

The BMW Club Annual General Meeting

Saturday 23rd April 2022

Registration from 10.00 a.m.
Commencing promptly 11.30 a.m.

Venue
The Town Hall
High Street
Moffat
DG10 9HF



The BMW Club
United Kingdom & Ireland



The BMW Club

Annual General Meeting

23rd April 2022

AGENDA

1. President's Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Appointment of Tellers
4. Approval of the minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting (presented on page 3). This was the last meeting held as 2020 and 2021 were cancelled as a consequence of COVID-19
5. Matters arising from those Minutes
6. Count of members present by Section
7. Reports (in writing) from
 - President (presented on page 5)
 - General Secretary (presented on page 5)
 - Editor (presented on page 6)
 - Social Secretary (presented on page 6)
 - Membership Secretary (presented on page 6)
 - Sidecar Register Secretary (presented on page 6)
 - GS Register Secretary (presented on page 7)
 - Sporting Register Secretary (presented on page 7)
 - DVLA Liaison Officers (presented on page 7)
 - Tool Hire Secretary (presented on page 8)
8. Treasurer's Report (presented on page 8) and Accounts for the year ending 30th September 2021 (in separate document)
9. Appointment of Accountants for the following year (detailed on page 8)
10. Confirm the Subscriptions from 1st October 2022 according to Club Rule 10 (detailed on page 8)
11. Election of Club Officers for 2022 to 2023

Position	Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
President	Ian Dobie	Geoff Clough	Tim Bolderston
President	Judy Lepley	Stewart Lowthian	Liz Elvidge
General Secretary	Stewart Lowthian	Lynn Sumner	Alan Davies
Editor	Liz Elvidge	Piers Kurrein	Anthony Moth
Membership Secretary	Colin Ross	Jim Lepley	Dik Langan
Treasurer	Jim Lepley	Marjorie Burnett	Duncan Colburn
GS Register Secretary	Nev Jones	Jeff Lewis	Haydn Rees
Sidecar Register Secretary	Keith Thomas	Paul Ennis	Martyn Aves
Sporting Register Secretary	Robert Bensley	Peter Jones	Judy Lepley
Vice-President	Bruce Lepley	Marjorie Burnett	Liz Elvidge
Vice-President	Cliff Batley	Dik Langan	Alan Orme
Vice-President	Jim Bettley	Cliff Batley	Liz Elvidge

12. Ordinary Resolution to consider National Rally funding (presented on page 9).
13. Special Resolutions to alter the Articles of Association of The BMW Motorcycle Club Limited, incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 with Registration Number 4261129. (presented on pages 10 and 11)
14. To fix a date for the 2023 Annual General Meeting
15. Any Other Business.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The BMW Motorcycle Club Limited held at the Dunchurch Park Hotel, Dunchurch on 13nd April 2019.

1. **President's Opening Address:** Ian Dobie opened the meeting by welcoming Kim Pederson, the President of both BMW MC Klub Danmark and BMW Club European Federation. He spoke about his attendance at a recent BCEF meeting in Malmo where reservations about the relationships between the BCEF constituent clubs and BMW AG were discussed.

He thanked colleagues for pulling together, particularly Dik Langan for his I.T. expertise and Stewart Lowthian for his grasp of procedure. He thanked Liz Elvidge, to applause from the meeting, for taking over the position of Editor at short notice. He referred to the Members Working Party, which he had written about in The Journal, and told the meeting that it was Nick Dingwall's 83rd birthday. He concluded by apologising for being incommunicado due to illness in the week before the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence were received from Keith Thomas, Robert Bensley, Martin Pagett, Nev Jones, Helen Beer, William Beacham, John Dillon, Colin and Susan Ross, Paul Nadin, Bill Smithson, Nev Agnew, Val Smith, Ashley Boal, Chris and Ann Smith, Roy and Pat Laithewaite, Sylvia Delacoe, Mike and Peta Warrilow, Nick Baker, Cliff Batley, Bruce Lepley, John and Freda Taylor, Graham Parker, Rob Allin, John Hillier, Phil Oughtred, Bradley Gane, James Seller and Tim Balderston
3. **Appointment of tellers.:** Debbie and Phil Sampson, Graham Walker and Bob Denman were appointed as Tellers.
4. **Approval of the minutes of the 2018 meeting:** Proposed by Dik Langan and seconded by Reg Moule.
For: 101, Against: 0, Abstaining: 3.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes:** None.
6. **The count of members attending was:**

East Anglia	3	Irish	3	London	3
Mercia	11	Midland	12	North East	4
Northern	13	Oxford	29	Scottish	5
South East	1	Southern	13	South West	4
Ulster	1	Western	3	Yorkshire	4
HQ	1	Proxies	3		
Total	113				

7. Officers Reports.

General Secretary: Stewart Lowthian had nothing to add to his report circulated with the agenda. No questions were raised.

Editor: Liz Elvidge added to her report circulated with the agenda by saying that she was still learning and always would be. Steve Moxey thanked her then asked what might happen next and what would she need to achieve it. Liz replied that an e-reader version of The Journal would be desirable as the file sent to the printers was not ideal for this purpose. She added that this would require a great deal of research but would be good to implement.

National Social Secretary: Simon Johnson added to his report by apologising for the lack of a national rally in 2019. He hopes that next year's event will be in Moffat with both

hotels and camping. He hopes to run a Garmisch-style event in the UK. There were no questions for him.

