Institution of MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

IMechE Aerospace North West

11 March 2026
Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the IMechE Aerospace North West committee was held on **Wednesday 11 March 2026** and held **at UCLAN**. The meeting commenced at **18:30** and lasted until **19:30**.

Chair	Dr. Arun Natarajan
Vice Chair	Rahul Marya
Immediate Past Chair	Dave Entwistle
Hon Secretary	Owen Midha
Hon Treasurer	Manuel Donald-Lopez
Website & Publicity Officers	Luca Filisetti Alex Thorpe-Morgan
Affiliate members	Rebecca Donald-Lopez Mohammed Adil Patel Josh Greaves Iman Rama Neil Monks Edwin Chacko Amy Cuthbertson Alistair Milliken Elliott Chan Khaleel Mamsa Adam Roscow Joe Howell Mike Osborn Ajay Bains Khemare Chung Pascal Darley Will Dunford Wayne Heatman Muhallab Ismaily Natasha James Deio Jones Tyler Jones Alex Oldham Kellan P. Albert Williams Jack Wilson-Farrand Tom Stoner Michael Parker

1 ATTENDEES

Arun Natarajan Chair

Rahul Marya	Vice Chair
Owen Midha	Hon Secretary
Alex Thorpe-Morgan	Website & Publicity Officer
Luca Filisetti	Website & Publicity Officer
Dave Entwistle	
Khaleel Mamsa	
Neil Monks	
Elliott Chan	
Edwin Chacko	
Deio Jones	
Michael Parker	
Khemare Chung	
Natasha James	
Tom Stoner	
Kellan P.	

2 APOLOGIES WERE RECEIVED FROM

Manuel Donald-Lopez	Hon Treasurer
Josh Greaves	
Amy Cuthbertson	
Alistair Milliken	
Joe Howell	
Wayne Heatman	
Jack Wilson-Farrand	
Albert Williams	

3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 27 January 2026, were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4 REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING (AND OTHER OPEN ACTIONS)

Owen stepped through the actions from the last meeting and confirmed with those in attendance which remained open or could be closed. No further actions were raised at this point.

ID	Action	Owner	Status	Comments
Sep24-01	Investigate options for a lecture in W23 at Warton	Owen Midha	Open	Owen confirmed he is in contact with the Heritage team, but still looking for someone to present a 'future vision'. Kellan volunteered to support this event. Owen asked for support from the wider committee.

Mar25-01	Engage committee members on the idea of holding a design competition	Alistair Milliken	Open	Arun asked Alistair to engage with Muhallab and the Aerospace Division Young Members Committee on collaborating on this idea. Owen asked for support from the wider committee on this idea. Arun also raised the prospect of working on the IMechE UAS challenge (*Post-meeting note: the deadline for applications to judge the UAS challenge has now closed*).
Oct25-05	Confirm potential visit to UCLAN EIC in March 2026	Arun Natarajan	Open	Arun is still working on the details for this event and suggested we push back til later in the year.
Dec25-01	Confirm date for Vulcan visit	Manuel Donald-Lopez	Open	Manuel was not in attendance at the meeting, but confirmed via email that he has enquired about dates with the Vulcan team.
Jan26-01	Volunteers required to organise AMRC Sheffield visit	All	Closed	Jack Wilson-Farrand has stepped forward to lead a team on organising this event. Further details below.

5 TREASURER'S REPORT

Manuel sent apologies for this meeting, but he did provide an update via email.

The group started the year with a balance of £589.98.

There has been £110 paid by members towards the cost of the coach for the Airbus trip. The group has received a grant of £2111 from HQ, resulting in a total income of £2221.

No money has been spent, so the current balance is £2810.98.

Please refer to Appendix 3 for further detail on the finance situation.

6 REGION, AEROSPACE DIVISION & HQ UPDATES

There were no significant updates from HQ raised. Arun confirmed that places have been reserved for 5 members of the ANW committee at the North West Region Engineering Excellence Awards dinner on the 24th April. Khaleel, Alex (+1) and Luca (+1) will be attending.

7 REVIEW OF EVENTS & ACTIVITIES 2026

7.1 UCLAN Observatory Visit

Kellan provided an event review of this event, sharing hat it was excellent and hosted by a great speaker. The committee agreed that this is an event we could look to run again in future, potentially in the winter when the nights are longer.

