

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

The Club

Tavistock 24th April 2022

1) **Apologies:** Bob McMillan, Arthur Macdonald, Peter Britton, Nigel Bosworth, Mike Evans.

2) **Approval of Minutes: (Barford)**

Proposed: Nick Jeffery

Seconded: Steve Callahan

Approved

3) **Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.

4) **Chairman's Report:** The Chairman reported that we have all been through a very difficult time over the last couple of years and he has appreciated the support and advice he has received from the committee and others during this time.

Martin said that one of his passions as Chairman was to keep people in contact, to think about how the Club was evolving and, particularly, remain in contact with those who are not always able to attend a run. We now have the mechanisms to do that, so that all members feel involved. One of the positive ways of maintaining this contact is the Club Chronicle which is a way of unearthing information that we all have but don't often share, together with humorous bits and pieces and other articles keeping us in contact. Martin mentioned Geoff Selvidge who collects and edits the information for the Chronicle, and Alan Halford who puts it all together and sends it out, thanking them both for their efforts. (Applause).

Another positive development as restrictions were lifted together with the pent up desire to go motorcycling, was the opportunity to look at runs that are not necessarily 2/3 day events but one off, one day rides. Perhaps the future format should be the two normal long distance rides, plus one or two shorter one day rides with smaller groups of people to maybe a point of interest and reporting back to the Chronicle. This could create further opportunities to people unable to attend the longer events thus keeping the Club fertile and relevant.

Martin said he has enjoyed his time as Chairman and considered it an absolute privilege. Mike Evans had brought Martin into the industry about thirty years ago now, and he never thought he would be Chairman of this Club. It has been a tremendous honour.

5) Introduction of new Chairman: At this point Martin introduced the new Chairman by saying that he thinks **Ben Matthews** is the right man at the right time, and can mix the old with the new and understand how things can evolve, having had to adapt his own business in recent years from sidecars to caravans, recognizing new opportunities, dealing with different markets and different people adopting the mantra of adapt and thrive. These qualities can help the Club to survive.

Ben replied by thanking Martin and saying that he was very honoured, if apprehensive, to take the position, but has some ideas to take us forward but recognizes that the Club is a real treasure and few changes are needed. However, we still have to secure the future with new members etc.

Ben then presented Martin with a bottle of an undisclosed liquid in appreciation of him holding the record for the longest serving Chairman and for the amount of work carried out during the pandemic. (Applause)

Martin then said he regarded himself as the ‘Boycott’ of chairmanship due to length of innings and so few runs. (Applause and laughter).

6) Treasurer’s Report: Rick reported that obviously not much has happened over the last couple of years but thanks were due to Alan Halford for his work on the website which has made life much easier with regard to payments. Rick also thanked Members for using the new system.

Rick said we started off the covid pandemic with £5200 and ended with the same amount and we try to keep running costs low with the website being the only ongoing cost. The current run seems to be working out well so we will still have our £5200, which some people say is too much but with a typical run costing around £12,000, it doesn’t take much for a run to go wrong. It would be nice to have one run in the bag as it were.

7) Future Runs: Andrew said the dates are the same as before – 15th, 16th, 17th September. In the past a number of people have travelled up on Thursday before moving on to the first official meeting point at Loch Fyne on the Friday. Andrew said he is happy to make Thursday night bookings but does need know who wants what as there are various choices available with the TeeBay services being the most expensive. The run itself is primarily based on the original Fort William run of 2000.

At present there is plenty of room for guests and there will be the opportunity to extend your stay for an extra few days.

Andrew will write to everyone in early May with full details of the run and asks everyone to please, please reply, even if you are unable to join the run.

Dan Sager said the run will be based in Wiltshire and cover Somerset and Dorset. Hotels still need to be checked for availability post pandemic.

Neil Tuxworth said that the run will be in Yorkshire and he and Nick will start to sort out a route shortly and they think at this stage the run will be based in Woodhall Spa.

Martin then asked the meeting if anyone was looking to organise a run in Spring 2024. There were no replies at this stage and Martin said we shouldn't expect the same people to organise all the runs.

Future Runs :

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| Autumn 2022 | Andrew Smith | Date: 15th,16th,17th Sept. |
| Organisers | Bob McMillan | Location: Fort William |

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| Spring 2023 | Dan Sager | Date: T.B.A. |
| Organisers | Graham Matcham | Location Wiltshire |

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| Autumn 2023: | Neil Tuxworth | Date T.B.A. |
| Organisers | Nick Campolucci | Location |

- 8) **Club Website:** **Alan Halford** said the site seems to be running well and Members have sorted out their log-in problems. Alan also noted this run was the first with the new booking system which also worked well. **Ben** suggested that if members could write a short potted history of their working life that might be of interest to members on the website. **Nick Jeffery** said Alan should be congratulated for organising a clean up of Members' email addresses ensuring that all members could be contacted more easily. Nick had helped with this and reported that Roger Boss could now receive Club communications via his son's email.

Dave Martin advised that a video of Roger Boss and Wilf Green on the website.

- 9) **New Members:** **Dave Martin** proposed Tim Albone. Tim's core business is engineering, or 'chopping up metal' as DRM puts it, and owns a large engineering company which does a lot of work restoring Rolls Royce Avon engines, which are now used for power generation, among others. He first came on a Club run in Scotland about ten years ago, with a few more over the years during which time he has become more and more involved with the motorcycle industry. H has carried out work for

Dave's company and others. He also has a contract with Triumph. He is a very keen motorcyclist and has passed the eligibility criteria and is now proposed for membership.

Proposed: Dave Martin

Seconded: Andrew Smith

Approved

Members not attending this meeting have 14 days from the date of publication of these Minutes to raise any objections to the above membership election.(Hon-Sec)

Dan Sager advised that Paul Haskins has just completed his second run and the committee has approved his eligibility criteria and will be proposed after his next run.

Martin went on to say that many people had mentioned to him this weekend the need to attract new Members while the industry is changing and to perhaps modify the eligibility slightly to assist in this. Andrew Smith said we should beware of going after numbers and should concentrate on quality. Others pointed out the difficulty of organising runs for large numbers.

10)A.O.B: Dave Martin said that the News Letter introduced during the pandemic was a great idea and thanked those involved.(applause)

Norman Hyde suggested when the organisers have costed their run it might be an idea for £5 to added to the run cost per person with the organiser then including five £1 coins in each welcome pack. This would avoid the shortage of change on Saturday evening.

Dan Sager suggested we consider having some weekday runs when hotels may be less expensive. Dan would check with some hotels

Martin agreed that it was something we should look at.

Martin then closed the meeting to applause.

Meeting closed at 09.05

Graham Goodman
Hon-Sec