

## THE BMW CLUB - EAST ANGLIA SECTION

### MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024

1. The meeting started at 10.35am when the Secretary welcomed the members. There were 25 attendees on the day. The Secretary outlined the procedure for evacuation if any problems occurred.
2. Apologies for absence were noted from Harry Godwin, John Albone, Micheal Dignum, Cliff Battley, Paul Harrison, Jane and Ron Pauley, Mark Dutton and Phillip Ismay. No other names were put forward.
3. The minutes of the previous AGM held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023 had been made available on the web site and copies were available at this meeting.
4. Matters arising from those minutes.

Nigel Burrows commented on a sentence within the minutes that was incorrect. He referred to Section 7 regarding ride outs. The sentence in contention was "but it was pointed out that sending emails etc to several members of the Committee was unhelpful as it caused confusion as to who was dealing". He mentioned that the sentence and a WhatsApp chat post appeared to have been joined together and this was not as said at the AGM meeting. He asked for the sentence to be removed. The Secretary agreed to do so. He then asked for the minutes to be sent out earlier than at present as this AGM was his first sight of them. The Secretary reported that those minutes were written within a week of the meeting and then sent over to the Membership Secretary to email out to all members after checking and the Membership Secretary agreed that this was done. It was agreed that the Minutes for the 2024 meeting would be published after 4 weeks. Nigel Burrows then asked for the minutes to be signed by the Secretary, but the Membership Secretary stated that this was not policy and would continue. Nigel Burrows asked for the minutes to have the date of being written and the name of the author applied. This was agreed.

Stephen Thomson noted that his surname did not have a "p" in it. The Secretary apologised and said it was now imprinted on his mind.

Anne Townley noted that in Section 8 regarding the Xmas dinner that "October" was printed when the date was December. The Secretary apologised and said it would be amended.

There were no other matters and the acceptance of the minutes (with the agreed amendments) was proposed by Dik Langan and seconded by Cliff Hoy with the members voting acceptance whilst 2 members, who were not present in 2023, abstained. Dik Langan agreed to make the corrections to the minutes and re-publish them on the web site.

5. Officers Reports.
  - a) Secretary's report.

The Secretary mentioned that his report was to be short(ish) as most of the information regarding the year would be reported by the respective Officers. He said that the year had been good with regards to events and membership. He reminded the meeting that later in the AGM, voting would take place for the positions of Officers and reiterated that if any member wished to apply for one of those positions to come forward at the time. He also mentioned that Committee members were also to be voted on and said that it would be nice to have more members join the Committee especially women.

He then read a thank you to Dik Langan for his long support for the Section by participating for years in several positions. He acknowledged the multitude of knowledge of the Club which had and still will be available. He asked the meeting to realise that Dik wished to have somewhat quieter and restive life with Amanda and for members to try and refrain contacting Dik about Club things, although he would still be contactable to help out where needed.

He then asked the meeting to give the appreciation applause that he deserved. The meeting responded unanimously with a heartfelt round which lasted for some time.

#### b) Social Secretary.

The Social Secretary was unable to attend owing to an appointment at a Hospital and the Secretary read out a verbal report received from the Social Secretary.

The year had been very good with the three Shows attended, Stonham Aspel, Langford Museum and Copdock where members were bikes were displayed and public interest was good and each show brought in new members. There had been some ideal ride outs led by Nigel Burrows, Ian Sparks and himself again where again attendance was good. Cliff ran the Ypres trip very successfully and will likely be organising it again next year though may move it to a different weekend in May.

The Social Secretary said that he had several ideas in the pipeline regarding visits to places of interest during the coming year including Shuttleworth Collection, Triumph Factory, Sammy Miller Museum where perhaps it could be a weekend trip plus Cliff has provided a multitude of cafes etc to visit. He asked for members to come forward with ideas and the Secretary outlined the WhatsApp where there was a general page for chat but if any ideas were put forward they would have their own personal page created so members could look up those ideas easily instead of trawling through the entire General page to see the posts.

Stephen Thomson suggested that the Triumph Factory visit could be followed/ include a visit to the National Motorcycle Museum as entrance to Factory visitors is half price.

#### c) Treasurers Report.

This was presented by the Treasurer Peter Wilson and copies of the accounts were circulated to members. It was noted that the Section was in a healthy state. Trevor Smith asked why there had been no postage expense this year and Dik explained that he had simply not claimed it by the time the accounts were ready.

