



# The BMW Club

## East Anglia Section

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Held at Fornham St Martin Village Hall

#### 1. Secretary's Welcome

The meeting started at 11:05. The Secretary welcomed all members present and checked that everyone had signed in.

##### Count of Attending Members

There were 30 members present with no guests.

##### Any new A.O.B. items to add

Dik just wanted to add a small update on the East Anglia Air Ambulance donation.

#### 2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Bob & Ann Townley, Paul & Helen Marchant, Paul Round, Nev Agnew & Val Jones, Neil & Jackie Hopkins, Howard & Liz Spall and Pat Laithewaite.

#### 3. 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.

#### 4. Adoption of the Minutes

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

**Proposed to adopt the minutes:**

**Mike Davies**

**Seconded:**

**Stephen Thompson**

A show of hands for the adoption of the Minutes was taken: Accepted 24, Abstentions 6, Against 0.

#### 5. Matters Arising from the last AGM Minutes

As there were a few items from last year I have assigned each one a reference in the minutes, here are the current status of each:

2016A (Web Site) – Done (at last)

2016B (Section Asset Register) – Done and will be published online

2016C (Bigger Xmas meal venue) – Done, The Bull

2016D (Gt Dunmow venue) – Done, was closed down

2016E (New Trophy) – Done

2016F (Invite George's daughter to Xmas meal) – Done

2016G (List of previous winners) – Ongoing, Mike has sent list to Neil

2017H (Spanner winner) – Done, Cliff but trophy went to Peter Dutton

#### 6. Annual Reports

##### **a) The Secretary (Dik Langan)**

Another good stable year with Framlingham as the highlight. Really could not have done that without the help of all the volunteers so a huge thank you from me to you. I will do a short report on that later. With a small shuffle in the Social Sec roles I feel confident for the coming year and perhaps I will be slightly better organised without Framlingham on my mind. From a membership perspective: As of the 1<sup>st</sup> October we had 368 members made up of 292 full members and 76 associates. This is up slightly on last year by 7 but as the National figures have declined by 7% and that would be the equivalent of us losing 25 members I feel we have done very well. Of course there is always the impact of Copdock for us where we signed up 4 new members. The new database is still not online but the target is next month. With my National Committee Rep hat on now: I feel I could be doing this role better as we are not discussing at a section level what is going on at the National level but here are the highlights for the upcoming (next weekend) meeting's Agenda: Assistant to the DVLA role – no further info provided so can't really discuss; Confirmation of unelected roles within the Club (I have the list here if you would like to see it); Proposal for Honorary membership; National Asset Inventory (just like the process we have been through at section level); Membership Incentives (formalising the ability for sections to reduce fee at local shows); Reports from BCEF & BCIC meetings; Electronic AGM documents delivery (as proposed by me to save costs); Report on Framlingham (by me and Cliff); and then setting the next meeting date which as already been set to the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Finally as web master I can only report that I have not had any negative comments about the new look web site and it is slightly easier to maintain than the previous version. If you have content you want to appear on there then please do send it to me.

#### ***b) The Treasurer (Amanda Langan)***

Last year a question was asked about the assets held by the section. After the AGM I checked with the National Treasurer and was told that any assets purchased are written off for depreciation purposes within the year they are bought so there is no need to show any book value in subsequent accounts. We have however collated a list of assets held and this will be available on the web site in due course.

So to this year's figures. Capitation held pretty much steady with a decrease of just over £30 on last year's figures.

Last year's Christmas lunch subsidy was just over £195.

The VCR workshop Mechanics Day netted a profit of just over £81 which was donated to the East Anglian Air Ambulance, together with the profit from last year's Christmas lunch raffle bringing this year's contributions to £141.01.

Cliff negotiated to buy a refurbished coffee machine which proved very useful at this year's Copdock Show.

There was some Section expenditure towards the National Rally which comprised meals for those key volunteers and committee members who attended meetings at Framlingham.

As the weather at New Year was inclement enough to cancel the ride out the route was ridden on the second May Bank Holiday instead, hence the move of the coffee subsidy.

For this year's Easter trip to Brugges it was decided to subsidise the entry fee to a brewery tour as it was easy to walk to so no transport subsidy was necessary.

In conclusion there is an overall surplus for the year of £442.78 and the section has funds of £4,165. This is the amount in the two bank accounts and £174.47 in petty cash.

That concludes my treasurer's report - are there any questions?

No questions were asked.

#### ***c) The Social Secretary (Cliff Batley)***

The Christmas do went really well with a full house again. Next year's venue has already been lined up and will seat up to 100. The menu is still being discussed but it will be a 3 course meal with usual options. It is costing £1,000 for 50 people with £250 behind the bar for drinks so the first drink will be free.