National Membership Secretary: Bob Barker's report was circulated with the agenda. He apologised for having been out of action for the best part of a year due to health problems. He continued by saying that the trend in membership numbers overall is flat but section sizes are changing, with smaller sections reducing in size and larger sections growing. He expressed concern that long-term members were leaving but noted that new members are staying for longer. He advised the meeting that Dik Langan had been dealing with the membership database since November 2018. He considered that it was impossible to give an implementation date for it. Geoff Clough asked about membership numbers, with Dik Langan replying that we had 3166 members (including associates) in January 2018 and 3601 (2858 full and 743 associates) in January 2019. Geoff then asked whether any other section had the same experience of recruiting as the Oxford section, referring to the "Test Ride" scheme discussed at the February NCM. Bob Barker observed that with the rolling year membership it was difficult to offer joining incentives. Geoff said that their initiative included three editions of The Journal delivered electronically.

Hugh Johnson commented on difficulties with retention, noting that members often no longer owned BMWs but enjoyed the social side of membership. He asked what the "armchair" members got from the Club. Dik Langan replied that experience at the NEC show was that people renewed there saying it was their own fault they hadn't taken an active part. Bob Barker added that the sections with the most associates, implying an active social life, did best. Bob Melvin asked about Direct Debits. Bob replied that they were planned but would take a significant effort to achieve.

Richard Garner said that in 2015 or 2016 he attended the Stafford Show as part of the VCR presence. He said that they ran out of application forms at the event, but that subsequent shows were less successful. The availability of knowledge was considered to be valuable. He argued that promoting the club to owners of older bikes would be beneficial to membership numbers. Bob Barker noted that membership incentives were fruitful but difficult with rolling year membership.

Ian Dobie referred to attending motorcycling events and giving advertising space in The Journal in lieu of attendance fees.

Sporting Register Secretary: Robert Bensley's report was circulated with the agenda. As he was not present no questions could be asked.

Sidecar Register Secretary: Keith Thomas's report was circulated with the agenda. As he was not present no questions could be asked.

GS Register Secretary: Nev Jones's report was circulated with the agenda. As he was not present no questions could be asked.

Vintage Register Secretary: Ashley Boal's report was circulated with the agenda. As he was not present no questions could be asked.

Regalia Officer: Cath Broughton's report was circulated with the agenda. As she was not present no questions could be asked.

DVLA Liaison Officer: Robert Freeman amplified on his report presented in The Journal, describing the process for examining and documenting motorcycles. He referred to past difficulties in dealing with BMW and a recent breakthrough in the relationship. He described an hour-long telephone conversation with a BMW colleague when dating certificates and who needs them were discussed. The cost of dating certificates was discussed, with the normal fee being £120 but, as a result of this conversation, it will now be free for BMW Club members. The details are still being discussed but this is considered to be a triumph.

Reg Moule thanked Robert for his address. He referred to a caution expressed by Robert regarding electronic documents, pointing out that DVLA accept them from insurance companies. Dik Langan asked about non-member requests for dating certificates. Robert referred to an enquiry from Finland, saying that he has the original AFN records. He went on to explain how AFN became the importer for BMW motorcycles. He then answered Dik's question, advising that non-members pay the Club £50 plus the cost of the certificate. Steve Moxey suggested that the Club should write to BMW to express appreciation of this improvement in relationship. Ian Dobie will do this.

Toolhire Officer: Mike Delacoe's report was circulated with the agenda. He noted that the GS911 was the most-requested tool we hold. Bob Ingram commented that Mike was a great source of information.

8. **Treasurer's report and accounts.** Jim Lepley gave a brief address (appended on page 9), thanking the colleagues who handle money on the Club's behalf and explaining some of the terminology in the accounts document. Richard Garner referred to the increased revenue from 2017-2018 due to the number of track days. He asked what the cost of running a track day was. Jim replied that it was in the order of £12,000. Barry Last asked about the cost of section websites, speculating that the costs were hidden in the section accounts. Geoff Clough asked why the Irish Section reserves had not changed from 2017 to 2018. It was stated that this was because the Irish Section had not filed their accounts. Steve Moxey observed that gross turnover had gone up but the profit had gone down. He asked that a closer look be taken to find out why. John Elvidge observed that we are a social club rather than a business. Ian Dobie replied that we should at least be cost-neutral. On a proposal by Jim Lepley, seconded by Reg Moule, it was agreed to accept the accounts with 112 votes for, none against and two abstentions.

9. **Confirmation of subscription from October 2019.** It was agreed on a show of hands that the subscription would be unchanged. The lunch break was taken. On return Ian Dobie apologised for taking an item out of sequence in the agenda.

10. Appointment of Accountants.

On a proposal by Jim Lepley, seconded by Reg Moule, it was agreed that Ross McConnell would be retained. Voting was 106 for, none against and one abstention.

11. Election of Officers.

Ian Dobie proposed that, as no position was contested, it would be sensible to vote en-bloc. This was accepted by the meeting. The candidates were elected with 105 votes for and four abstentions.

12. Presentation of Awards.

Ian Dobie presented Robert Freeman with the National Member of the Year plaque. Liz Elvidge (the retiring holder) presented Colin Bembridge with the Max Deubel award.

13. **Date of next Meeting.** This has not yet been decided as we are still waiting to find out the date of the Stafford Show, which we do not want to clash with.

