



The BMW Club

East Anglia Section

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 13th October 2019

Held at Fornham St Martin Village Hall

1. **Secretary's Welcome**

The meeting started at 11:00. The Secretary welcomed all members present and checked that everyone had signed in.

Count of Attending Members

There were 26 members present with no guests.

Any new A.O.B. items to add

The following new items were added to the agenda, (a) and (b) already being on the Agenda:

- c) Lack of attendance at VCR meets
- d) Purchase of Feather flags
- e) Tickets for the NEC
- f) "Duty of care" discussion
- g) Club rep to cover Lind.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Bob & Ann Townley, Nev Agnew & Val Jones, Sharron Haines, Ann Smith, Ken Buchannan and Cathy Allen.

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:

Gerry Douglas-Sherwood

Seconded:

Mark Dutton

A show of hands for the adoption of the Minutes was taken: Accepted 24, Abstentions 2, Against 0. The minutes were adopted.

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

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

2016G (List of previous winners on website) Still ongoing

2018A (Book hall & Woolpack for this AGM) Done

2018B (Trophies at the Xmas meal) Physical trophies were not awarded but otherwise done

2018C (Dik to delegate) Done, Dave ran Copdock in a very smooth and successful manner

2018D (Explain 2018 Xmas meal income) Done.

6. Annual Reports

a) The Secretary (Dik Langan)

It has been a little strange this year with two of the committee roles changing but it has worked out fine. In my capacity as secretary I would like to offer a huge thanks to Dave for taking on the Copdock show though I still have a lot on my plate and was only able to organise one committee meeting through the year. However, as the committee will only be 4 people this year it should be simpler to arrange the meetings this year, perhaps at the Village Hall meets and before the NCMs.

That brings me nicely on to the National Committee Rep role: Not a lot to say here really, other than we are still the strongest section in the Club taking on more new members than any other section which I believe is very much down to the strong work Ian does as Dealer Liaison, building on the great foundation set by Mike Davies. We do try to encourage other sections to do the same.

Membership this year is 369 (306 full members and 63 associates) which is down a little on last year but with the poor weather at Copdock resulting in only 3 new members when we usually get 10 or more, that accounts for a lot of the 4.6% drop. Strangely it is associates that we have lost a lot of this year but I cannot read anything in to that.

Finally the web site: well there was a big change to push all social secretaries across the club to use the one online database for "logging" the events so that the same events appear on the national web site as in the Journal and whilst there have been some teething issues I think we are leading the way in our section.

That is the end of my report, any questions?

No questions were asked but Cliff Batley pointed out that the London Section do not organise any events through the year and despite being the most populated area of the country they only have 80 – 90 members. Keeping active is definitely the right way to run a section.

b) The Treasurer (Amanda Langan)

I will start with the statement of income and expenditure. In the income section capitation is similar to last year. The Christmas Lunch raffle proceeds have to be donated via online banking now because the local office has closed. You may recall that I did not have the figure for last year's donation hence the zero for 2018 because it was paid direct to the air ambulance without going through our books.

The interest rate on our savings account went up from 0.07% to 0.2% at the start of September last year hence the increase in interest earned this year.

The Christmas Lunch receipts included £3 for an associate member's renewal which I forgot to pass on to the National account so that will appear in next year's accounts.

There was no VCR Workshop Mechanics day this year so no income appears in this year's accounts.

The one Sundry item was a national marketing invoice that was paid at Dik's request from our section account because it needed paying fast and Jim Lepley was on holiday. We were subsequently reimbursed when he returned.

In the expenditure section are the new village hall meeting expenses which are for the hall hire and refreshments.

The postage item is higher this year as Dik managed to make it through last year on one book of stamps but this year bought two.

The East Anglia Trophy, Framlingham National and VCR Workshop all incurred zero expense this year.

I'm sure Dik bought drinks at Duxford last November but forgot to put it though as expenses.

The Easter Trip subsidy was for an evening meal because there was no brewery tour to subsidise this year.

The Fakenham Weekend expenses came in after the close of the year's accounts so they will appear in next year's accounts.

The overall subsidy for last year's Christmas lunch was £635.15 and we paid a £250 deposit on the day for this year's meal.

With my health issues this year it completely slipped my mind to pay the National for our committee member's memberships so I will include that in next year's accounts.

Finally the sundries items are the £78 National marketing invoice mentioned earlier and £8.85 for coffee machine filters.

Overall we have a small deficit for the year of £82.73.

Looking at the balance sheet the section has funds of £3,641.10 which is held in 2 bank accounts and petty cash as indicated.

That is the end of my report, are there any questions?

No questions were asked.

c) The Social Secretary (Kieron Haines & Ian Sparks)

Keiron reported: I stepped down as I was not very active locally. This has proven to be the right decision as Ian is doing a great job.

Ian then continued: Thank you Keiron for setting the strong basis for the year and for being willing to take on new ideas. I have had questions from people in the west of the region about why there are no meetings in their area. I have looked at replacing (or running in parallel to) the Scole meeting with a meeting in the west part of the region but attendance at those dropped off very quickly so now also looking at adding meetings in the south of the region (below the A12 in Essex). Also there is a lack of meetings north of Norwich to be investigated. But fear not, the favourite haunts will remain.

I have also had some ideas from various members such as Ray Forster's suggestion of a Windmill themed photo competition over a few months. Rob Day has also set a sat-nav quest (a bit like a treasure hunt) which, if we can arrange to happen every year would become the Jim Moos trophy.

There are several bike events this year that I hope to attend to drum up new members, such as Stonham Barns in May, Thetford in July, the Fen Man rally in August and of course our usual Langford and Copdock shows.

