

# **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Club**

## **11th May 2025**

### **Bedford Hotel, Tavistock, Devon**

- 1) **Apologies for Absence.** Apologies received from, Martin Lambert, Nigel Bosworth, Nick Jeffery
- 2) **Approval of Minutes** of the General Meeting at Alderson House, Warwick 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

**Proposed.** Simon Hill

**Seconded.** Neil Tuxworth

### **3) Matters Arising.**

Gary Hartshorne asked if there was any news on producing a directory of Members. The chairman replied that due to a variety of reasons little progress had been made. The item will remain on the minutes and work will be ongoing.

### **4) Chairman's Report.** The Chairman opened by saying things seem to be going well with some good runs recently and another good one this weekend with more to come in the system.

Alan thanked Adam Kelley for his work in arranging for the R.A.C. to provide a van and crew for back-up in case of breakdowns etc.

The Chairman said the time had now come for a change of roles, and thanked Ben Matthews for his help as vice chairman for the last twelve months, and, of course, for his good work as Chairman before that. (applause).

Alan then closed his report by introducing Andy Mayo as the new Vice-Chairman. (applause).

### **5) Treasurer's Report.** Rick said that he didn't have a lot to say, but the Warwick run went well with 34 members plus eight guests, which seems to be a number that hotels like, helping them to work out the staff needed to return a profit. We have £9500 in the bank with deposits paid for Scotland this year and Autumn 2026..

Rick raised the subject later of refunds to Members who have booked, but then find themselves unable to attend for whatever reason. Refunds are not possible due to the fact that the lower price negotiated with the hotel is based on no refunds. The possibility of claiming on the member's own travel insurance was raised from the floor. Rick said that this would be unlikely as the booking is made by an organisation, The Club, not the individual.

- 6) **Future Runs. Summer day run** Dan Sager advised that the run would be in August and be similar to last year's event, starting at 11.00 somewhere near Oxford, with a ride of about 35 miles to lunch, with a similar trip back to the start for tea. For those booking accommodation maybe a curry later. Dan said the run is open to bikes of all ages and descriptions. (these technical specifications also apply to the riders! Hon.Sec.). **Date. 9<sup>th</sup> August**

**Summer 2025.** Ian Kerr offered to organise a **Summer run** of about 60 miles and incorporating a visit to a railway museum. **Date 21st June**

**Autumn 2025.** Tim Albane advised that Saturday's round trip from Ballachulish would be in the region of 289 miles. For those staying for the optional extra days, **at extra cost**, the Sunday ride would be 280 miles, with the Monday ride being 250 miles, partly a repeat of Saturday, and then heading south.

Andrew said the route is exceptional, very different from yesterday's superb run, with fewer corner stops and faster open roads. Unfortunately the cost of hotels is going up and at the Ballachulish Hotel, PH49 4JY we would like to take the whole hotel which takes us up to 50 people attending. So we need guests. **As on previous Scottish runs a member can bring up to 3 guests, but only one can be considered for membership that weekend.**

Andrew continued saying that for the Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. journey north, the Crooklands Hotel, Milnthorpe. LA7 7NW 1 mile from M6 Junc.36, had been booked for the Thursday night D.B&B. **Twin Room £210. Single Room £140** Adam Kelley had agreed to lead the group from there to the Friday 19<sup>th</sup> lunch stop at Loch Fyne. This restaurant, where we have stayed before, has had staffing problems but has been tentatively booked for lunch. Should this not be possible we have two other possibilities within 10 miles. **No cost.** Because of price rises we have included 2 fuel stops in the total price. Four pumps have been reserved at 2 filling stations where the lead riders will fill up and then attend to following riders.

Run cost will be, **Single Room Members £520, Single Room Guests £540, Single Room Retired Members £495.** That is for a single room including 2 fuel stops.

Following discussion it was agreed to send out official booking forms asap to get commitment, including payment from all wishing to attend the Run. Guest numbers of up to 3 per member were re-confirmed.

**Spring 2026.** Rick advised the meeting that the run will now be based in Thetford, Norfolk, which we have visited previously. **Date. 24-25<sup>th</sup> April**

**Autumn 2026.** Paul Haskins said that he had to change location at short notice and the run would now be based at the Best Western Hotel at Mosborough Hall, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, just off junction 30 M1      **Date. 18<sup>th</sup> Sept.**

**Spring 2027.** Neil Tuxworth said he would like to organise a run in the Lake District after the Easter period and is looking for a partner to help with route planning, hotels etc.      **Date. T.B.A.**

**7) Club Website.** Alan advised that all was up and running well.

**8) New Members.** Ben Matthews said that Ben Hall was on his third run and had ridden and driven in many speed events and holds various speed records. Ben Hall had run his own motorcycle business but has now been General Manager for three years with Ben Matthews.

**Proposed. Ben Matthews**

**Seconded. Andy Mayo**

**Approved.**

Nick Hopkins said Barbara Alam was on her third and qualifying run this weekend. Barbara, a lifelong rider, has ridden many continents and countries as a Tour Guide for Globe Busters but also independently.

Barbara has been a director of Rowan Public Affairs for 20+ years, working for the MCIA on a wide range of matters representing the industry, together with being Secretary for the All-Party Parliamentary Motorcycling Group since 2004. Barbara now also manages the admin side of the National Motorcyclists Council.

**Proposed. Nick Hopkins**

**Seconded. Andrew Smith**

**Approved.**

*(Any objections to the above new Members should be notified to the Hon.Sec. within 14 days of the publication of these Minutes )*

**9) A.O.B**

Andrew Smith raised the matter of criteria required for membership, in an ever changing world, and motorcycle industry. Perhaps two important issues need to be considered,

1) 'Executive – what level or position is acceptable?

2) 'Working within the m/c industry' directly/indirectly/for how long etc.'

Andrew acknowledged this subject continues to be a major talking point among members with strong feelings on all sides, and suggested the Committee discuss to see if any changes are required which would be presented to members..

The Chairman said the committee would consider this.

Alan then thanked the Run Organisers for a great weekend, and thanked members present for attending the meeting.

Meeting closed 10.46

Graham Goodman (Hon.Sec)