

The BMW Club Annual General Meeting

Saturday 15th April 2023

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

Venue
The Canberra Club,
1 Myerscough Smithy Rd,
Balderstone,
Myerscough Smithy,
Blackburn BB2 7LE



The BMW Club
United Kingdom & Ireland



The BMW Club Annual General Meeting 15th April 2023 AGENDA

1. President's Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Appointment of Tellers
4. Approval of the minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting (presented on page 3).
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 5)
 - Social Secretary (presented on page 5)
 - Membership Secretary (presented on page 6)
 - GS Register Secretary (presented on page 6)
 - 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 2022 (in separate document)
9. Appointment of Accountants for the following year (detailed on page 8)
10. Confirm the Subscriptions from 1st October 2023 according to Club Rule 10 (detailed on page 8)
11. Election of Club Officers for 2023 to 2024

Position	Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
President	Judy Lepley	Ron Gow	Keith Walker
General Secretary	Stewart Lowthian	Robert Harrison	Lynn Sumner
Social Secretary	Jim Bettley	Gerri Chandler	Erica Body
Editor	Bruce Lepley	Piers Kurrein	Judith Jones
Membership Secretary	Colin Ross	Paul Rodriguez	Cameron Wills
Treasurer	Jim Lepley	Marjorie Burnett	Lynn Sumner
GS Register Secretary	Nev Jones	Jeff Lewis	Haydn Rees
Sidecar Register Secretary	Keith Thomas	Martyn Aves	Paul Ennis
Sporting Register Secretary	Robert Bensley	Peter Jones	Jim McCarter
Vice-President	Nev Jones	Jeff Lewis	Haydn Rees

12. 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)
13. To fix a date for the 2024 Annual General Meeting
14. Any Other Business.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The BMW Motorcycle Club Limited held at the Town Hall, Moffat on 23rd April 2022

- 1. President's opening address:** Ian Dobie welcomed members to Moffat and thanked them for attending.
- 2. Apologies for Absence:** Nick Dawes, Lynn Sumner, Keith Thomas, Helen Beer, Carl Flint, Anthony Wilkie, Lynn Sutton, Barry Winter Cynthia Milton, Colin and Susan Ross, Peter Dunn, Paul Nadin.
- 3. Appointment of Tellers:** Billy and Mandy Gregor and Duncan and Elspeth Colborn were appointed.
- 4. Approval of the Minutes of the 2019 AGM:** On a proposal by Reg Moule, seconded by Dave Twist the minutes were accepted with 233 votes for, non against and 20 abstentions.
- 5. Matters arising from the Minutes:** Jim Lepley (Treasurer) addressed the meeting stating:
*"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. My response to that query is in 2 parts: First Article 3 of the M&AAs is shown on the screen. Effectively the Mission Statement or Objectives of The Club. There is no mention of profit. In fact, the opposite is implied. Secondly, I answer based on my long-term career in Quality Management. Quality Management has many parallels with Marketing. Where the main objective is to identify customer's needs and requirements and how to comply on a least cost basis. It is my firm belief that the vast majority of members (customers) have no interest in the amount of profit made by the Club and therefore I would not and do not intend to spend any time investigating this matter.
 My original remit was to ensure that there were sufficient reserves to finance the Club's activities for one year without income. As at the 30th of September, 2021 the annual turnover was £125,061 for the year. There was at that time £139,028 in the various bank accounts. This amount does not include £72,562.00 reserves in the sections. If anyone wants to investigate as requested by Steve Moxey, I will be happy to provide access the figures.*
 No other matters were raised.

6. Count of Proxy Votes by section.

East Anglia	10	Irish	8	London	1
Mercia	2	Midland	12	North East	2
Northern	9	Oxford	51	Scottish	43
South East	2	Southern	8	South West	0
Ulster	0	Western	12	Yorkshire	6
HQ	1				
Total	167				

7. Count of members present by section.

East Anglia	3	Irish	0	London	0
Mercia	5	Midland	5	North East	8
Northern	12	Oxford	3	Scottish	22
South East	0	Southern	6	South West	2
Ulster	1	Western	6	Yorkshire	10
HQ	0				
Total	83				

8. Officer's reports

President: Ian Dobie had nothing to add to his report apart from commenting favourably on the Club and sections ongoing activities.

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

Editor: Liz Elvidge had nothing to add to her report circulated with the agenda. No questions were raised.

Social Secretary: Jim Bettley thanked members for attending. He then thanked the Scottish Section for helping and asked for a round of applause for them. He commented on how far some members had travelled, noting in particular Phil Sampson's journey of 500 miles with some of the Scottish section travelling further than many of the English section members. No questions were raised.

