

NORTH WEST AEROSPACE ALLIANCE
MINUTES OF THE TWENTY FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held on Wednesday 4th December 2024
At Dunkenhalgh Hotel, Accrington, Lancashire

Present

Chairman

Prof Andrew Schofield

A Schofield Aero Consultancy Ltd

Directors, North West Aerospace Alliance

Paula Gill

NWAA

Attendees

Andrew Schofield	NWAA Chairman
Paula Gill	NWAA CEO
Beth Owen	AIRBUS
Rick Prosser	BAE
Melissa Conlon	AMRC
Lynne Gillen	DBT
Jeff Cheetham	Blue Sky Consulting

	First Name	Surname	Job Title	Company
1	David	Bailey	Director	Aerospace Consulting Ltd
2	Nicola	Bardsley	Managing Director	Safran Nacelles Limited
3	Paul	Barker	Founder	Enter Engineering
4	Paul	Bell	Programme Manager	North West Aerospace Alliance
5	Dominic	Best	Data Enforcement Manager	Perfect Support
6	Emily	Bowdler	Client Relationship Manager	Blackpool and the Fylde College
7	Alan	Brierley	Director	Jeaton Aerospace
8	Neil	Broad	Business Development Manager	Dynamic Metals
9	Andrea	Burton	General Manager	3 D 360 LTD
10	Neil	Calder	Director	Engineered Capabilities Ltd
11	Jeff	Cheetham	Managing Director	Blue Sky Growth Solutions
12	Terrie	Christie	Executive PA	North West Aerospace Alliance
13	Simeon	Collins	CEO	Wallwork Ltd
14	Melissa	Conlon	Commercial Director	AMRC North West
15	Richard	Craddock	General Manager	A&G Precision & Sons Ltd
16	Scott	Elliott	Director	Vault Consultancy
17	Lee	Fogg	Technical Director	3 D 360 LTD
18	Pat	Garth	Business Development	Graham Engineering Ltd
19	Ian	Hamilton	Business Development Manager	Sylatech

20	Nev	Hammond	Outside Sales Manager	FDH Aero Ltd
21	Mark	Heaton	Accountant	KM Accountants
22	Rob	Higham	CEO	Additive Manufacturing Solutions Ltd
23	Conor	Hitchin	Sales Manager	Bowers
24	Gary	Hodgson	Digital Solutions Consultant	Meritec Ltd
25	Joseph	Horne	Business Development Lead	University of Bolton
26	Joshua	Ingham	International Sales Manager	Cygnets-Textimp
27	Andrew	Johnson	Consultant	SpaceSpecialistsLtd
28	Howard	Maher	Group Sales Manager	Wallwork Ltd
29	Emma	Makin	Finance Manager	North West Aerospace Alliance
30	Giles	Mason	Sales Manager	Brookhouse Aerospace Limited
31	James	McGann	Tender & Procurement Manager	Oil Recoveries
32	Debbie	Mellor	Managing Director	Keighley Laboratories Ltd
33	Richard	Mullings	Business Development Manager	EDM Ltd
34	Tim	Ogle	Director	Toggle Switch Consulting
35	Adam	Patterson	Strategy Director	Safran Nacelles Limited
36	Bruce	Poston	New Business Consultant	TECHNIA UK
37	Adrian	Pragnell	Business Development Manager	Electron Beam Processes Ltd
38	Mark	Preston	Sales Director	MGS TECHNICAL PLASTICS
39	Mark	Radcliffe	Business Development Manager	MAPAL LTD
40	Charles	Rooke	Head of Sales & Commercial	Senior Aerospace Weston
41	Lyndon	Royall	Business Development Manager	Gradient Business Services
42	Ray	Stott	Co-Founder	SpaceSpecialists Ltd
43	Howard	Taylor	Area Sales Manager	NCMT Limited
44	Abbie	Taylor	Business Engagement Executive	Blackpool and the Fylde College
45	Natasha	Thomas	Marketing & Events Assistant	North West Aerospace Alliance
46	Victoria	Thompson	Marketing Manager	Ford Aerospace
47	Paul	Tierney	Commercial Executive	Tom Martin & Co. Ltd
48	Emily	Wilde	Client Relationship Manager	Blackpool and the Fylde College
49	Andy	Witts	VP Engineering	SpaceSpecialists

