



The BMW Club

East Anglia Section

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 11th October 2015

Held at Fornham St Martin Village Hall

Secretary's Welcome

The meeting started at 11:00. The Secretary welcomed all members present.

The Secretary apologised for the conflicting date given on the web site for the meeting which was corrected as soon as it was discovered.

Mike Davies would like to add an AOB item to discuss the running of the Vintage & Classic Register in the section.

Count of Attending Members

There were 32 members present and one guest.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cliff & Jenny Batley, Rhonda Rice, Kenneth Buchanan & Catherine Allen, Jim Moos, Chris Austin, Peter Galton and Gerry Douglas-Sherwood.

Minutes of the Last AGM

The minutes have been available on the web site for the past month. A copy of the Minutes was available at the meeting for anyone who had not seen them.

Adoption of the Minutes

A vote for adoption was taken that they were a true record of the proceedings.

Proposed to adopt the minutes:

Dik Langan

Seconded:

Amanda Langan

A show of hands for the adoption of the Minutes was taken: Accepted 19, Abstentions 13, Against 0.

Matters Arising from the last AGM Minutes

For those not present at the Christmas meal where the awards are presented, Peter Wilson was awarded the Hard Man trophy, Cliff was awarded the Spanner in the works and a joint presentation of the Spirit of the Section was made to both Jim Moos and Paul Scrase.

The Twitter account was indeed set up but unfortunately the person who volunteered to maintain the feed of tweets has since left the Club. The secretary will attempt to make posts as and when he can but we really need someone to take this on.

The Woolpack have been informed that we would like a table after this meeting and 13 people contacted me to let me know they would like seats so we have booked seating for 13.

Two very new members were not aware they needed to book but we will contact the pub and let them know, we are sure they'll fit them in.

Annual Reports

The Secretary

Dik announced that Peter Dutton is stepping down from the Social Secretary role as he intends to take a long trip this year so feels like he would not be able to do the role justice, however he has said he will support Cliff who is the only person to volunteer to replace Peter. For those who may not know Cliff: he has been section secretary in the pasty and currently is a Vice President on the National Committee, though some of you may know him better from his day job of running the Adventure Bike Shop.

Mike Davies is also stepping down from his joint role as Vintage & Classic Register rep for the section and Dealer Rep at Cannons. He will give a little talk about these roles at the end of the meeting in the hope of inspiring one of you to take up the mantel.

We have had volunteers for all the roles on the committee this year which shows that the spirit of the section has improved.

As membership secretary I can also report that, as at the 1st October we had 363 members which comprises of 297 full members and 66 associates, though we have also had a further 8 join since then. These figures are up by 17 on last year which is encouraging and once again the Copdock Show is one of our best sources netting us at least 10 new members.

As National Committee rep I can report that the past year has seen the increase in membership fee to £30. This increase is intended to fund the building of a professional replacement for the membership database which was written by a Club member and which I currently support. We are also moving to a rolling year which does not impact existing members much but should mean that new members get a much fairer deal as they will get 12 months membership no matter when they join. The next NCM is at the end of the month with nothing too controversial on the agenda: one section is proposing to change the national raffle so it is for cash rather than a bike and another section is proposing although I suspect there is little support for either of these proposals.

As webmaster I would like to just remind you all that you do not have to be a committee member to have something posted on the web site so if you attend a meeting that inspires you to write a few words then just send them to me and I will find a place for them on the site. I am still looking to change the format of the web site and have been offered assistance by Chris Austin in that endeavour, the result should be a site where contributors can post articles and adverts for events without having to ask me to do it for them. This will take time to implement so may not be achieved soon.

The Treasurer

Fortunately it has been a quiet year for the section accounts. Thanks for that folks, it has allowed me to settle into the treasurer's role without too much hassle.

A brief run through starting with the Statement of Income and Expenditure looking at the Income items first.

Capitation has increased by £40.95 from the 2014 amount.

We received £609.50 in deposits for last year's Christmas lunch but this included £56 for 2 subscriptions.

Could I ask those who are planning on booking for this year's Christmas lunch to write separate cheques for the meal deposit and their subs if you'd like to post them to Dik at the same time. As the National bank account for subs is with a separate high street bank

transferring the funds over is a little bit of a hassle It would really help me if we keep the monies separate so that the accounts are more straightforward – thank you.

Last year's Christmas lunch cost to the Section was £824.89 this included one raffle prize and after removing the nationals subs from the deposits received this resulted in a subsidy of £271.39.

Moving on down the income items as in other years we received a small amount of interest on the funds held in the Section's deposit account with HSBC.

This year the figure for donations received for the East Anglian Air Ambulance consisted entirely of money that Dik found on the street! I listed the Christmas lunch raffle proceeds separately and these together amounted to £159.10 (as shown in the expenditure items below) which we donated in person to the EAAA charity just before last Christmas

Moving on to the expenditure items now there are the usual room hire and refreshment costs for the AGM.