Membership Secretary: John Elvidge observed that membership numbers appeared to have plateaued after falling for a number of years. As John was retiring from the position Jim Bettley gave a brief presentation explaining that he had become Membership Secretary by accident. He continued by emphasising the extent to which John had rationalised the position and the distribution of The Journal. Ian Dobie then presented him with a selection of craft beers as a retirement gift with the promise of a tankard to drink them from.

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. No questions were raised.

Sporting Register Secretary: Robert Bensley's report was circulated with the agenda. As he was not present no questions could be asked. Jim Lepley updated the members present with the progress of Robert's treatment.

DVLA Liaison Officers: Robert Freeman's and Ken MacDonald's reports were circulated with the agenda. As neither was present, no questions could be asked.

Toolhire Officer: Mike Delacoe's report was circulated with the agenda. He had nothing to add. No questions were raised.

- 9. Treasurer's report:** Jim Lepley added to his report, stating: After approval and publication of the Accounts I noticed that the section reserves had been omitted. This information is now added to the previously blank page 8 and a copy of the report is available on the web site and copies are available if anyone wishes to see them here. You have my report in which I mention my concerns at the ongoing cost of the new database. I recently learned of an additional hosting cost of £60 per month or £720 per year. I just want to add a comment that I keep a very close watch on cash flow. I have here 2 graphs showing the amount of money held in various Bank Accounts at the end of each month for the last 10 years. This is a very busy graph. I happened to notice that the line for the start of this year appeared to be close to the middle of the last 10 annual lines. So, I created a second chart which plots the average

holding each month for 10 years and it can be seen the line for this year is very close to the average certainly for the first 2 months. It has diverged somewhat since then; I believe this is an effect of the rolling membership year smoothing the income over the year. This is the basis on which I will not recommend an increase in subscriptions this year. On a proposal by Jim Lepley, seconded by Dik Langan, it was agreed to accept the accounts with 216 votes for, 26 against and 15 abstentions.

- 10. Confirmation of accountants:** On a proposal by Jim Lepley, seconded by Dik Langan, it was agreed that Ross McConnell would be retained. Voting was 206 for, 27 against and 15 abstentions.
- 11. Confirmation of subscription:** The question of the National Committee amending the subscription was raised if costs raised rampantly through the year. Ian Dobie and Stewart Lowthian both pointed out that our Articles only allowed an AGM this authority. On a proposal from Jim Lepley, seconded by Stewart Lowthian, the proposal to maintain the subscription as is was carried with 219 votes for, 18 against and 14 abstentions.
- 12. Election of Officers:** Jim Bettley (Vice-President) took the chair for the election of the President. The voting was scrutinised by retiring Vice-President Alan Orme, with 78 votes cast for Ian Dobie and 167 for Judy Lepley. Judy was therefore elected President. Stewart Lowthian suggested that, as no other position was contested, time could be saved by taking the other candidates en-bloc. This was accepted by the meeting and all candidates were given overwhelming support, both from proxy votes already cast and from members present. Judy Lepley then announced, to applause from the members present, that Jim Bettley had accepted a co-option to serve as National Social Secretary. As there were three candidates for the position of Vice-President and three posts available, all candidates were elected. To re-align their periods of service into the three-year cycle mandated by the Articles they agreed amongst themselves that Cliff Batley would serve for one year, Jim Bettley for two years and Bruce Lepley for three years.
- 13. Proposal for grant to fund National Rallies :**The proposal was introduced on behalf of the Yorkshire Section by Piers Kurrein . Opinions for and against were expressed,

including those with experience of organising National Rallies. On a proposal from John Elvidge, seconded by Dik Langan, the voting was 102 for, 88 against and 70 abstentions. The motion therefore carried.

- 14. Proposals to amend the MAA, each requiring a 75% majority to carry.** Stewart Lowthian introduced the four motions to amend the MAA, stating that all had been agreed by at least a majority of National Committee members. Each amendment was explained in detail, with an explicit statement that the amendment to Article 76 was for the future only (i.e. it cannot be used retrospectively) and it was hoped that it would never be needed. Each amendment was proposed by Stewart Lowthian and seconded by Dik Langan.
 - Proposal to amend Article 13:** Votes for: 193. Votes against 0. Abstentions 45. Carried.
 - Proposal to amend Article 55:** Votes for: 207. Votes against 3. Abstentions 43. Carried.
 - Proposal to amend Article 60:** Votes for: 196. Votes against 0. Abstentions 51. Carried.
 - Proposal to amend Article 76:** Votes for: 202. Votes against 1. Abstentions 46. Carried.
- 15. Date of next meeting: Not yet fixed.** A proposal for the 2023 meeting has been received but will be mentioned in The Journal to allow members to express their opinions. The issue of clashing with the Stafford show was raised.
- 16. Any Other Business:** Jim Lepley spoke regarding his enquiries into regalia, stating that samples he had seen were of good quality but very expensive and potentially subject to long waiting times. Bob Melvin then demonstrated Southern Section regalia and described how it was produced. Their supplier produces items from online orders with a fast turnaround. The Club holds no stock so no money or storage space is tied up. Nev Jones commented on changes to logos mandated by BMW, arguing that direct sales to the public were precluded. Bob stated that this was already the case and added that there was no minimum order and commission was paid on sales. Stewart Lowthian will add a proposal to the agenda for the next NC meeting to adopt the scheme and add Bob as the volunteer coordinator to the list of non-elected volunteers.
17. The meeting closed at 14:30.