Easter at Brugge went well and everyone had a good time. Next year we have booked the Albion at Ypres again as it is a good location. 6 rooms have been taken already, there are 3 or 4 still available. Will have to cancel any unbooked rooms by Christmas so we don't get charged for them so no last minute bookings please. The options are as usual to go on

Thursday and return on Tuesday or any combination of days between, me and Jenny will be Going Thursday and returning on Monday.

It's been a quieter year for camping and other events because of Framlingham and this time Dik has taken the load of that work.

Hugh's report of Fakenham showed how successful this has been so we will keep it in the calendar.

Dik has taken on the Copdock show organising and Mike is running the Langford show and both are proving increasingly popular events. Keiron has been doing a cracking job with the monthly news for the Journal. Perhaps next year we can think about another Porlock type event. Please let us know of any ideas you have, we have plenty of money in the section funds to help subsidise more events.

Q: (Ken Mullett) Do we have a maximum amount to spend during the year? I propose £1,500 would be a good target.

A: (Dik) The committee discuss this at an event-level and try to find creative ways to subsidise events and encourage attendance, we are subsidising the Xmas meal more heavily this year.

Q: (Chris Smith) Could we consider laying on a coach trip to the NEC?

A: (Cliff) a little difficult to organise as dealers also set these up but we can consider it.

Q: (Dave White) Could we have entertainment at the Xmas meal?

A: (Cliff) the time constraint of the meal does make that difficult as we already finish quite late and the Bull needs us to leave by 5pm, but perhaps a table magician might work well.

#### **d) The VCR Section Rep (Hugh Thompson)**

I have organised 10 meetings for the V&C members this year, arranging them to guarantee that there will be at least two meetings that are within 50 miles of each member. However the turnout is still disappointing with only 2 to 15 turning up. We will still be having the Pizza Party around May time with a limit on the attendees. We took over the organising of Fakenham at the last minute this year but there was a good turnout of about 25 people. The Ultimate Bike Show at Framlingham was a feather in our cap. It took a lot of organising but was worth it with 15 bikes on display, though only 5 of those bikes belonged to VCR members. I am stepping down from this role this year and Chris Smith has volunteered to take over, and whilst my strengths have been on the organisational side I feel that Chris will bring great strengths of knowledge and experience with vintage bikes helping to skew the events from the social aspect and more towards the bikes. I would like to personally thank Dik for his assistance with getting the stats necessary for me to calculate the regions etc, I asked and got it within 2 days, he also made sure I could send emails to all section members which has been a boon. There are 3 members of the VCR who do not have computers and 2 others who did not wish to receive emails so I send them the information by post so they do not miss out. Of course none of what I have achieved this year would have been possible without Heather who I owe much.

#### **e) New Social Secretary (Keiron Haines)**

As it looks like I am going to be voted in I would just like to ask for any ideas for events in the coming year?

Mick Laskey: Banham Zoo GS rally organised by Mark Weavers was always a good one, perhaps we could revive it and use the hall for an evening event with a Buddy Holly look alike  
Ian Sparks: Camping with the Yorkshire Section and the always mention Banham so perhaps we could push it as a more National event.

Keiron: I can certainly investigate this and other camping events with some subsidy to encourage attendance.

Cliff: Banham was dropped because of low numbers, when I tried to organise a smaller event last year at Brandon hardly anyone came and of them none wanted to go off road

Keiron: Does anyone have any ideas for tours? Myself and Sharron are fully booked for 2018 and 2019 already but that doesn't mean you won't get my support in organising one of your own.

Cliff: Perhaps we can revisit the idea of a trip to Normandy, Castellane or the BMW Factory in Berlin as we have in the past.

Keiron: I suspect that will have to be part of the 2019 planning.

## **7. Adoption of the Reports**

To reduce time the Secretary's, Treasurer's and Social Secretary's Reports were adopted together in one vote as is now our practice.

**Proposed to accept the Officers' reports:** **Mark Dutton**  
**Seconded:** **Ian Saunders**

The meeting voted to accept the presented reports unopposed with 1 abstention and the Accounts were also officially signed.