14. Any Other Business.

a) **Members Working Party:** Ian Dobie spoke about the Working Party which he had written about in The Journal. Anthony Wood gave a brief address, saying that five members had expressed interest, with three of them holding a meeting chaired by Ian Dobie in February 2019. He had 20 copies of the group's report with him and expressed the hope that he would be taking none of them home with him. Simon Johnston queried Anthony's statement that we are the most expensive one-make club, citing the Harley-Davidson and Gold Wing clubs as costing more. Reg Moule suggested that The Journal should be offered to a wider audience. Steve Moxey suggested that it was great to have suggestions from the bottom of the Club but they should come from the top, the National Committee. Liz Elvidge said that she was looking for change and was aware of the cost of The Journal and that it is an important means of communication within the Club. Marjorie Burnett took exception to Steve Moxey's comment, stating that the National Committee wasn't idle. Bob Melvin invited anyone interested to attend the Section Webmaster's meeting following the formal business. He felt it unfair to criticise the main committee. Anthony Wood recognised that the NC was important and didn't sit on its hands but creativity was needed. Stewart Lowthian stated that the AGM ruled the Club and had in the past rejected change. Anthony Wood contended that 150 members shouldn't run the Club. Ian Dobie pointed out that proxy voting gave every member their say. He encouraged members to read the report.

b) **Section Webmaster's Meeting:** Dik Langan advised the meeting that this would take place immediately after the close of formal business.

c) Thirty neckerchiefs from BMW MC Klub Danmark were distributed at random.

d) Lynn Sumner (Capitation Officer) asked anyone involved with capitation to see her so she could put faces to names.

15. There being no further business the meeting closed at 2:45 p.m.

Reports to the 2022 AGM

President: Ian Dobie

The last 12 months were blighted yet again by Covid and it is only now, in February, that the restrictions on movement and social gatherings are really beginning to completely relax towards a more normal lifestyle. Despite the many limitations and qualifications on daily life Jim Lepley and a team of supporters were able to put on and man a club stand at the NEC in November and sign up a few members. The show itself was down on visitor numbers altogether so it's no surprise that the team's hard work wasn't quite as successful as in the past. The loss of local motorcycle one-day small town, village shows and events all around the country has also had a dramatic effect on section and general recruitment over the past 2 years. As things do return to normal and we can all revive our past levels of social activities then I hope we can start to bolster the membership numbers again.

Earlier in the year through the good efforts of Stewart Lowthian, Peter Dunn and with the full section co-operation we completed the implementation of the latest BMW corporate logo guidelines within the permitted time scale. It is one of the aspects that is quite irritating about BMW. They expect 100% co-operation and implementation of a corporate requirement from entirely voluntary run organisations, but apart from the use of the logo show no inclination of any form of support to clubs such as ours. I have continued to use any opportunity to speak directly with or via the Umbrella group to Munich on this issue and there has been a small glimmer of hope surface recently so who knows?

The new club membership data base is now operational after a huge amount of time and effort by Dik Lagan our Technology officer and member of the East Anglia section. Dik will continue to work on this with the company involved and any observation members have when using the system are appreciated. On the subject of Membership there is a motion to scrap the rolling membership year because the time management and cost of the system has proved very expensive and for that reason not cost effective. The higher cost of supporting rolling members is largely down to the cost to supply the Journal because every month there were joiners and non-renewals which alters the number of journals to be printed and distribution required split adjustment lists every month. Each split had a fixed basic charge whether there is one or 20 names.

A disappointment to me was the ending of a trial digital distribution of the Journal particularly as the number of recipient members was slowly growing. However, I understand there was valuable information gathered on systems investigated and discarded so the team learned something that may come in handy sometime.

Despite my regular references to the current organisation and administration of the club, particularly in respect of the declining membership numbers, I have not received any constructive criticism or ideas for an alternative structure which has been a disappointment. With that in mind I posed an alternative option in my March President's Platform and went further in my Election Manifesto for this AGM. The sections have become very independent and all put on a lot more events, social activities themselves now than a few years ago. The concept of large nationally organised events has become extremely difficult and increasingly costly to organise. Both locality, suitable available facilities to meet all member's varied expectations appear now to be less available or inclined to cater for a club such ours. It's perhaps not so surprising then that volunteers are not so willing to come forward to organise

a much larger event on a national basis now. It is an enormous responsibility for an individual or section to take on, but there is around the club as a whole an enormous amount of experience to tap into and despite the rare but occasional less successful event we have never, in my experience, had a total failure.

The question of a National Ride Out policy has been very controversial with the first widely researched option paper being accepted by the National committee and subsequently challenged on a variety of grounds. A further version will have been submitted to the NC mtg on February 26th and at the time of writing this report the outcome of which I do not know.

General Secretary: Stewart Lowthian

I wrote some years ago that it was time for me to retire. I therefore need to explain why my name is listed as a candidate for re-election. I must admit to being flattered both by the number of long-term volunteers who told me that my often pedantic approach to administration was exactly what the Club needed and their relief on finding that I'd listened to them. I've not pleased everyone of course: The National Committee members know who wrote "The (redacted) Section is absolutely delighted at your decision to stand down as General Secretary at the next AGM, no longer will we feel we are pushing treacle uphill but wish you all the best in whatever you choose to do next." Such is life: over the years I've learned that I can't please everyone. Flattered though I am by the support that I've been shown I'm concerned by the fact that nobody stood instead of me: not even someone from the (redacted) section which presumably would have preferred having no General Secretary to having me in office. It's a matter of serious concern for the future of the Club when there are so few volunteers in a position to take up influential positions as the potential result is stagnation when the same individuals appear year after year.

Having not held an AGM for three years, there's a lot of business to catch up on. Later in the meeting we will be discussing amendments to our Articles of Association, which only a meeting of members can change. The proposed amendments are made in the light of experience and each one has an explanation of why it is considered necessary. Each has been discussed by the National Committee and was approved by at least a majority in every case.

I said before that I'm something of a pedant for administration so something I need to constantly remind myself of is that the administration serves the Club, not the other way round. We're a social organisation that needs to be run in a businesslike manner (in terms of complying with the laws that society imposes on all organisations) rather than a business selling membership services, which is an opinion that has, it seems to me, been gaining rather too much support from some within the Club as a whole. We are also a democratic organisation where every member is entitled to express their opinion and where every elected representative has an equal standing rather than taking their place in a hierarchy.

