

The BMW Club
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

20 April 2013

1 President's Welcome/Report

Good morning everyone and welcome to this 62nd AGM . Thank you for making the effort to attend.

Over the past year I hope that you have all enjoyed club life and the camaraderie that brings, when participating in adventures alongside your fellow rider.

The AGM will allow you to meet and socialize with the volunteers and members that help to run this club and will also allow the transfer of ideas and thoughts as to which way the club might develop in the future.

Lots of ideas are in the cooking pot for 2013 and it is good to see a club which is vibrant and planning the future, with a healthy social calendar. Speaking of volunteers, there is a sizeable group of members in this Club who step up to take on a whole range of tasks which are necessary to enable us to enjoy the activities on offer. Sometimes, these people are in high profile positions but more often than not they are beavering away in the background. I would like to record our grateful thanks to each and every one of these because without them, the Club would wither and die.

Looking at the details of the Club social calendar, I see that all sections have an interesting and varied programme this season. Why not try some of the offerings of the other sections? With these and the national events thrown in, you could map out a very busy season of motorcycling events!

Now, a few ground rules for the meeting today. If you wish to speak during the AGM please raise your hand to gain attention, then when you have the microphone please state your name and section and make sure that the Secretary has recorded this for the minutes.

2 Apologies for Absence:

Leonard McNeill, Jean Cox, Cliff Batley, Jenny Batley, Reg Moule , Margaret Moule, Dave Foster

3 Approval of minutes of 2012 Annual General Meeting.

The minutes were approved, Proposed: Dik Langan, Seconded: Eric Burnett

4 Matters arising from those minutes: None

5 Count of numbers present by Sections and appoint tellers:

East Anglia	4	Ireland	1
London	4	Mercia	13
Midland	32	North East	4
Northern	16	Oxford	40
Scotland	7	South East	3
Southern	15	South West	5
Ulster	1	Western	9
Yorkshire	14	HQ and Overseas	1

Total including associates 173

Tellers appointed: Graham Parker, Steve Forman

6 Reports (in writing) from:

General Secretary: Report as published. No questions.

Mike Fishwick requested that future organisers of the event make clear that pre-registration, if required, relates only to catering arrangements and not to attendance of the business meeting.

National Social Secretary: Report as published.

Mark updated his report, announcing that Framlingham was confirmed as the 2013 National Rally venue, there would be a Spring National Rally hosted by NE **Section in 2014** and the 2014 **Annual General Meeting** National Rally will be hosted by Oxford Section.

Editor: Report as published.

A suggestion was made that a specific 'Womans' Page' be introduced but other ladies present spoke against the idea which will therefore not be carried forward.

Membership Secretary: Report as published.

Steve Moxey requested a review of the loss of the Direct Debit system for membership renewal as there is evidence that this has led to a direct reduction in numbers.

Sporting Register Secretary: No report.

Dave Ensor is available to answer any questions.

Vintage Register Secretary: It was reported that John Winn is carrying out these duties pending the election of a new Secretary.

Merchandise Secretary: Report as published. No questions.

Two new jacket designs are available for purchase.

Tool Hire Secretaries: Reports as published.

Older tools are now being made from drawings.