7.2 AMRC North West

Rahul provided an event review for the visit to AMRC NW:
"This event began with a lecture about the AMRC and its locations in Sheffield and subsequently both Samlesbury (AMRC North West) and Broughton, Wales (AMRC Cymru) delivered by Mr Matthew Ward. Matt covered the importance the AMRC's play in bridging the gap between academia and industry and the different capabilities, most notably Additive Manufacturing, they work in. Following the presentation and light refreshments, Matt and his colleagues gave us a tour of the shop-floor and briefed us about the "Command Room" that was recently set-up. Overall the tour was extremely insightful and provides a perspective on how the manufacturing process works for the application of components to be used in various industries, such as the aerospace and defence sector."

Rahul also highlighted the possibility of visiting the AMRC Cymru in future.

7.3 Airbus Broughton Visit

Owen, Elliott and Natasha provided an event review of visit to the Airbus A320 factory in Broughton. It was agreed at was an insightful visit, and that it would be a good idea to run a similar event in future. It was discussed that there's an opportunity to visit the A350 facility next time, Owen will investigate this and look to run a visit in early 2027. This could potentially be run in parallel with an AMRC Cymru visit.

New Action (Mar26-01): Owen Midha

8 PLANNED EVENTS & ACTIVITIES 2026

8.1 AMRC Sheffield

It was decided by the committee that the cost of organising a bus to Sheffield was too expensive. It was suggested individuals drive or take the train

instead. The committee will cover the cost of the food at the event. The action is now on Jack and his team of volunteers to confirm a date and work with Alex & Luca to publicise the event.

New Action (Mar26-02): Jack Wilson-Farrand

8.2 University of Lancashire EIC Visit

This event is being organised by Arun in collaboration with the Lancashire region committee. It was decided to postpone at this time and potentially run something later in the year.

Action (Oct25-05): Arun Natarajan

8.3 University of Lancashire Altitude Visit

There is a University of Lancashire facility at Warton Aerodrome known as "Altitude" which may be of interest for a visit for our members. Khaleel confirmed he has a contact at the facility and may be able to organise a visit later this year.

New Action (Mar26-03): Khaleel Mamsa

8.4 Vulcan, Doncaster Sheffield Airport

This event is proposed for a weekend date in June and has space for 30 attendees. Manuel is working with the hosts to finalise this.

Action (Dec25-01): Manuel Donald-Lopez

8.5 BAE Systems Barrow visit

This is planned for the Tuesday 1 September and is being organised by Rahul in collaboration with the South Cumbria region committee. Rahul confirmed that the visit has been 'sponsored' by Russell Davison - Business Performance and Improvement Director, BAE Systems Submarines.

Rahul will work with Nick Hanson from the IMechE South Cumbria region committee to organise the event. The next step is to confirm the number of possible attendees and then advertise the event in sufficient time to collect names for the security team.

New Action (Mar26-04): Rahul Marya

8.6 Safran visit

There is an opportunity to visit Safran in Burnley, where some committee members have contacts. There also may be an opportunity to visit their facility in Wolverhampton, where a recent attendee at the Airbus event currently works. Volunteers are requested from the committee to help organise a visit.

New Action (Mar26-05): All

8.7 **Windermere Flying Boat**

It was raised that a visit to the Windermere Flying Boat may be of interest to members. Alex volunteered to investigate a potential event.

New Action (Mar26-06): Alex Thorpe-Morgan

8.8 **Coventry Air Museum**

It was raised that a visit to the Coventry Air Museum may be of interest to members. There is an interesting wind tunnel at the university and a Vulcan aircraft which can be visited on the same day. Kellan volunteered to investigate a potential event.

New Action (Mar26-07): Kellan P.

9 AOB

- A series of future event ideas were discussed (see Appendix 2). If any committee members would like to volunteer to organise one of these visits, please contact Arun, Rahul or Owen.

- Arun advertised a visit to Leland Trucks on 25th March

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be **held via MS Teams** on **Wednesday 22 April 2026** from **18:30 – 19:30.**

11 DATE OF IMECHE ANW COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2026

- Tuesday 27 January 2026 — Via MS Teams
- Wednesday 11 March 2026 — UCLAN
- Wednesday 22 April 2026 — Via MS Teams
- Wednesday 17 June 2026 (AGM) — Hartwood Hall, Chorley
- Wednesday 9 September 2026 — Via MS Teams
- Wednesday 21 October 2026 — UCLAN
- Wednesday 2 December 2026 — Xmas Dinner, Hartwood Hall, Chorley

Minutes taken by:

Owen Midha
Hon Secretary IMechE Aerospace North West
11 March 2026

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Appendix 1 –2026 Events Programme