Reports to the 2023 AGM

President: Judy Lepley

This past year it has been a pleasure and a privilege to be part of the National Officers Team. Bruce, Colin, Jim B, Jim L and Stewart are a hardworking and diligent group who use their talents and knowledge to achieve the very best for our great Club.

For the past year there has been a more positive and forward looking feeling throughout the Club. More activities and volunteers coming forward to organise them. Membership numbers between April and December showing an increase.

Looking forward we are attending both Stafford Classic Motorcycle Shows, Adventure Bike Festival, VMCC Founders Day and Motorcycle Live. Attendance at these Shows brings our Club to the attention of the Motorcycling Fraternity and increases membership. Face to face contact with prospective members helps dispel the pipe and slippers image and the snobbish elitist image that we have heard so much about over the years.

We have the National Rally 100 Year Celebration of BMW in Gloucestershire this year. In 2024 there will be a National Rally at the University of Stirling Venues in Scotland 16th – 19th August. We now need a National Rally venue somewhere in the middle of the Country so that we can rotate between 3 venues.

As regards National AGMs it was Moffat last year, Blackburn this year so we now need to source a suitable venue in the south. We can then, as with National Rallies, rotate between 3 venues.

Using 3 venues in rotation will save a great deal of work and possibly expense as organisers will have the opportunity of building relationships with the venues.

As we will be in Northern Section territory, I must commend the Northern Committee for their innovative and continuing collaboration with Bowker Blackburn BMW. This initiative has been instrumental in recruiting many new members.

The Club is very fortunate to have many volunteers who do a superb job for us without them there would be no Club and they all deserve a huge thank you from this AGM.

Our Club is moving forward and has a very bright future.

General Secretary: Stewart Lowthian

From my perspective as General Secretary the Club has run well in the last year. The officers, at national and section level, have worked together very well and as a result, administrative matters have gone smoothly. That is not to say that everyone agrees with everything discussed but it very definitely means that differences of opinion are discussed in a civilised manner. I'm more comfortable standing for election again this year as a result of the cooperation that is now the norm.

It's been a rather more turbulent year for me personally. A cancer diagnosis followed by a road traffic accident, which I still haven't made sense of, but which resulted in my R1200GS being written off, left me somewhat disadvantaged. A scan in early December was encouraging so I've bought an F850GS on the basis that it's a lot lighter than a hexhead and hexheads are now old and of uncertain history. I hope to wear it out while I can still ride but its' low mileage will make that a challenge.

Editor: Bruce Lepley

Having produced the club magazine since (as far as I can tell) June of 2016, it seemed a natural step to take on the full Editors role with Liz Elvidge opting to retire from the position in July 2022. My only concern was, 'do I have enough time to take this on with a full-time job?', and with invaluable assistance from Piers, Kurrien, Dik Langan, Judith Jones and Judy Lepley, Yes I do...which can be seen from the magazine editions from August 2022.

I have always felt it is of the highest importance to keep our monthly club magazine in house and with no one else seemingly able or willing to take on the role, I stuck my hand up at the July national committee meeting and was co-opted as the Editor. We had a bit of a rocky start, with little content left over and a change of email/storage systems, but with a number of avid regular contributors contacted, and some very fast work, I think you can all agree we managed to pull off the August edition without much of a hitch (maybe a few unfound mistakes, even with Dik's Eagle eyes), but certainly a good standard, which I feel has continued and improved each month.

Following this AGM, and hopefully being voted into the role by you (our members), I'm already planning in a few days of partnership working with the editorial team to overhaul the design of the magazine, with a view to keeping it fresh and looking even more professional. There are also plans to make a lot more use of the clubs Facebook pages, and possibly website to make viewing the magazine content more readily available, further future proofing, and hopefully drawing in more membership.

If there are any willing/budding magazine/media buffs out there keen to get involved with helping bring our stories to the membership and specifically administration of our social media pages, please get in touch.