## **8. Election of Officers**

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

**Nominated by:** **Keiron Haines**  
**Seconded:** **Amanda Langan**

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

**The nomination for Social Secretary ~ Keiron Haines**

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

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

**The nomination for Treasurer ~ Amanda Langan**

**Nominated by:** **Dik Langan**  
**Seconded:** **Ian Sparks**

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

**The nomination for Assistant Social Secretary ~ Cliff Batley**

**Nominated by:** **Keiron Haines**  
**Seconded:** **Ian Sparks**

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

**The nomination for Marketing Secretary ~ Ian Sparks**

**Nominated by:** **Ken Buchanan**  
**Seconded:** **Dik Langan**

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

**The nomination for Vintage & Classic Register Rep ~ Chris Smith**

**Nominated by:** **Dik Langan**  
**Seconded:** **Kenneth Buchanan**

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

**The nomination for Quarter Master ~ Kenneth Buchanan**

**Nominated by:** **Dik Langan**  
**Seconded:** **Keiron Haines**

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

## **9. Framlingham Report (Dik Langan)**

My report to you is just the same as I will be presenting to the National Committee. Most of you here attended the rally I know, in fact most of you were roped in to one task or another, so you will know how well the event went and how happy the attendees were. We did overspend by £3,759.72 but as we did let them know beforehand that the event was going to go over by maybe as much as £5,000 I believe we did very well (and the committee gave their permission to go ahead despite the overspend warning).

Some 269 people booked and we had 267 stay, we also signed up 2 new members over the weekend. I have documented the lessons we learnt for the benefit of future organisers.

Oh yes, and there is also a possible further refund from the college as they may have miscalculated the room charges by as much as £500.

I have to repeat again and again how the whole event could not have been possible without all the hard work by the many volunteers both in the planning and during the event. Many of them are here today so I just want to lead a quick round of applause for them all.

## **10. Proposal for Honorary Membership (Mike Davies)**

The person I would like to put forward for honorary membership has been an active member of the club for 40 years. I wish I had known him better when I was rebuilding my bike as his knowledge of the BMW bikes is so good. I have sailed past many lighthouses and I now know I should have been waving as he could well have been manning them before he retired. Whilst his primary love is of BMW motorcycles I know he also has a shared passion for the Velocette LE. He comes to many of the Sunday and mid-week meetings as well as many of the National events and supports us at Copdock. If you haven't worked it out yet I am talking about Gerry Douglas-Sherwood (applause ensued).

Gerry: I have a cold at moment so my voice is a little weak. This is a complete surprise and I am honoured. I am riding the same bike as I had when I joined the Club and that is exactly why I like them so much.

Dik: Cliff will make the proposal at the upcoming National Committee meeting and we have no reason to believe they will decline it.

## **11. Votes of Thanks (Mike Davies)**

I would just like to ask everyone here to express their appreciation for the work that Hugh and Heather have put in to organising the VCR. The new approach of regular emails and the whole organisation of the section in to the 5 rings has been working very well. The pizza event has been brilliant, I was even awarded a knitted egg cosy in the form of a chicken hand-made by Heather which was a wonderful surprise. Please show your appreciation (applause).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the committee and the Framlingham organising teams who have put in so much work this year (applause).

## **Any Other Business**

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

### **a) 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.

- Dave White proposed Dik for the award for his efforts in organising Framlingham this year, this was seconded by Hugh Thompson

#### *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.

- Val Tuffin proposed Hugh and Heather for all their hard work organising the VCR, this was seconded by Mike Davies.

#### *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 light heartedly proposed Cathy Allen to mark her breaking her arm on the night before Framlingham. Cliff seconded this proposal.

#### **b) Xmas lunch (Dik Langan)**

This year's Xmas lunch follows the same format as last year just at the new venue but with the cost being subsidised by the section so that it will be just £12/person if booked through the Club in advance (the pub charges about £22/head otherwise). We also need some raffle prizes if anyone can help (Cliff and Keiron said they would arrange that between them) and all proceeds will go to the East Anglia Air Ambulance. I cannot take any bookings just yet as we do not have the menu but I will let everyone know as soon as I do.

#### **c) East Anglia Air Ambulance (Dik Langan)**

East Anglia Air Ambulance is our chosen charity and at Framlingham we managed to raise £629.60 through the donation buckets etc. They do send me through raffle tickets every month or so – if anyone would like to purchase the tickets I have some with me but please do not feel obliged.

### **Next AGM Meeting**

As Copdock has been set for the first weekend of October the next section AGM will be held here at Fornham St Martin Village Hall on Sunday 14th October 2017 at 11.00 A.M.

At that meeting we will need to check that the following actions have been completed:

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>
2016G	(Carried from previous AGM) Publish list of previous Trophy winners	Neil Hopkins / Dik Langan
2017A	Propose Gerry Douglas-Sherwood for honorary membership at next NCM	Cliff Batley
2017B	Announce winners of Section Awards at Christmas meal	Dik Langan
2017C	Inform everyone once Christmas meal bookings can be taken	Dik Langan
2017D	Book hall and inform Woolpack of next AGM	Amanda Langan

### **Meeting close**

There were no other items for discussion and the meeting closed at 12:27pm.

Signed:

Date:

Dik Langan  
East Anglia Section Secretary