Editor: Liz Elvidge

Firstly, I must thank the stalwarts of the editorial team without whom I would have no Journal to edit. In that I include Bruce Lepley, Piers Kurrein, Paul Nadin, Paul Rodriguez, Dik Langan, Cliff Batley and previously Graham Parker.

It has been a busy year for many but we have managed to keep producing the Journal through some tricky times.

I hope that at the February National Committee meeting we will have begun considering the future of the Journal and I will be able to add to this report at the AGM.

For the February Journal I reduced the page number to 40 in order that there was some content to put in a March Journal. March Journal could well be even more reduced. Unless some articles are received, we must consider how we go forward as it may only comprise adverts, section news and other standard items. We must, when considering the cost of the Journal, bear in mind the production and mailing costs which will not be significantly reduced despite fewer page numbers.

If on the other hand a flood of articles arrive as travel restrictions are lifted and maybe also new opportunities for building, restoring and maintaining our bike arise. Bruce and I have some ideas on the Journal going forward particularly in a digital format. If that is the case, we will need a volunteer to come forward who is willing to work with us to develop our ideas. I will be adding a request to that effect in the Journal.

As for my future as editor. John and I have many plans for the next year so my time for the Journal will be quite limited. January 2023 is likely to bring some big changes in our circumstances, at least the ones we know about – who knows what else is in store. I am willing to stand aside at short notice should there be another volunteer. In any case these changes in circumstances, in part, determine that I now resign for the post of Editor with effect from the Nation Committee meeting 18th June 2022. Thus, the July Journal will be my last one as Editor. This gives enough time of a replacement to be found or for alternative arrangements to be made for future Journals to be discussed by the National Committee.

I will, of course, support anyone who takes on the position of Editor for as long as they need to become confident in the role.

Thank you to the Editorial team for all their work and support. Thank you to all those members who have contributed articles, letters, pictures etc. to the Journal.

Whilst there is a lot of work involved in being Editor there are many positives. Particularly the contacts with our many happy, friendly club members.

I hope that having given enough notice someone will come forward early to take on this role, however the Journal develops, giving the potential for a gradual change over and a bright future for the club.

Co-opted National Social Secretary: Jim Bettley

When it became obvious that our elected National Social Secretary needed to step away from his duties at a critical time for the Club, I offered my services to try to ensure we would have an AGM in 2022. Simon helpfully left me the email trails of all the places he had tried without success, so I was not surprised that I was also met with the 'fully booked' response to my enquiries at other venues.

However having been reminded that a successful AGM had previously been held at the Moffat Town Hall, I made further calls and the result is that here we all are. I must thank the Scottish Section as a whole and Judy Lepley in particular for their support in helping me pull all this together as without their efforts this would

have been a considerably more challenging task.

I have not forgotten that we need to start planning the 2023 AGM already and am pleased to report that with the help of some Club members I have already identified three potential venues, one being very near central England and thus more convenient for a greater number of members. Nothing is yet guaranteed but the signs are hopeful.

I understand that no one has put themselves forward for the National Social Secretaries position so with the work I have already completed in mind I am quite prepared to take on the task of organising the 2023 AGM on behalf of the Club.

I hope you enjoy your visit to Moffat and make the most of the beautiful countryside that sits right on its doorstep and the traditional Scottish hospitality.

Membership Secretary: John Elvidge

Membership numbers have been in decline for some years but despite another year of Covid restrictions they are on a par with last year's figures (at the time of writing this in January) with over 400 new or returning members during the last year compensating for those not renewing. I will have up to date numbers at the meeting.

I believe that moving to rolling year renewal has over complicated our membership system, increasing costs & workload & so I favour returning to a fixed date renewal system, while some NC members agree with this, others think that automating the current system is the way forward.

I now find that my club roles take up far too much of my time & so I shall stand down as National Membership Secretary as of this meeting.

Sidecar Register: Keith Thomas

The Sidecar Register is ticking over fairly happily, I think: though it rather feels as if we are coming out of a period of hibernation. May I extend a warm welcome to any new members and a warm hello to any 'old' members if we have not yet met.

Sidecars, trikes, & three-wheelers of all types, and enthusiasts thereof, are all welcome to join the Sidecar Register and to attend the Sidecar Register rally in early May at the same venue in the Lake District again in 2022 -- see 'The Journal' and the Sidecar Register web-page of the BMW Club website for details.

The Sidecar Register is a member of the Federation of Sidecar Clubs (FoSC) – see their website for details of 'what they do' and of sidecar rallies happening up and down the country on most weekends of the year.

The Sidecar Register has re-affiliated to the National Association for Bikers with a Disability (NABD) for 2022, and we hope to continue to support them in any way we can.

I am happy to stand again as Secretary of the Sidecar Register for 2022, but I will be equally happy to support someone else in the Secretary's role should they be elected.

Looking forward to a good 2022.

GS Register: Nev Jones

I would like to start my report by thanking all those who have helped and supported me during 2020-2022 in the role of GS Register Secretary. I am standing for re-election for 2022-23 but would be equally happy to support anyone else who might be voted into the position.

Events

Many thanks to those event organisers who agreed to allow us to nominate their events in 2020 and 2021. After the success of those nominated camping events we have been able to nominate three excellent events for 2022.

- February 2022 BMW Club Rhino National Rally
- Friday 29th April - Sunday 8th May 2022 Koblenz Motorcycle Tour
- Friday 9th - Saturday 17th September Swiss Passes Tour

Sadly the Brecon Beacons Camping Weekend will not take place in 2022 as the campsite dates we wanted were not available. Details for each event can be seen in the GS Register report in the Journal every month.