National Social Secretary: Jim Bettley

At the very successful National AGM at the Town Hall in Moffat there was again no volunteer for the post of National Social Secretary so once again I offered to be co-opted to try to ensure we would, at the very least, have an AGM in 2023. I had already started the process of trying to find a venue for this and am please to report that with that Club members had already identified three potential venues. Nothing was guaranteed but the signs were at least hopeful. I am deeply indebted to the Northern Section who put forward the terrific venue of the Canberra Club, which has provided us with excellent facilities at a very reasonable cost. Thanks to all in the Northern Section, not only for putting me on to the site but also offering to take on all of the tasks such as traffic marshals, booking everyone in and the like, without which the AGM quite simply could not take place.

We also have a National Rally in place at the Fire Service College to celebrate the 100 yrs of BMW motorcycles. Not as perfect as we would have hoped for, but it ticked far more boxes than any other venue we found available to us. It will be a great event so I hope to see you there.

I must also thank our Treasurer, Jim Lepley who, alongside all the duties this requires of him, has also sorted all the bookings and meal choices for the AGM and the National Rally. This is an immense amount of work and definitely way above and beyond what could be expected. From all of us - thanks Jim!

I hope you enjoy your visit to the Canberra Club!

Membership Secretary: Colin Ross

When I decided to take on the role as National Membership Secretary in 2022 I expected that much of the activity would be centred around the database and application of spread sheets to define the monthly mailing list. In practice this has only been one element. Although I have been a Section Committee Member and NC Rep for the Western Section I soon became aware of how much time and effort is required by the National Officers to run the Club on behalf of the membership, all of whom are volunteers.

As I was unopposed for the position in 2022, I had significant assistance from Dik Langan who gave me access to the Database before being officially elected. This gave me the opportunity to get to grips with the Database. Equally, the outgoing National Membership Secretary, John Elvidge assisted in the transition by allowing me to work alongside him before fully taking over the role.

I would not say that the year has gone smoothly as I have made a few mistakes but have also learned a lot. Apart from producing the Journal mailing list there are two other areas I have investigated and hopefully improved:

Complimentary Membership: When downloading a copy of the Database to produce the mailing list it was observed that there was a significant number of members defined as “Free” many of whom I did not recognise. As a consequence, it was requested that The Section membership Secretaries advise who they defined as free. It soon became apparent that in some cases where the section paid the membership they were defined as “Free” which is not the case as the Club receives remuneration. Additionally, some members who had previously fulfilled a National Role were continuing to receive “Free” membership. At the time it became obvious that there were database problems which Dik Langan set about resolving. With the database updated it was now possible to define more precisely how a membership was funded as categories of “Section Funded” and “Club Funded” along with others being added. With these improvements implemented the Sections were again requested to advise only the three members allotted to each Section to receive Complimentary membership but not those that fulfil a National Role as it was considered that having a Section Membership Secretary carry out their renewal was problematic as they may not be aware of a change to a specific role. The task of renewing the membership of those that fulfil a National Role and Honorary Members would be the responsibility of the National Membership Secretary. A spread sheet has been produced which includes the names and positions of members, the content of which has been agreed by the National Officers. This will be updated as and when membership is renewed or when another member takes over a specific role. To simplify any transition of role which will apply to section members receiving complimentary membership and those fulfilling a National Role the following applies:

1. Where a member ceases to fulfil a specific role, their complimentary membership shall continue until the currently defined expiry date following which the appropriate membership fee will become payable.
2. Where a member takes over a specific role their complimentary membership will commence following the date of their existing expiry date.

Journal Insertions: It has been practice for many years to permit sections to have, but not limited to, their calendar of events forwarded with the Journal. Although there does not appear to be anything defined to confirm what is / is not permitted there has not been any control over the process. In the current year at the time of writing this report 3 sections required insertions with the January Journal and 4 sections required insertions with the February

Journal. There is obviously a cost to fulfil this task by the mailing house as they must produce splits. Diagram 1 below illustrates the splits carried out by the mailing house in a normal month without any section insertions:

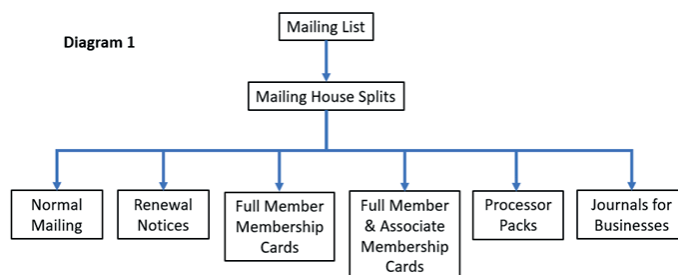
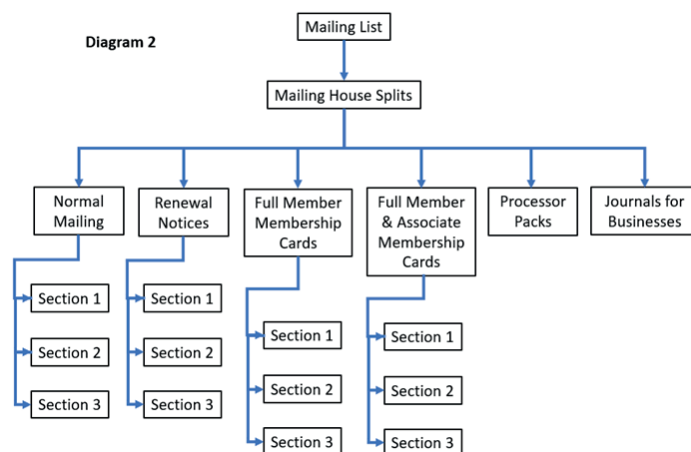