1. Apologies were received from the following board members

Anthony Hammond	Hyde Aero Products
Ged O'Dwyer	MBDA
Jon Bridges	Velocity Composites
Sara Underwood	Rolls Royce
Helen Binns	Beever and Struthers
Dion Williams	Lancaster University
Annette Weekes	PDS

2. Approval of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 4th December 2024

It was proposed by Lyndon Royall from Gradient and seconded by Richard Mullings of EDM that the minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting held on 4th December 2024 be accepted as a correct record.

3. CEOs Address

Paula Gill presented an overview of key achievements and progress in 2024, detailing a membership increase of 50.5% with the highest rate of members since 2014, 25 events held in the year to date with over 1000 delegates attending Digital Transformation Events, Mix & Mingles, Roundtables as well as Conferences and Exhibitions supported, such as the Farnborough Airshow where we had 28 pods on our stand, DSEI, the Advanced Engineering and ATI Conferences. The first part of Watchtower programme engaged over 90 businesses and part two of this programme has now been awarded and started. The NWAA engaged with Central Government at Ministerial Level and gave input and influence to the Industrial Strategy Green Paper response. The Annual Conference 2024 was held under the wings of Concorde, titled "The Growth of Advanced Engineering & Manufacturing In A Digital World" and featured many notable speakers. The years events drew to a close with the Annual Ball, this year raising £5310 for the MNDA charity and today's AGM and Winter Forum.

Engagement with numerous Primes and OEMs and partners such as Siemens and IBM as well as the North West Space Cluster, Northern Automotive Alliance has proved successful. An overview was also provided of the current contracted work, which includes UKSPF, DTEP, the ATI SME programme and also the ADS SCS programme.

Operational demands and a commitment to excellence have influenced the need for a new membership pricing model which Paula outlined and will be phased in from April 1st 2025.

4. Accounts to 31 March 2024

Mark Heaton, MD of KM Accounting gave a presentation on the Annual Accounts for 2023-2024, indicating a positive outcome for the year.

The Accounts were proposed by Debbie Mellor of Keighley Labs and seconded by Charlie Rooke of Snr Aerospace Weston

5. Election of Board Members & Nominations of New Directors

The chairman announced that he had completed 3 years as chair of the NWAA and has stated his intent not to stand for re-election. The board are currently going through a process of appointing a new chair.

The Chairman noted the following retirements from the board during 2024 and acknowledged their contribution and support to the NWAA.

Peter Lord (Rolls Royce)
Tom Wormleighton (Safran).

The Chairman announced a new board member would be joining the board from Safran in the new year and the following new director was announced and nominated for Election:

Sara Underwood (Rolls Royce)

The members voted unanimously in favor of this election.

The following board members were presented for re-election during the next calendar year.

Jeff Cheetham - Blue Sky Solutions
Jon Bridges - Velocity Composites
Lynne Gillen - Department of Business & Trade
Ged O'Dwyer - MBDA
Beth Owen - Airbus
Annette Weeks - Pursuit Aerospace
Dion Williams - University of Lancaster

6. Chairman's Address

Prof Andrew Schofield gave an outlook for 2024 which aimed to focus on building on the stability and effectiveness of the organisation and the board, continuing to raise the profile of the NWAA across the region and deliver the refreshed strategy, which aims to improve the engagement with the NWAA stakeholders, deliver added value to the membership, develop the capability in the region and provide a collaborative environment.

In order to gain feedback from the AGM attendees, a series of questions were asked regarding strategic priority, areas for the NWAA to focus more on and topics for future AGMs. The responses identified collaboration, meet the buyer and member success stories are areas to focus on.

7. AoB

There were no AoB remarks and the AGM members thanked the NWAA team for their contribution during 2023. Paula Gill thanked the Chairman for his contribution to the NWAA for the last 3years and closed the meeting, asking for feedback from the members.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at
12:30.

Signed

Prof Andrew Schofield

Chairman

December 2024