The first event this year was the BMW Rhino Rally in Beddgelert. This year the campsite decided to close for the Rhino dates and Hotel and B&B prices were very high and availability low. Sadly only about 12 members managed to attend. For 2022 the GS Register is finally running its own tour of the Koblenz region. Based in the City and concentrating around the Rhine and Moselle Valleys. Also for the first time this year the GS Register is running a 9 day tour of a large number of the Swiss passes. BMW's sales of all variants of the GS and GSA have continued to increase year on year in 2020 and 2021. We look forward to welcoming yet more new GS Register members in the coming year.

GS Register Website

Progress on replacing the website has been greatly held up by restrictions during Covid. I am having to learn to use a completely different software system and am reliant on others to try and salvage as much as possible of our existing website.

GS Register Facebook Page

We now have 1.3K members of the GS Register Facebook page. On a weekly basis we have a number of varied postings which keep the page interesting. We would certainly appreciate more of you posting about your latest trips, events etc now Covid restrictions are completely removed.

GS Register Forum Posts

The Register has its own section on the Forum in "Paid Up Members Only". Over the last two years postings have diminished greatly. If you are a new member how about introducing yourself on the "Show us your bike" thread!

Sporting Register: Robert Bensley

I am writing this on 28-2-22, the Cadwell Park track day has 6 riders on the reserve list, the Snetterton day has 25 places available, I am confident it will sell out and the sales agreement has been signed, I hope to be able to attend both events this year, however after my consultation 2 weeks ago it is unlikely I will be riding, my team will be able to run the days without me.

In the foreseeable future the club will possibly need a new Sporting Secretary, 4 years ago when I had my ladder accident the

team discussed who could take over from myself and no one could devote the time etc. The track days have become a very personal thing for me, the participants associate the events to myself. Due to the colossal expense and financial risk to the club it might be the time to realise they've run their course.

If I survive my treatment and am able I will continue to run them,

DVLA Liaison Officer/Archivist: Robert Freeman

After a long and patient time, very nearly 12 months, BMW Archive are open for business, to a 'degree'. Whereas there were 2 people operating this service, early last year, one was drafted to Accounts. Then BMW in their wisdom decided this was a 'good time' to bring together, Records, Artefacts, Memorabilia, etc, accumulated since 1923, and stored a various location all over Germany, together, at one dedicated site at Scheissheim, some 20 K, away. This has now been completed.

So, we are at last able to request info on BMW's, Build / Delivery Dates, and in our case Headed Date Letters to supply to the DVLA that enable the ability to claim the vehicle can be 'Registered as Historic'. I am therefore catching up with the backlog, circa 30 machines, However, we are not at the level of normality for say 2019.

I will say though, that the DVLA does have a Human side. When they went into Covid mode, and BMW effectively 'closed', I had built/delivery data on a certain bike belonging to one of our members, but BMW could not issue the 'Usually Asked For, Factory headed letter. I therefor requested the DVLA to 'Accept my Word of Honour', this time, that the information I had was correct?

They did. An Age-related Number was given

I cover 1930 - 1979/80, and it is wonderful, just how many BMWs from the 1950's keep turning up. Original AFN Sales. The Club's Annual Membership printed lists, in the Journal. I have indexed years ago, and these will often enable one to form a path, over the years, from Owner to Owner, and are invaluable is 'Reclaiming' original registration Numbers.

Finally, with Ken Buchanan's business knowledge, he was able to set up a spreadsheet on what we do and keep on track of enquires. We are as of 03/13/22 at entry No. 277. I am happy to continue as DVLA Officer for coming up, the 9th year, if it is the wish of Members

The Club Archives.

I have care of these, in two large, labelled storage containers. With the professional photographic skills of our Member, Roger Newark, who I have known since the early 1970's, he has copied and indexed in a database, 310 Photos from 1951 onwards. Up to the late Great Malcolm McNair's valiant effort with the Vintage, Classic Register Newsletter, which ran for 23 Issues, I have all these.

Making these photos etc available to Members has rather stagnated, in my view, over the disclosure / copyright hurdle. Sadly, very many of the Ladies and Gentlemen, whose images were captured, 1951 onwards are now perhaps memories to some, in a 'Land' beyond our imagination. In my view, they deserve to be seen. Not stored in my Garage, or the inner depths of my computer.

Finally. The Vintage Classic Register

This I feel runs, or in this case 'Has not' over the last year, 'Hand in Hand' with what Ken & I try to do. It is an invaluable resource, for those with BMW's pre-1970, particularly 1950's and earlier. To operate without it, is like trying to 'hop on one leg' everywhere, as opposed to walk.

DVLA Liaison Officer: Ken Buchanan

As Robert Freeman's deputy, I handle members' DVLA enquiries for bikes from 1980 onwards, with Robert handling the older bikes 1930 to 1979, with a bit of an overlap. Robert is also custodian of the club archives and photos, an extensive, indexed collection which spans the 1950s to the 1970s. He also holds the Fraser Nash/BMW archives documenting sales of new bikes from 1935 until 1939, and post war secondhand sales from 1950 until 1960. These archives can prove very useful as I have found myself, when wanting to verify the original registration numbers for a couple of pre-war BMW R51s.

Members come to us for help in getting dating certificates from BMW, so that they can get their bikes registered in this country for the first time, or to obtain "Historic Status" for road tax purposes.

I have been helping Robert for a couple of years now, since the job became too large for one person. He has given me a lot of guidance to get started and we confer over the trickier jobs. It is not a simple matter of putting members in touch with the relevant archive, we have to be sure that bikes are what the owner says they are. This means we ask for a lot of photographic evidence of frame numbers etc, which all takes time to collate. We get enquiries too from people who are not club members and although they can pay a fee for our services, most prefer to join up as it saves them money further down the line when applying for a dating certificate from the archives. BMW Archive Germany charges 45 euros to club members, but for the newer bikes, BMW UK will supply a dating certificate for free.