Diagram 2 below illustrates the number of splits when 3 sections insertions are requested:



In the case of the February Journal when 4 sections required insertions this would require an additional 4 splits.

Without going into too much details the total additional cost for the January and February insertions was £1180 which is equivalent to £0.78 per calendar insertion. If this task was carried out by the section requesting the insertion, they would have to cover the cost of postage (second class stamp is £0.68), plus the cost of envelopes and a section member would have the task of preparation and posting. It was therefore considered that using the mailing house was the most cost-effective method of distribution. This subject was discussed at the February NCM where it was agreed by a significant majority that the cost of distributing section calendars would be the responsibility of the section who have the option of using the mailing house or carrying out the task themselves. Should the mailing house be used for distribution the cost would initially be paid by the National Treasurer and the section invoiced with the additional cost.

GS Register: Nev Jones

I will start my report by thanking all those who have helped and supported me during 2022-2023 in the role of GS Register Secretary. I am standing for re-election for 2023-24. I am equally happy to support someone else who stands for this position.

Reports on 2022 Events

February 2022 BMW Club Rhino National Rally

This year the campsite decided to close for the Rhino dates. Also Hotel and B&B prices were very high and availability low. Sadly

only about 12 members managed to attend.

Koblenz Tour 29th April to 8th May –

This tour may have set the standards for future tours. After being deferred because of Covid it was great to finally complete a successful tour. Videos of the trip were posted on YouTube.

Brecon Beacons Camping - July

This event was shelved for 2022 due to venue availability issues and clashes with other event dates.

Swiss Passes Tour – 9th to 18th September.

We completed a nine day tour, riding passes for four days and sightseeing for two days. The weather played its part by only raining on two days. Another successful tour. Videos of the trip were posted on YouTube.

In February 2022 the NCM agreed a new set of Ride Out Guidance documentation and this has resulted in greater interest being shown in arranged ride outs.

During 2022 insufficient interest was expressed in a tour of Wallonia in early 2023. As a result this tour has been removed from the diary of events.

Once again BMW's sales of the GS and GSA have continued to increase year on year in 2021 and 2022. As a result we look forward to welcoming yet more new GS Register members in the coming year.

During the latter part of 2022 it became obvious that the BMW Club Rhino Rally was going to lack an organiser for 2023 and the future. We were approached and asked if the GS Register would take on the event. A volunteer came forward to act as a coordinator. On this basis the Register has posted the event as a GS Register National Event for 2023. Should all go well the Register will continue to diarise the event year on year.

The National Rallies

These comprise The Welsh National Rally, The English National Rally and The Scottish National Rally. Many GS Register members have competed in these events in the past. In 2016 a GS Register team came third in the team category. Following Covid all three events have had real issues with arranging enough volunteers prepared to run the event. As a result the ACU who previously ran just the English decided they would run all three using unmanned checkpoints. Following this decision the English has lost its attachment with the BMF and other differences of opinion have not been ironed out. Which of them actually run in 2023 is yet to be seen.

GS Register Website

Progress on replacing the website has been difficult. A competent volunteer is needed or a decision will need to be made in 2023 whether to delete the current site, because maintenance now requires too much time.

GS Register Facebook Page

We now have 1600 members on the GS Register Facebook page.

GS Register Forum Posts

The Register continues to have its own section on the Forum in "Paid Up Members Only".

Sporting Register: Robert Bensley

Last years track days were a great success, as usual we had good weather apart from the very hot day in July. They were a financial success and made a small profit. This years dates are well publicised in the Journal and at the time of writing are well over half full.

A new event is planned for this year, a day at a drag strip, Santa Pod is Britain's best known venue and we can hire the track complete with timing lights etc. I will arrange it so it's possible to have just 1 run in order to get a picture of ones self at the start line, more info when I have a date confirmed.