Stephen Thomson proposed acceptance of the accounts, Nigel Burrows seconded and the members voted acceptance.

d) Memberships Secretary / National Rep / IT Officer.

This was presented by Dik Langan who informed the meeting that East Anglia was once again the largest Section in the Club with regards to members with 332 Full members and 56 Associated members, a total of 388 and an increase of 13 on last year. He also mentioned he had great confidence in handing the role over to Cliff Hoy.

Regarding his Section National Rep Office, he stated that he was continuing with this as he had to attend National Committee meetings due to his National Club work. He mentioned that there were two problems that were to be discussed at the upcoming NCM: The main one will be the future of the Mercia Section who were in turmoil after their entire Committee resigned and there were no persons in the Officers positions. If it couldn't be sorted out then that Section may have to be suspended as per the position of the London Section. The second topic was the old one of money coming into the Club and where the Membership fees had had to be raised by £5 to help the Club. He would keep the Section aware of the happenings.

With regards to the Section Webmaster position, he was happy to carry on looking after the website as it virtually ran itself and only needed checking now and again. Ian Sparks asked if the Members Bikes section on the website was still operative as it seemed that the number of photos had gone down considerably. It was reiterated that the section was still ongoing and asked for members to use it.

Nigel Burrows asked if a photo of a non-BMW was appropriate and he was assured it was fine as we are motorcyclists first and foremost.

6. Adoption of reports.

Stephen Thomson proposed acceptance of the reports and Trevor Smith seconded this. The meeting voted unanimously to accept.

7. Signing of Accounts by the Treasurer and Secretary.

The Account sheet was signed by the Treasurer earlier and then signed by the Secretary with Dik Langan signing as a witness.

8. Election of Officers for forthcoming year.

The Secretary asked the meeting if there were any members wishing to be considered for any of the Section Officer positions and no names were put forward from the floor.

With the incumbents wishing to stay in Office, **Secretary** Ian Sparks, **Social Secretary** Michael Dignum, **Treasurer** Peter Wilson, **Assistant Social Secretary** Cliff Batley, **National Committee Rep** Dik Langan it was agreed that they would continue in Office. **General Committee.** Ken Buchanan agreed to continue as a member and the meeting accepted this. A question as to any members wishing to join the Committee respond with Dale Welch asking for acceptance. He was proposed by Dik Langan and seconded by Ian Sparks and the meeting duly elected him.

**Membership Secretary**, as Dik Langan was stepping down from the position Cliff Hoy was proposed by Dik Langan and seconded by Michael Dignum. The meeting then voted acceptance. This meant that there were now 8 members on the Section Committee for the forthcoming year.

9. Any Other Business.

a) Nominations for Section Awards.

i) Tough Nut Trophy.

The name of Rob Bensley was put forward for his work for the Club and Section sporting side and for his efforts to carry on despite having to deal with a very serious illness.

ii) Spirit of the Section Award.

The names of Val Tuffin and Heather Parcell were put forward to recognise all they continue to put in to the club after the sad passing of their partners.

iii) Spanner in the Works Trophy.

The names of Cliff Hoy and Stephen Thomson were put forward for their acrobatic prowess in throwing their bikes down the road and sustaining injuries. Nigel Burrows suggested that they could share the award.

b) Update on the Xmas meal.

Cliff Hoy, who was now sorting out the event, replied that the date was confirmed as the 8th December and was to be held at The Bull in Long Melford. The Section were subsidising members and the price was now £20 per person. Dik Langan stated that the forms were not present at the meeting but he was able to take payment at this meeting. The forms were to be sent out by email with the menu very soon to all members.

c) A word from Mike Davies.

Mike stood up and asked the meeting to show a vote of thanks for Dik Langan and his wife for their service to the Section. On completion of his words the meeting applauded Dik Langan.

10. Date and location of the 2025 AGM.

The Secretary asked the meeting to note that the AGM for 2025 was to be held on 12th October 2025 at The Village Hall, Fornham St Martin and would start at 10.30am with doors open at 10am. The Hall had already been booked for this purpose and the Woolpack will be pre-booked again.

11. Closure.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was formally closed at 11:35am.

*Minutes written on 14 October 2024 by Secretary Ian Sparks.*