Between us Robert and I have logged 66 enquiries during 2021. Some of these fell by the wayside, with some members parking their enquiry without supplying the necessary proof of their bike to us. A couple have tried to "go it alone" and get their dating certificate without our help. What they miss out on then is the support letter, endorsed by the club, that we write for successful applicants to send to the DVLA alongside their proof of age of the bike. As we all know you need every bit of help whenever contacting the DVLA!

As in 2020, in 2021 we had the additional set back of delays due to covid restrictions, leading to both archives here and abroad, (and the DVLA) being short staffed. Halfway through the year we were notified that the main BMW Group Archive in Munich was about to be relocated, and that they couldn't take any requests from us until they were settled in their new premises. At the time of writing (late Jan 22) it is still only just opening up. This means Robert and I have built up a backlog of requests from some very patient members, who we hope to be able to help very soon.

This year we are expecting an increase in enquiries, as members come to us for help with the restoration projects they have been working on over the various lockdowns. Moving forward we'd like to be able to assist members with gaining ULEZ exemptions for those bikes that fall outside the standard criteria, but have emissions low enough to qualify.

Robert and I have a lot of knowledge between us on the older bikes in particular and are open to questions and ideas from members.

Tool Hire: Mike Delacoe

Thanks to Covid there was no report for 2020, so this report covers years 2020 & 2021. From Jan 2020 to Dec 2020, 85 members hired a total of 310 tools. A massive increase on 2019 and in fact the busiest year ever for tool hire. Probably due to members taking advantage of their lockdown time for repairs and renovations.

The most hired tool in 2020 was again the GS-911 Diagnostic

devices which were sent out 35 times. From Jan 2021 to Dec 2021, 70 members hired 271 tools. Again, the GS-911 diagnostic tools were the most hired (26 times).

New Investment during 2020-2021

1. Valve tools were bought for the Liquid Cooled boxers.
2. USD Fork tools for models so equipped. Plus, steering head bearing tools for the same models
3. Haynes manual for the R1200 LC models

Hire by model range 2020 -2021 (160 bikes):

Pre 1969 Airheads:	7%
Post 1969 Airheads:	36%
K (Brick) Series:	7.5%
K (Slant K4x) Series:	7%
F-Series	2%
Oilhead Boxers	6%
R1200 (not LC)	22%
R1200 LC version	10%
S1000	1%

If anyone wishes to hold a Workshop Day, then I will be more than happy to demonstrate any of the Club's specialist tools.

As well as the Club Forum, the full tool hire lists are available to view in the Vintage & Classic Register hosted on the main Club Website. On request, I can also email copies to any club member. If required, full details of all tool hire transactions for 2020 - 2021 can be viewed here at the AGM, just contact me.

As always, it has been a pleasure to provide this service for the Club.

Treasurer: Jim Lepley

It is 3 years since I was here making my statement to you, and it has been a very traumatic 3 years personally. On 7th September, 2019 despite always being very vociferous that I would never fall victim to fraudsters I was entrapped by a very clever individual and to my horror lost some £23,000 of the Club's money. The Banks refused to do anything about the fraud and refused to refund the money because they said that I had not taken sufficient care in the matter – effectively a chicken and egg situation. The Banks decision was, we were not entitled to compensation because I sent the money to a fraudster. I then spent several awful months battling and finally with the assistance of the Financial Ombudsman we were repaid all the funds plus 8% p.a. interest. I was incredibly humbled by the unbelievable support I received from the vast majority of Club members without which I would not have been able to continue – Thank you: you know who you are. This whole saga was reported in detail in the Journal and as far as I am concerned it is now closed.

As always, I wish to publicly thank all those unsung heroic volunteers who support our Club in the background. Lynn Sumner who keeps me straight and organises capitation payments to the sections. Mike Delacoe who not only controls our tool hire scheme he also controls the financial arrangements of that scheme and provides technical advice and guidance to users.

Special mention must be made of John and Liz Elvidge who have diligently watched and controlled the costs involved in Journal production and mailing and posting of the Journal. This includes subscription reminders and membership cards.

There are many more of our fellow members doing stalwart work for our Club for no reward apart from our thanks (and don't forget dealing with members complaints – bear them a thought they work hard for us)

Finances

I keep a close eye on the amount of money (cash available) in the various national bank accounts and noticed that our holdings were near the middle of my graph showing records for the last 10 years and can report that during the first 2 months of this financial year, October /November our bank balance was within £1000.00 of the average of those 10 years. The financial position of the Club is very healthy at present. My remit is to have one years turnover available for emergencies and I can report approximately £25,000.00 above last years figure. On that basis I cannot recommend an increase in subscription this year.

However, costs are increasing rapidly at present due to inflationary pressures. Also, we have a new bespoke membership data base and are paying professional rates to keep it up to date and maintained. Over a year ago the National Committee decided that the company supplying the data base had taken too many years in development and the President was tasked with halting the project and seeking a refund of the monies spent. The negotiations with the company resulted in them being given more time to conclude the project. It is, at the present time, costing £5,580.00 per year to maintain.

The rolling year membership system has increased costs that were not recognised before implementation. There is a cost of "splitting" our mail sort of the Journals. Every month there is a need to include subscription reminders and membership cards. Doubling these splits every time an associate is involved. Every "split" is charged at £22 and incurs an additional postage charge of

35 pence per envelope.

We requested a costing to return the database programme to a once a year renewal and were quoted up to £6,000.00 to do so. It was considered at a National Committee meeting as too expensive. It is my opinion that this £6,000.00 investment would be recovered within 2 to 3 years.