DVLA Liaison Officer/Archivist: Robert Freeman

It seems, as I write this report, every year I begin with the sentence, "This last year has been like no other.! That still holds true. However, two major changes of course have taken place. which affect everyone. Firstly, the DVLA have refused to accept a Headed Date Letter from any manufacturer that has a facsimile signature. Secondly, BMW Group in Germany have within the last month, February '23, stopped the issuing of Headed Date Letters, on the grounds they are un economical to produce.

Any BMW produced up to the mid-1980s is recorded in huge handwritten ledgers, and have to be manually searched. Stored in a humidity and temperature controlled secure area. I have been in there myself and seen.

I / We, Ken Buchanan, ably assisted by his wife Catherine are still able to obtain from Germany the production date on a particular model. Likewise, the DVLA will accept any letter from Ken Buchanan, or myself, if we state, a particular vehicle was produced on a particular date. It does mean that you are no longer required / or able, to purchase at the cost of a Euro 45 or €50.00 a headed letter from BMW, to display in your garage

The DVLA

It seems, that because Headed Date Letters are produced by Manufacturers containing a facsimile signature, that certain members of society have realised that they can & have!!produced 'false documentation' using the computerised signature. Not BMW.

However, if Ken or I tell the DVLA a particular BMW was manufactured on an specific date, that will be acceptable and trusted, because we have not in the past and will not in the future , make a 'False' statement.

It is a fair to say, we are on very good terms with the DVLA. They have asked me to look over and give an opinion on a number of "fraudulent applications," from people outside our organization,. All this has included looking at photographs submitted by Mr. Joe Public, to determine if the VIN numbers are in fact genuine ? But there are others. Stamped with a Vin Number that was some long time before that model was produced.!

Closer to home in of the last year I have had a couple of machines inspected at the request of the DVLA. To do this I usually contact a Club Member who lives within a reasonable distance of the BMW in question. I am pleased to say everyone I have asked has jumped at the chance, giving very clear assessment of the vehicle, and made a new friend.

All that about sums up the DVLA side of my life. I am now in my 10th year as Officer. and happy to continue as such if that is that the desire of the members

Archives.

This is a subject that I find interesting, but also useful in Helping

People.

I have in the last year had the perennial 'Pre War BMW' twin with sidecar whose native language is Mandarin, Think Chang Jing. A 1930's. BMW ??? model 'Nestoria' with a Sturmey-Archer Engine made in Stuttgart. It has a Blue / White Badge.

The Club Archive Photos, in excess of 300 from 1951 have now been Copied / Scanned and will be available to view on the Club Web site but electrically overimaged with copyright over print. BMW Germany came to me about pre War Model, for which I had the information.

Did some research for a German Author about a 1930's English Gentleman Racer at Brooklands . Lothar Mildernath has donated a copy, signed, of his book " MunchenerMeistermacherMaschien " BMW RS 54 and Family. 144 pages. This will be awarded at the Morton in TheMarsh, National Rally.

Quite How and to Whom will be decided by our committee. I only begged it.

DVLA Liaison Officer: Ken Buchanan

The past year can be summed up as periods of busy activity interspersed with long gaps waiting for the BMW Archive in Germany to respond to requests. 2022 started with the German archive being closed while it relocated. When it reopened it was with fewer staff. After clearing a backlog of applicants for date letters going back several months, the archive went quiet again.

At this point in the late summer the DVLA decided that the facsimile signatures on the German date letters were no longer acceptable to the team in the first registration department. Robert Freeman managed to negotiate with them for our hand signed support letter to take its place, as long as we had got the build date information from the BMW archive, but we have yet to test out if our support letter on its own is also acceptable to the historic status department at the DVLA.

Before Christmas responses to our requests started to come through from our contact at the archive again and I managed to clear a few more applications for support letters. At the time of writing this we have had an automated response from our contact to say they will no longer be issuing hard copy date letters to applicants at all, whatever they want them for. They have in the past given us build dates via email for us to base our support letters on, but since the start of 2023 I have sent 4 requests to Germany with no response, so am once again building a backlog of our members waiting for build date info.

A look at my records showed that for applicants with bikes from 1980 onwards (Robert deals with bikes from before 1980), I had a total of 34 enquiries during 2022. Each enquiry receives the same introductory email from me detailing what we can do for them and what we need from them in terms of information about their bike. Not all applicants are club members, so to proceed with the process they have to join the club or pay a £50 fee. Usually they join or I don't hear back from them again! No-one has elected to pay the fee, which isn't surprising.

The reasons why people coming to me want build date info breaks down as follows, 59% want it to obtain historic status, 26% want to get their bikes registered in the UK for the first time and the other 15% want it for other reasons. Not every applicant sees the process through to getting dating information, around 38% don't bother to respond to my introductory email, including some that are already club members. This may be due to a variety of reasons, they don't want to pay to join the club, or pay for a date letter from Archive, or perhaps their bike is still in bits and not ready - we need to see photos of a complete bike to proceed. Now that the German

archive is no longer producing hard copy date letters there is no longer a 45 euro fee for members to pay, so more may be encouraged to continue. I just hope that we can get the information they need. It's very dispiriting to continually have to explain the delays to members eager to get their bikes on the road.