There was a small amount of expenditure subsidised on the Castellane trip.

Some refreshments were purchased by Dik on the New Year's Day Ride Out.

Then there was room hire and speaker's expenses the evening meeting held at The Cock and Bell in April.

There was a small amount of expense incurred for last year's Copdock Show.

The costs of the 0845 number rose only slightly from last year but Dik spent less on postage during the financial year and that expenditure dropped by £45.73.

The £56 subs figure reflects the transfer to the National bank account mentioned earlier.

Committee expenses were higher this year as they included a meal for the entire committee at The Cock & Bell at the only face to face committee meeting held during this financial year.

The overall surplus for 2014/15 is £682.16 which is up £395.12 on 2013/14.

At the end of this financial year the Section has funds of £3,626.36 being the amount in the two bank accounts and £71.01 in petty cash.

That concludes my first Treasurer's report — are there any questions?

Q: What is the difference of £3.40 that appears?

A: I will ask Jenny when she returns from holiday

The Social Secretary

The bad news was that the ride-in meetings were poorly attended.

Epping and Ongar was only 2 of us.

Stow Maries, WW1 airdrome was better with 9.

Ride to the Ace café, I don't know of anyone going and I could not as I was away.

The ride to Oakley bike festival was cancelled, as it was not available to the general public and they wanted the club to put on a stand. Since this was not what was wanted for our section I pulled out.

The two evening meetings, were poorly attended with only two people going to the last one.

The good news is that the pub meets are getting better with steady numbers attending. I have to say a special thanks to Valerie and Malcolm who have taken on the role of "meters and greeters" making new members feel very welcome.

Holiday rallies.

Easter at the bubble car museum had a good turnout at a very interesting venue although it was a little way from the pubs and restaurants. The weather was very cold but bright and dry. But was very enjoyable.

Thanks to Kieran for getting things going.

Castellane had a decent turnout and was enjoyed by us all, the scenery is stunning and the weather mixed with it being nice and warm but some storms in the evening, I think we had the best weather as the South of France has experienced some bad storms of late.

Thanks to Mike for his invaluable help and information for the rally.

Fakenham, was well supported with 22 of us being in the social club on the Saturday evening, shame about the singer who was, well, rubbish. Mike gave us a very good few tunes on a borrowed guitar. The weather was kind to us again. Thanks to Jamie for organising the ride out.

My thanks to everyone who helped out with suggestions where to go, what's on etc.

Dik took this moment to thank Peter for his 2 years in the role and asked for a show of appreciation which resulted in a good round of applause

Adoption of the Reports

In a change of format to reduce time the Secretary's, Treasurer's and Social Secretary's Reports were adopted together in one vote.

Proposed to accept the Officers' reports: **Mark Dutton**
Seconded: **Mike Davies**

The meeting voted to accept the presented reports unopposed.

Election of Officers

The nomination for Secretary, National Committee Representative, Membership Processor & Web Master ~ Dik Langan

Nominated by: **Cliff Batley**
Seconded: **Mike Davies**

The meeting voted to accept the nominations unopposed.

The nomination for Social Secretary ~ Cliff Batley

Nominated by: **Mark Dutton**
Seconded: **Peter Dutton**

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

The nomination for Treasurer ~ Amanda Langan

Nominated by: **Dik Langan**
Seconded: **Mike Davies**

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

The nomination for Assistant Social Secretary ~ Mark Dutton

Nominated by: ***Cliff Batley***
Seconded: ***Dik Langan***

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

The nomination for Vintage & Classic Register Rep ~ Hugh Thompson

Nominated by: ***Mike Davies***
Seconded: ***Dik Langan***

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

The nomination for Committee Member ~ Kenneth Buchanan

Nominated by: ***Dik Langan***
Seconded: ***Mike Davies***

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

The nomination for Committee Member ~ Keiron Haines

Nominated by: ***Dik Langan***
Seconded: ***Amanda Langan***

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

Framlingham 2017 (DL)

The Secretary, with the backing of the current committee, is proposing that the East Anglia Section hosts the 2017 Summer National Rally for the Club at the Framlingham College.

There are some thoughts in the National Team that the National Rally format will change and that it will be held at a single site rather than moving around. This is only a suggestion being floated and discussed. With that in mind let me outline my thoughts.

As most of you will be aware we hosted the Summer National at Framlingham College in 2009 and in 2013. At the end of the last one the College organiser, Dan, said "see you in four year's time then". I have been in touch with Dan and his enthusiasm has not waned, they still want us back. We would need to start organising it next year, there would be no drain on the Section funds as it is financed at a National level, but we would need to provide volunteers and perform most of the organising with some assistance from National level. Volunteers would get their rooms and food covered as is only fair.

Q: Would it just be the committee organising it?

A: No, as the planning needs to start before the next AGM but the event will happen after it we need a sub-committee of volunteers who endeavour to take on the organising regardless of their position in the Club

Q: Do the attendance and finances justify having a National Rally at all?