The Accounts for the year ending September 2021 are in the AGM Booklet.

There is other reserve shown on page 8 of £122,207.00. This is the sum of money transferred into the Incorporated Club from existing Club funds. No record of specific instructions relating to this sum can be found. It is intended to simply absorb this reserve into the National Club funds and it will not be shown in future.

The reasons for increases in computer costs and high mailing costs are outlined above.

Appointment of Accountants

It is proposed to retain the services of Ross McConnell, Chartered Accountant.

Determination of Subscription

It is proposed to maintain subscriptions at the current level.

Presentation of Trophies

No nominations for trophies have been received.

Ordinary Resolutions requiring a simple majority to carry

The Yorkshire Section proposes that the National Club subsidise a National Rally event to the sum of £1 per full member as registered on the on the database on 1st February on an annual basis in any year that such a Rally is organised.

Treasurer's address to the 2019 AGM

First I would like to thank the behind-the-scenes workers for their support and assistance. In particular Lynn Sumner who deals with capitation, Mike Delacoe who looks after tool hire and the associated finance. A special thank you must go to Dik Langan for his sterling work in relation to advertising and marketing. Also Robert Bensley for running his very successful track days, Cath Broughton who looks after Regalia and last but not least the section treasurers and membership secretaries.

This year's accounts surprised me. The losses were much worse than I had been anticipating. There is still a healthy amount of cash available which would support a full years operation with no income.

People have raised the following queries:

Pre payments: Pre payments are not money owed but money paid out during the year relating to the following years expenses. For example most of the expenses relating to the Motorcycle Live Show at the NEC in November 2018 were paid out during the financial year ending 30th September 2018. Last year 2016/2017

the printing of the October 2017 Journal was paid for before the end of September 2017. This did not happen this year in September 2018.

Creditors: Trade Creditors (money actual owed by the Club)

Royal Mail Postage, Newman Thomson Journal printers and Mail International who sort and pack the Journals into envelopes and address them. Totals £8129.

Other creditors: The £25762 is covering the advance payment of subscription covering the period October 2018 to January 2019 which members have pre paid for.

Income – track days and other events was increased to £73447 mainly because we ran three track days, this also explains the additional costs to £72229

Additional subscriptions was due to a payment to the BCEF (European Club Federation).

NEC show expenses were increased, but the income from the event exceeded the expenses.

Special Resolutions to alter the Articles of Association of The B.M.W Motorcycle Club Limited (Company Number: 04261129)

Amendments to Article 13

The current wording of Article 13 is as follows..

13. *An Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held, whereat the Reports and Accounts (the latter duly inspected) for the past year's activities shall be presented, election of the Club's Officers carried out, and any other matters on the agenda discussed. Members shall receive notice of the meeting in the January Journal. Nomination of Officers can be made in paper format proposed, seconded and signed by the nominee then forwarded to the National Secretary or by email in 3 steps, proposed, seconded and accepted by the nominee, but CC'ing the National Secretary at each step. These and all other matters for inclusion in the agenda must be received by the General Secretary by 31 January. The agenda, together with accounts for the year, shall be circulated to all members twenty-one clear days prior to the meeting.*

The reasons for the proposed changes

The Article refers to both the General Secretary and National Secretary. For neatness it is proposed to amend the wording to refer only to the General Secretary. It has been argued that the wording of the sentence "*These and all other matters for inclusion in the agenda must be received by the General Secretary by 31 January.*" implies that motions for discussion and voting on do not require both a proposer and seconder. The proposed amendment adds the requirement for such motions to be proposed and seconded by named members, one of whom must attend the meeting to present the motion.

The formal proposition

Article 13 of the existing Articles of Association be altered by the deletion of Article 13 and the adoption of the following article in substitute:-

13. *An Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held, whereat the Reports and Accounts (the latter duly inspected) for the past year's activities shall be presented, election of the Club's Officers carried out, and any other matters on the agenda discussed. Members shall receive notice of the meeting in the January Journal. Nomination of Officers can be made in paper format proposed, seconded and signed by the nominee then forwarded to the General Secretary or by email in 3 steps, proposed, seconded and accepted by the nominee, but CC'ing the General Secretary at each step. These and all other matters for inclusion in the agenda must be received by the General Secretary by 31 January. Where a motion is proposed for consideration it must be proposed and seconded by individual members, one of whom (or their nominated proxy) must attend to introduce the motion. The agenda, together with accounts for the year, shall be circulated to all members twenty-one clear days prior to the meeting.*

Amendment to Article 55

The current wording of Article 55 is as follows

55. *Items for discussion, including all reports, shall be submitted in writing to the General Secretary on or before the twenty-eighth day prior to the date of the meeting. The General Secretary shall include such items on an agenda, which, together with the minutes of the previous meeting (if not previously circulated) shall be circulated on or before the tenth day prior to the date of the meeting. Each meeting shall decide the date of the next meeting. The date will be published in the next available issue of the Journal.*

The reason for the proposed change

At the February 2018 NCM a proposal was tabled to amend Article 55 of the M&AA to enable proposals to be tabled which have been submitted after the currently specified 28 day requirement. This was accepted by a majority vote to which the Western Section was opposed as it was considered undemocratic in that any such proposals could be discussed provided the majority of the voting members present at the meeting agreed. This was transposed into a proposal for the 2018 AGM which when discussed was rejected by the membership.

Before considering any further amendment it is necessary to recognise why the 28 day requirement exists for which there are two reasons:

1. To allow adequate time for the General Secretary to collate any proposals and prepare the agenda.
2. Documentation is then forwarded to NC members at least 10 days prior to the meeting to enable delegates adequate time to consider any proposals and if necessary obtain the views of the Section Committee.