Around 10% of applicants have models of bikes that come under the UK BMW archive as regards obtaining dating info. They also are very slow to respond. It could be that we have to talk to them to see if they can date all bikes for us if the German archive no longer have the staff available to do this for us, however reading Robert's description of the German archives I doubt very much if this will be possible.

Tool Hire: Mike Delacoe

From Jan 2022 to Dec 2022, 51 members hired a total of 164 tools, so a little quieter than the previous period. As in recent years the most hired tool in 2022 was again the GS-911 Diagnostic devices which were sent out 22 times. We have been fortunate to have been donated a number of tools for the post 1969 airhead flat twins.

Hire by model range 2022 (51 bikes):

Pre 1969 Airheads:	2	(4%)
Post 1969 Airheads:	21	(41%)
K (Brick) Series:	3	(6%)
K (Slant K4x 4 cylinder	1	(2%)
K (Slant K48 6 cylinder	1	(2%)
F-Series	3	(6%)
Oilhead Boxers	3	(6%)
R1200 (not LC)	9	(18%)
R1200 LC version	5	(10%)
R1250	1	(2%)
S1000	2	(4%)

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 2022 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

I would like to thank the behind the scenes workers for their support and assistance. In particular Lyn 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 and last but not least the section treasurers and membership secretaries.

2021/2022 Accounts

- Track days show a profit of £2,000.00
- Subscription income is showing an increase of £1000.00 on last year however it is down on previous years.
- Advertising income is increasing.
- Journal printing costs are up £4,000.00 following

a steady decrease over recent years.

- Mailing costs have increased but hopefully they will reduce due to measures introduced by Colin Ross.
- Postage similar to last year but I am aware that Royal Mail are increasing prices.
- £10,000.00 more on 3 full meetings NC Meetings versus one small one in 2020/21.
- AGM (no meeting for 2 years) Costs for the 2021/22 AGM were lower than previous years with the exception of the 2 meetings at Dunchurch where costs were very low due to the 3 year deal Jim Bettley negotiated.
- NEC costs up due to the low footfall caused by Covid.

It is unreasonable to make comparisons with the previous two years accounts as I have here because the covid situation had such an extreme effect on our activities.

I have a spread sheet where the various costs can be compared since the year 2000 available to view or I can supply a copy. This shows that most of our activities are being controlled at a lower cost than earlier years.

As reported previously I keep a close watch on Club cash reserves and I have to report a much lower cash holding than earlier (spreadsheet and graph). Our reserve has fallen over the

last twelve months to the extent that I must take action. I earlier suggested a modest increase in subscriptions but must increase that this year. I now suggest a £3 increase in subscription as soon as possible and suspect that we may need to increase again in order to support increasing costs, including the membership data base, £1 per member allocation to National Rallies, increased recruitment activity, mileage payments, printing, postage etc.etc.

Appointment of Accountants

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

Determination of Subscription

It is proposed to raise full members subscriptions by £3 per annum. It is proposed to raise associate member subscriptions by £1 per annum.

Presentation of Trophies

No nominations for trophies have been received.

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

These resolutions require a majority of at least 75% to carry

Amendment to Article 10

The current wording of Article 10 is as follows

10. *The full rate subscription and the associate rate subscription for the following year shall be decided by the Annual General Meeting and shall be the alternative to the existing subscription or the National Committee's recommendation. The subscription covers a membership period of one year. Persons ceasing to be a member during the year shall not be entitled to a refund.*

The subscription for a new member joining the Club shall terminate at the end of the calendar month on the anniversary of their joining. By way of example, a subscription for a new member commencing on the 10th of April shall terminate on the 30th April the following year. The termination date for a member who renews their subscription will be 12 months from the existing renewal date even if they renew late.

The reasons for the proposed changes

In 2016 AGM a decision was made to change from a fixed membership year to a rolling membership year. It is not totally clear as to the justification for this change but it has been suggested that it would be a more modern approach and may reduce the number of new members that do not renew after the first year. It is not possible to define what this change cost as it was part of a database rewrite.

Since taking over as National Membership Secretary I have seen first-hand the additional effort required on my behalf, in particular producing the monthly mailing list for the Journal and reacting to direct contact from members about renewing membership. Equally, comments have been received from Section Membership Secretaries that the rolling year creates more work and would prefer to return to the fixed membership year.