DATE	TIME	VENUE	TITLE	LECTURER	ORGANISER
28 January 2026	18:30 onwards	Alston Observatory	UCLAN Observatory visit*	TBC	Kevin Goode / Arun Natarajan
25 February 2026	18:30 onwards	AMRC Samlesbury	AMRC visit*	TBC	Owen Midha / Jane Salisbury
26 Feb 2026	10:00 onwards	Airbus Broughton	Airbus Wing Factory Tour	TBC	Owen Midha
1 Sep 2026	TBC	SASK and The Bridge, Barrow	BAE Systems Barrow visit	TBC	Rahul Marya
June **TBC**	TBC	Doncaster Sheffield Airport	Vulcan visit	TBC	Manuel Donald Lopez
Sep/Oct **TBC**	TBC	AMRC Sheffield	AMRC visit	TBC	Jack Wilson-Farrand
TBC	TBC	UCLAN EIC, Preston	EIC visit*	TBC	Kevin Goode / Arun Natarajan
TBC	TBC	Safran Burnley or Wolverhampton	Safran visit	TBC	TBC
TBC	TBC	Windermere Flying Boat	Windermere Flying Boat	TBC	Alex Thorpe-Morgan
TBC	TBC	Coventry Air Museum	Coventry Air Museum	TBC	Kellan P.

***organised in collaboration with the Lancashire regional committee**

Appendix 2 – Future event ideas

A running list of suggestions from the committee for future events. Excludes events which are currently planned in the draft 2026 programme.

- IMechE design competition
- Lecture / heritage visit to BAE Systems Warton
- Get Professionally Registered (Open to all, hosted at BAE Systems)
- Manchester Airport visit
- Avro Heritage Museum at Woodford Airfield visit
- Rolls Royce Derby visit
- Lancashire Science Festival (May 2027)
- Re-run of the ASK Facility visit
- Re-run of the UCLAN Observatory visit
- Re-run of the Graphene centre visit
- Re-run of the Spitfire visit at Blackpool Airport
- Webinars

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Appendix 3 – Treasurers Report

NatWest

Transactions from 01-JAN-2026 to 10-MAR-2026

Account name or alias	Account number	Sort code	Account currency
60200 Aerospace - North West	32291078	60-40-05	GBP

Debit or credit	Current cleared balance
Any	2810.98

Your deposit is eligible for protection under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). A link to the FSCS Information Sheet and list of exclusions can be found on your digital statement. For further information about the compensation provided by the FSCS, refer to the FSCS website at www.FSCS.org.uk.

Date	Type	Transaction details	Debit	Credit	Balance
		Closing balance			**2,810.98**
04-Mar-2026	BAC	OWEN MIDHA, FP 03/03/26 2205, PJYAKLNXT2NS8NYGQ6		10.00	2,810.98
26-Feb-2026	BAC	DAVID TERRY, DTERRY. AIRBUS VIS, FP 26 /02/26 1336, P64ODFK32W9CLHEGJR		10.00	2,800.98
25-Feb-2026	EBP	IMECHE, HQ GRANT		2,111.00	2,790.98
17-Feb-2026	BAC	KHEMARE CHUNG, AIRBUS VISIT, FP 17/02 /26 0926, P048NC95UCHZLHUP5D		10.00	679.98
09-Feb-2026	DPC	HUGHES D K/2014, D Hughes 80155240, VIA MOBILE - PYMT		10.00	669.98
06-Feb-2026	BAC	KHALEEL MAMSA, ACTIVITY, FP 06/02/26 1139, 31197314429942497		20.00	659.98
05-Feb-2026	BAC	JAMES N A, AIRBUS COACH, FP 05/02/26 0756, 745360336570502001		10.00	639.98
05-Feb-2026	BAC	RICKETTS S, SAM BUS AIRBUS, FP 05/02/26 0825, 111237845280502001		10.00	629.98
05-Feb-2026	BAC	N MONKS, AIRBUS VISIT, FP 05/02/26 0713, 500000001710923464		10.00	619.98
05-Feb-2026	BAC	EDWIN CHACKO, FP 04/02/26 2336, PF4IGR98TVP16TZ03P		10.00	609.98
04-Feb-2026	BAC	DHEERAJ PALAKURUMB, FP 04/02/26 1433, P2WDXKBS5JBZG7PFP8		10.00	599.98
		Opening balance			**589.98**
		Totals	**0.00**	**2,221.00**	