

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The BMW Motorcycle Club Limited held on 23<sup>rd</sup>  
April 2022 at Moffat Town Hall**

**President's opening address**

Ian Dobie welcomed members to Moffat and thanked them for attending.

**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.

**Appointment of Tellers**

Billy and Mandy Gregor and Duncan and Elspeth Colborn were appointed.

**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.

**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.

**Count of Proxy Votes by section.**

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

**Count of members present by section.**

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

### 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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

### **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.

### **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, second by Dik Langan, the voting was 102 for, 88 against and 70 abstentions. The motion therefore carried.

### **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.

**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.

**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.

The meeting closed at 14:30.