While there is the work element there will obviously be cost implications in making such a change. Based on actual invoice costs and an estimate from the mailing house that the change would result in a saving of >£2000 per year. This potential saving is based on the following:

- Renewal notices are only forwarded during one month and not on a monthly basis.
- Membership cards would be forwarded ideally in one

month; however, this is very unlikely in practice therefore is has been assumed that for two months following the fixed renewal date would include costs associated with sending out membership cards as 2 months is the period defined before a members fall into the lapsed category. This was changed from 3 months by the National Committee

One of the issues with such a change would be how to deal with those members whose renewal date does not coincide with a fixed renewal date, these represent approximately 50% of the membership. Equally consideration would need to be given as to what fees apply to a new member joining part way through the membership year. The National Committee will determine an equitable method of calculating part-year payments.

Should the proposed change be acceptable is there a cost. The answer to that is "yes" as the database will require updating. It is estimated that the cost of the updating would be between £6000 and £7000 which if the above cost saving is realised then payback would be in the order of 3 years after which it would be more cost effective.

The formal proposition

Article 10 of the existing Articles of Association be altered by the deletion of Article 10 and the adoption of the following article in substitute:-

10. *The full rate subscription and the associate rate subscription for the following year shall be decided by the Annual General Meeting and shall be the alternative to the existing subscription or the National Committee's recommendation. Annual termination of subscriptions shall be at 31 January. Full members joining or renewing between February and December will pay a reduced subscription to reflect the shorter period of membership. The reduction mechanism will be determined by the National Committee. Persons ceasing to be a member during the term of membership shall not be entitled to a refund. The National Committee shall implement any change as circumstances permit.*

Proposed by:- Colin Ross (National Membership Secretary)

Seconded by:- John Elvidge.

Amendment to Article 78

The current wording of Article 78 is as follows

78. *The Club will endeavour to produce and send a monthly Journal to all Full Members. This Journal will be called the 'BMW CLUB JOURNAL' and will be edited by a National Officer on behalf of the National Committee. A new or late renewing member is not entitled to have sent a Journal in the two months following the subscription being accepted. Associate Members will not be entitled to receive their own copies off the Club Journal, or any other publication produced from time to time by the Club.*

The reason for the proposed change

I propose that the word Journal is removed from the name of the magazine. Simply replaced by 'The Magazine of The B.M.W. Motorcycle Club Ltd'. It has been my belief that the word journal does not explain what our magazine, or what this fantastic club is. As the Magazine is our flagship advertisement of us and what we do, it should be instantly recognisable as to what we are. This belief is backed up by numerous conversations held with long-standing, new and prospective club members and other individuals at many motorcycle shows, club and other events, where they indicate that the word Journal conjures up an old fashioned image, and almost instantly turns them off.

It has also been confirmed by a long-standing club member that other clubs and organisations use 'Journal' as their newsletter/magazine name. Also that a journal is a bearing in every engine ever created, not just BMW's. 'Magazine', brings up images of a professional organisation/publication, using the trading name further reinforces this image and explains what we are.

The formal proposition

Article 78 of the existing Articles of Association be altered by the deletion of Article 78 and the adoption of the following article in substitute.

78. *The Club will endeavour to produce and send a monthly Magazine to all full members. This Magazine will be called the 'The Magazine of The B.M.W. Motorcycle Club Ltd' and will be edited by a National Officer on behalf of the National Committee. A new or late renewing member is not entitled to have sent a magazine in the two months following the subscription being accepted. Associate Members will not be entitled to receive their own copies of the Club Magazine, or any other publication produced from time to time by the Club.*

Proposed by:- Bruce Lepley (Editor and Vice President)

Seconded by:- Judy Lepley (President)

Amendments to Articles consequent on the above being carried

To be consistent with the above amendment, should it carry, the following proposal will be presented.

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.

34. Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of National Committee Members (other than alternate National Committee Members) shall not be subject to any maximum but shall be not less than ten. The National Committee Members shall be the representative from each local Section plus the following National Officers: The President, the General Secretary, the Membership Secretary, the Treasurer, the Social Secretary and the **Journal** Editor.

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**.

67. A summary of the minutes shall be published in the next available **Journal** and the full minutes shall be available for inspection by any member within fourteen days of a request being submitted to the Secretary.

88. A Section Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called by written notice to both the General Secretary and the Section Secretary, signed by at least ten members of that Section (at least half the signatories must be Full Members of that Section) stating the reason. The General Secretary, in consultation with the President, shall arrange notification of the venue, and date and summary of the reason for the EGM to be in the next available issue of the Club **Journal**. The meeting date shall not be more than eight weeks after the **Journal** publication date. The General Secretary shall arrange for a Vice-President to chair the EGM and arrange for minutes to be taken. Only items related to the reason stated for calling the EGM may be on the agenda, which must be proposed and seconded by members of that Section, and received by the General Secretary on or before the twenty-first day prior to the date of the meeting.