7 Treasurer's Report and Accounts:

Jim Lepley thanked Lynn Tagg, Mike Delacoe, Cath Broughton, Chas Knight, Jim Bruce and Geoff Clough, together with all the Section Treasurers and others who had helped him over the past year. The subscription increase had resulted in over 400 underpayments and there were also 60 double payments to deal with. Jim thanked the partners of all concerned with sorting this out for their forbearance. The £3,500 error in the accounts presentation was traced to a sale or return entry being recorded as an expense rather than a debt. It makes no material difference to the actual position. The AGM costs last year appear low because the travel and subsistence element was not attributed to the AGM. The National Committee policy is to have reserves equivalent to one year's turnover and this is the current situation, therefore it will be necessary to reduce expenditure of increase income to preserve this position. National Committee spending will reduce by £5,000 provided the resolution is carried to reduce meetings from three to two annually. Mary Crompton asked why the book-keeping fees were 50% higher than planned; the answer is that the original figure was an estimate only. Steve Moxey asked if there is a budget estimate for next year; there is not. He requested that one be generated and published in the Journal. **Treasurer agreed to do this after the October NC meeting. Is this correct?** It was questioned whether budget estimates were NC business; Treasurer replied to the effect that it was a joint exercise for those managing the business of the Club. Derek Johnson suggested that £3,500 for accountancy services is too much and likewise the book-keeping fees. Also, having suffered a deficit of £20,000 approx. this year, notwithstanding the £5,000 NC saving, where will the further £15,000 savings come from to enable a break-even position? Treasurer indicated that this is a matter for the NC to resolve at their October meeting. Dick Boyd put forward the view that in addition to saving money on meetings, the Club should discontinue the practice of subsidising events by requiring any event to be self funding. This opinion was strongly supported by the meeting. The question of the cost of the AGM was raised. It was pointed out that the Articles of Association currently require an AGM to be held. The recent capitation increase was questioned in the light of the deficit. Steve Moxey suggested that the Club requires an aggressive policy for increasing membership, bearing in mind that BMW bike sales are increasing annually.

The accounts were accepted, proposed: Dave Ensor, seconded: Dik Langan

8 Appointment of accountants for the ensuing year: The present accountants to continue: proposed: Cath Broughton seconded: Bernard Tagg Carried.

9 Confirm Subscription fee for 2014/2015: Agreed – no change.

10 Election of Club National Officers for 2013/2014.

President: Mike Warrilow 140 votes Elected

General Secretary: Anita Johnson 107 votes Elected

Treasurer: Jim Lepley 154 votes Elected

Membership Secretary: DickBoyd 154 votes Elected

National Social Secretary: No nomination

Editor: Stewart Lowthian 137 votes Elected

Vintage Register Secretary: John Winn 157 votes Elected

Sporting Register Secretary: Robert Bensley 150 votes Elected

Sidecar Secretary: no nomination

GS Register Secretary: no nomination

Vice Presidents 3 years: Alan Orme 125 votes Elected

On taking the chair, the new president addressed the meeting, thanking all officers both concluding and continuing their terms, as well as the AGM venue organisers. Attention was drawn to the need for a positive image together with new ideas and promotional

tools to assist with recruitment. Changes will have to be made in relation to expenditure also.

11 Presentation of trophies:

BMW Sporting Spirit Trophy: Not awarded

Max Deubel Trophy: Reg Moule

Mary Dudgeon Trophy: Lynn Tagg

Bill Woollin 'Spirit of the Club' Award: David Cooper

Val Joslyn Trophy:

12 Special Resolutions proposed by the National Committee

a By inserting in Article 10 after the final sentence the words: "The Company may by ordinary resolution at a National Committee Meeting amend the format for annual subscriptions so that each individual subscription terminates at a date 1 year from its commencement so that by way of example a subscription commencing in April will terminate the following April."

For:82 against: 38 abstain: 10 Not carried.

b By omitting from Article 54 the words "three times" and substituting for them the words "two times" so the second sentence of Article 54 reads: "National Committee Meetings shall be held at least two times each year, and ten members shall constitute a quorum".

For:143 against: 0 abstain: 1 Carried

c By omitting from Article 60 the words “all the” in the first sentence and substituting for them the words: “not less than 75% of the” so the first sentence of Article 60 reads: “A resolution signed in writing by not less than 75% of the National Committee Members entitled to receive notice of a meeting”.

By renumbering Article 60 as Article 60a.

By inserting the following Article 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.”

For:151 against:0 abstain: 1 Carried.

13 **AGM 2014:** Saturday April 26 2014

14 **Any other business:**

a It was suggested that the Sidecar Register be incorporated in the Vintage Register since there has been no representation for sidecars for some time.

b Colin Ross noted that the membership renewal problems had resulted in a disproportionate amount of capitation being used for postage. The members concerned should be required to pay.

c It was suggested that an open forum might replace the AOB procedure as members may feel less constricted, although it was recognised that binding decisions are not permitted in either case.

The new president thanked Dick Boyd for his commitment and effort as president over the past four years and closed the meeting at 3.00 pm.