While the above is very relevant it is considered to be too rigid as a subject to be discussed may be of an important nature and require a decision by the NC. To at least enable discussion on topics that have not met the 28 day requirement it is proposed that other topics may be discussed provided ALL voting members present agree to the subject being discussed. The use of the word ALL is considered necessary as it may be that a given representative needs additional time to consider the subject or get the view of their Section Committee. Therefore the following amendment to Article 55 is proposed.

The formal proposition

Article 55 of the existing Articles of Association be altered by the deletion of Article 55 and the adoption of the following article in substitute.

55. *Items for discussion, including all reports, shall where reasonably possible be submitted in writing to the General Secretary on or before the twenty-eighth day prior to the date of the meeting. The General Secretary shall include such items on an agenda, which, together with the minutes of the previous meeting (if not previously circulated) shall be circulated on or before the tenth day prior to the date of the meeting. Items not circulated in advance may be tabled, discussed and voted on subject to the agreement of all voting delegates present. Each meeting shall decide the date of the next meeting unless already decided in advance. The date will be published in the next available issue of The Journal.*

Amendment to Article 60

The current wording of Article 60 is as follows

60a. A resolution signed in writing by not less than 75% of the National Committee Members entitled to receive notice of a meeting of National Committee Members or of a committee of National Committee Members shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of National Committee Members or (as the case may be) a committee of National Committee Members duly convened and held and may consist of several documents in the like form each signed by one or more National Committee Members; but a resolution signed by an alternate National Committee Member need not also be signed by his appointor and, if it is signed by a National Committee Member who has appointed an alternate National Committee Member, it need not be signed by the alternate in that capacity.

60b. A written resolution shall be sent to all the National Committee Members entitled to receive notice of a meeting of National Committee Members by sending hard copies of the same by post, or by electronic form or by means of the Company website. The written resolution shall state how to signify agreement to it and the date by which the resolution must be passed if it is not to lapse ("the Lapse Date") which shall be 21 days from the date the notices were sent to all the members ("the Distribution Date"). If a member does not signify agreement by the Lapse Date then they are deemed to have voted against the resolution.

The reason for the proposed changes

Article 60a allows the National Committee to make a decision remotely by means of a resolution or resolutions sent to each member and voted on by the members. The requirement for a 75% majority, with abstainers counted as votes against, implies that in the absence of face-to-face discussion a significant degree of agreement is needed. The difficulty with this is that, when the committee is evenly divided on the issue, the wording of the motion will determine the result of the vote. This is not an ideal situation as it means that the General Secretary can, under some circumstances, determine the result of a vote by the way he writes the motion to be voted on and this is clearly unacceptable. It is proposed to amend Article 60a to require only a simple majority for a motion to carry and to amend Article 60b to record abstentions as abstentions rather than count them as votes against. It is also proposed to amend the time allowed for responding, currently 21 days, to 10 days as it is assumed that email rather than post will be used to distribute the resolutions and votes.

The formal proposition

Article 60a and 60b of the existing Articles of Association be altered by the deletion of Article 60a and 60b and the adoption of the following article in substitute.

60a. A resolution signed in writing by a simple majority of the National Committee Members entitled to receive notice of a meeting of National Committee Members or of a committee of National Committee Members shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of National Committee Members or (as the case may be) a committee of National Committee Members duly convened and held and may consist of several documents in the like form each signed by one or more National Committee Members; but a resolution signed by an alternate National Committee Member need not also be signed by his appointor and, if it is signed by a National Committee Member who has appointed an alternate National Committee Member, it need not be signed by the alternate in that capacity.

60b. A written resolution shall be sent to all the National

Committee Members entitled to receive notice of a meeting of National Committee Members by sending hard copies of the same by post, or by electronic form or by means of the Company website. The written resolution shall state how to signify agreement to it and the date by which the resolution must be passed if it is not to lapse ("the Lapse Date") which shall be 10 days from the date the notices were sent to all the members ("the Distribution Date"). If a member does not signify agreement or disagreement by the Lapse Date then they are deemed to have abstained and will not be considered in determining the success or failure of the resolution. The numbers of votes cast for, against and abstaining will be recorded, notified to the members of the National Committee and reported in the minutes of the next National Committee Meeting.

Amendment to Article 76

The current wording of Articles 76 and 77 is as follows..

76. Should a complaint be submitted to the National Committee that any member has contravened the rules of the Club or to have acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the Club, the National Committee shall acquaint the member with the complaint and the procedures to be followed.

77. In such cases, the National Committee Members shall properly acquaint themselves with all the relevant factors, and by a majority vote have the power to caution, suspend, or withdraw membership. A Section Committee may suspend a member from that Section's activities. The General Secretary shall be notified in writing immediately, giving reasons, so that the matter may be resolved at the next meeting of the National Committee Members.

The reason for the proposed change

Article 76 refers to inappropriate behaviour within the context of Club activities. An example of this might be using abusive or offensive language at a Club function. It is unfortunately the case that in recent years we have had two cases where Club members were imprisoned for serious, but different and unconnected, offences. As there is no Club rule prohibiting criminal convictions, and any such rule would be impossible to enforce, a more general solution is proposed whereby any conduct causing offence to a significant number of members may be considered in a reasoned and consistent manner. It is therefore proposed to amend Article 76 as below to recognise such situations.

The formal proposition

Article 76 of the existing Articles of Association be altered by the deletion of Article 76 and the adoption of the following article in substitute.

76. Should a complaint be submitted to the National Committee that any member has contravened the rules of the Club, to have acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the Club or in such a manner as to cause concern, the National Committee shall acquaint the member with the complaint and the procedures to be followed.