former senior officials who have guided the organisation to the prominence it enjoys today. There will be an opportunity for members to attend this function, which will be held at the RAF Club in London on the evening of Monday 24th October.

Following the success of the Kit Agents' Seminar in February, we have acted on a request from the gyroplane fraternity for a similar event. This is scheduled to take place at Old Warden on Friday June 3 and all are welcome to attend. The event is subject to pre-booking and further details will be placed on the website.

A report on the Night/IFR project showed that progress continues to be made and we are close to reaching a satisfactory conclusion. A survey on the subject has been arranged to ascertain those likely to apply. This too is on the website.

On the subject of surveys, the 2016 Membership Survey has been launched and we should have the results by the May Board meeting. These results will be a considerable benefit to the GS&P (Governance, Strategy and Planning) committee in formulating a new Strategy Plan for the Association for the years ahead.