The village hall meets have been OK with 10 – 15 people turning up, hopefully we can continue these as it is a good opportunity to chat with committee members and give feedback.

The dealer liaison is still going strong and I have secured discounts with all of them for us. Canons have expanded their café and the Reiten events often offer free food.

The De Haviland museum visit is still planned for the end of May and I am hoping to augment the Village hall meets with a follow-on ride out if I can find some volunteers.

So step up and volunteer, the club is what you make of it, keep the ideas coming.

That is the end of my report, any questions?

There were no questions but Mike Davies pointed out that many of the events are being publicised on Facebook & the Forum. Mick Laskey suggested we return to Billing Aquadrome for the National Rally (Dik pointed out that Moffat was the current proposed destination for the 2020 Rally but is still being discussed). Cliff pointed out that the Aquadrome was expensive when used for an AGM in the past.

d) The VCR Section Rep (Chris Smith)

Chris had to step down due to other demands on his time, mainly Anne's health issues as she continues to battle cancer. We were unable to find anyone prepared to step up to the role but the "VCR Meets" will be kept on the calendar with Ian's stewardship as they do get enough attendance, especially in the good weather but never so big that they become a problem for the proprietors.

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:

Cliff Batley

Seconded:

Paul Round

The meeting voted to accept the presented reports unopposed 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:

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 Social Secretary ~ Ian Sparks

Nominated by:

Keiron Haines

Seconded:

Cliff Batley

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

The nomination for Quarter Master ~ Kenneth Buchanan

Nominated by:

Keiron Haines

Seconded:

Hugh Thompson

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

No nomination for Assistant Social Sec or VCR Rep had been received before the meeting but Keiron stepped up for the Assistant Social Sec role during the meeting and was voted in:

The nomination for Assistant Social Secretary ~ Keiron Haines

Nominated by:

Ian Sparks

Seconded:

Dik Langan

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

The nomination for Committee member ~ Cliff Hoy

Nominated by:

Dik Langan

Seconded:

Mike Dignum

The meeting voted to accept the nomination unopposed.

9. Any Other Business

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

a) Award Nominations (Dik Langan)

Dik apologised for not presenting the physical awards at last year's meal but hoped no one minded. This year's nominations are:

Hardman Trophy

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

- Gerry Douglas-Sherwood for driving home from Ipswich after being checked out for concussion having slipped off a chair at Copdock and being taken to hospital.

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.

- Ian Sparks for his tireless work with the local dealers and stepping forward to take on the Social Sec role

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).

- Ian Sparks for organising a village hall meet but not booking the hall (members had a choice of joining a WI Knitting club or following Ian to a nearby "rest stop").

As the George Saunders Trophy challenge was not run again this year there was no recipient.

b) Xmas lunch (Dik Langan)

This year's Xmas lunch follows the same format as last year. It will be noon on December 6th at The Bull at the slightly higher price of £15 per person which is still quite a saving on the published price of £25 per person. I have some forms here and they will be available online shortly after the meeting. We prefer payment by bank transfer but can take cash here or cheques by post.

c) Purchase of Feather flags for shows (Dik Langan)

We have had to hand the feather flags we had back to the National events team (we were only looking after them) so we would like to replace them with some section flags. Any suggestions? Cliff said he managed to get the flags only for £70 for a pair, he will send details to Dik. Having both the cross base and the type for soft ground would be good.

d) Tickets for the NEC (Dik Langan)

Dik will be attending the show to help man the Club stand both weekends. Please don't forget to buy your tickets through the club as they are available already.

e) Easter trip to Ghent (Cliff Batley)

Next year's Easter trip to Belgium will be to Ghent and is a bigger yet cheaper hotel than last year in Dinant. The cost is around £425 for the 4 nights (out on Thursday, back on Monday). If you would like to go please contact Cliff Batley as soon as possible.

Cliff also mentioned that he was stepping down from the National Committee (where he is currently one of the 3 Vice Presidents) at the next National AGM.

f) Lack of attendance at VCR meets (Chris Smith)

Already covered in Chris' report.

g) Duty of Care (Mark Dutton)

In light of Gerry's accident at Copdock, Mark wished to have a discussion about the Club's (and Section's) duty of care to our members when manning events such as Copdock and Langford. Technically we are meant to carry out risk assessments and also take a register of members attending in an "official" capacity (as opposed to just visiting the stand). Mark has forms for both these activities and will help Mike Davies & Dave White use them for next year's shows. Ian Sparks asked about members riding to or from events, Mark and Cliff confirmed that this was not the Club's responsibility and would be covered by the member's own motorcycle insurance.

h) Club rep for Lind (Ian Sparks)

Already covered in Ian's report.

i) Ad-hoc discussions that followed

- Mike Davies asked if a list of section assets had been published yet – Dik confirmed it had not but would work with Ken when possible to get one published.
- Ian Sparks pointed out that the table we used to have at Canon's had gone missing, we agreed that, if they would permit us to have another one then Ian could source it with the section's blessing.
- Hugh Thompson mentioned that there are rosettes made up for use at future events for presenting in a manner similar to the bike show at Framlingham and Fakenham in the past.

Next AGM Date and Venue

We will try to book the hall for the second weekend in October (so Sunday 11th) as we believe Copdock will be on the first weekend next year.

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

Ref	Action	Who
2016G	(Carried from 2016 AGM) Publish list of previous Trophy winners	Neil Hopkins / Dik Langan
2019A	Book hall and inform Woolpack of next AGM	Amanda Langan
2019B	Announce winners of Section Awards at Christmas meal	Dik Langan
2019C	Include items in 2020 account mentioned in Treasurers report	Amanda Langan

Meeting close

There were no other items for discussion and the meeting closed at 12:07pm.