A: No decision has been made to change the way National Rallies are planned as yet, but we are only going to offer to organise Framlingham 2017 if the National Committee do decide to continue with National Rallies.

A short discussion then ensued regarding the format for National Rallies in particular highlighting the need to learn lessons from previous events (such as signage, getting trades interested, etc).

Q: As there is no National Rally yet planned for 2016 would we be asked to do Fram next year instead?

A: That would be too short notice so we would decline

The meeting were then asked to vote to show their support or otherwise for the plan of the East Anglia section to host 2017 National Rally at Framlingham College.

Proposed by:

Dik Langan

Seconded:

Cliff Batley

Against: 0, Abstaining: 0, For: All, Carried.

Any Other Business

The secretary reminded the meeting that these items were for discussion rather than requiring a vote.

Award Nominations (DL)

Dik asked for nominations for the section awards so that the committee could take the nominations away and decide on the winners in time to present the awards

Hardman Trophy

Dik explained that this is generally presented to a member who has overcome adversity and carried on or something along those lines.

- Dik proposed Mike Davies as he has had a new bike which was off the road for more time than it was on

Spanner in the Works

Dik explained that this is usually presented as a tongue in cheek award to a member who has fluffed something up, faced a mechanical issue or conversely someone who has proven to be an essential part of the Club keeping things running (as it is in the form of a spanner and a rear drive cog).

- Dik proposed Peter Dutton for the confusion over the AGM date

Spirit of the Section

Dik explained that this is presented to the member who embodies the very best of qualities that the rest of us should aspire to, putting in extra effort without desire for reward.

- Dik proposed Valerie and Malcolm for their "meeting & greeting"

Dealer Liaison (Mike Davies)

East Anglia were the first section to set up a dealer liaison and for the past 15 years Mike has been working closely with Canons. The idea is simple: we encourage our members to go to the dealers by advertising any events they organise and they in turn allow us to promote the Club. At Canons we have a glass table with our literature on it and Mike pops in to top this up with the latest Journal and extra copies of the Membership forms. As Mike is stepping down from this role he would really like someone to hand over to but so far there have been no volunteers. We also have similar arrangements with Lind though that is mainly attending the launch events (as we do with Canons) and being present with Club literature to encourage new members, but we also need volunteers to take on support of all our dealerships so Lind, SBW and Balderstons. Dik can provide extra copies of the Journal and membership forms but someone local would be better placed to build a good rapport with the teams at the dealerships.

Ian Sparks, a new member this year, put his hand up and volunteered to look at becoming Mike's replacement as he only lives a few miles from Canons. Mike offered to meet up with Ian at Canons and introduce him to the team there.

Keiron Haines volunteered to pop in to Lind and keep in touch with the team there as he has already spoken to Darren about a joint ride-out and the idea was well received.

Dik reminded all that the Club still has a 50/50 deal in place with BMW Motorrad so that any cost for an event run jointly with a dealer will be split 50/50 (so the dealer pays 50%, the Club pays 50%, but the Club funding actually comes from a subsidy given to them by BMW Motorrad).

Xmas lunch (DL)

This year's xmas lunch follows the same format as last year with the cost being £13/person if booked through the Club in advance (the pub charges £17/head otherwise). There are 50 seats and this year there will be no entertainment provided although we do hope to have a speaker from the East Anglia Air Ambulance to come and do a presentation.

Cliff's notes (DL)

Dik apologised as he meant to present this earlier: Cliff has provided him with some notes to read out in his capacity as the new Social Sec. Cliff would like to reiterate his apology for not attending, he is having a deserved break having had a manic year this year. He hopes to be able to arrange the following highlights next year:

- Easter weekend in Belgium, looking at a hotel in Ypres with a courtyard for the bikes which will be around £250 for a double or £200 for a single room for 3 nights. They have 10 rooms available so please email the social secretary email address to book your places
- Camping / Hotel weekend at The Ram in Brandon (Suffolk) as it is currently being refurbished and there is promise of new shower facilities for the campers. There should be off-road and road ride-outs planned
- A new member is working on a camping weekend near Fakenham in North Norfolk which is not far from the steam museum there, more details to follow

Other than that the first Sunday will remain the Cricketers, the 2nd Sunday will be the Chequers, the 3rd Sunday will be the Crossways and the 4th Sunday will be Café meets with the Wednesday meets remaining unchanged. Unless there is an outcry we'll plan to have the Xmas do at the Cock & Bell again.

Cliff appeals for anyone with ideas or who can help with any of these events to please contact him.

Next AGM Meeting

The next meeting will be held at Fornham St Martin Village Hall on Sunday 9th October 2016 at 11.00 A.M.

Meeting close

There were no other items for discussion and the meeting closed at 12:05.

Signed:

Date:

Dik Langan
East Anglia Section Secretary