



The Club

Minutes of the General Meeting

Wroxton House Hotel. Oxon

7th October 2007

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Richard Davies, Steve Callahan, Martin Lambert, Gerald Davison, Frank Finch.
2. **Approval of Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting held at Sherborne 29th April 2007.

Proposed: Tony Dawson

Seconded: Andrew Smith

Approved

3. **Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.
4. **Chairman's Report:** The Chairman thanked Dan Sager and Alan Halford for organising this run with an excellent hotel plus good roads. The fact that no less than 41 Members had participated showed how popular the location was, even though this had posed problems for the organisers in finding hotels to outpost the overspill. He felt that the visits in particular were most successful, a sentiment echoed by Members present. The enjoyment of the weekend was, as usual, compounded by the activities of the Sergeant-at-Arms, Rafflemeister and Quizmeister and thanks were passed to all concerned.
The Chairman revealed that following a committee meeting the previous evening the Club would make a sizeable donation towards the cost of the next Spring Run in Scotland. Obviously this run will be more expensive with an additional stop on the way up etc. and the Club is able to subsidise the cost as it is in a good financial position.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Rick Parish, standing in for Dennis Bates, read to the meeting the following report received from Dennis:

“The Club continues to enjoy a healthy financial state with total assets made up of:

Deposit a/c	1,341.57
Current a/c	5,019.58
October run deposit	400.00
2008 Scottish deposit	<u>472.00</u>
	7,233.15

The Sherborne Run saw one of, if not the highest, attendances of 38 members and five guests plus the RAC patrol who, once again, proved an invaluable asset to our peace of mind and enjoyment.

It is important that we should not look at the accounts for any run and judge it by the final figure of expenditure over income. It is not always possible to forecast exactly our income and costs can and do rise. The correct attitude is whether the run was successful in terms of enjoyment, scenery, accommodation and the company of our fellow Members. The record shows that annually our financial status has continued to grow and therefore we may look forward to planning a celebration of our fiftieth anniversary that lies in the near future.

Our thanks to Gerald for his tenacity in pursuing the Sherborne Hotel whose quaint method of accounting he exposed with splendid effect and a good rebate.”

Signed

Dennis Bates 6th September 2007.

Sherborne accounts attached.

The Chairman thanked Rick for so ably stepping into the breach in Dennis’s absence and asked that the Members’ thanks and best wishes to Dennis also be recorded.

6. Future Runs:

Spring 2008*	Dave Martin	Date	25-27 April
Organisers	Andrew Smith	Location	Ballachulish
Autumn 2008		Date	
Organiser	Greg Elson	Location	Warwickshire
Spring 2009		Date	TBA
Organiser	Dave Plummer	Location	TBA

Greg Elson confirmed that he was proceeding well with arrangements for Autumn 2008 and was in process of revising some of the route to take into account the roads used on the current Run. Greg confirmed that he would firm dates for this Run to be dispatched with the meeting minutes.

Dave Plummer’s kind offer to organise the Spring 2009 Run was enthusiastically received by Members.

***See separate notes attached**

7. **New Members:** There were no new Members proposed
8. **A.O.B.** The Chairman thanked Members who had sent donations and read out a letter from Peter Bolton who wished us a good weekend and looked forward to seeing us again soon.

The Chairman went on to say we had received a letter from our good friend Chris Ventress who mentioned that we do not have any parliamentary influence in the Club these days and a name that came to mind was Lembit Opik. Mr Opik is current chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Motorcycling.** Chris and Rick both have contact with him through a mutual friend and maybe Rick could invite him to a Run. Chris also mentioned that Mr Opik has a cheeky girlfriend. The meeting agreed that we do lack parliamentary influence following the deaths of Rollo Denbigh and David Strathcarron and the Chairman suggested that Rick take it a stage further. (The Chairman has subsequently received a note from a member present at the meeting suggesting the name of a life peer, who, unlike Mr Opik, is not at risk of losing his seat at an election).

Dave Martin showed two designs for a new Club tie costing around £15, a show of hands deciding which design would be produced, namely the design featuring a multi-repeated Club logo rather than the single logo used previously.

Tom Waterer raised the question of riders bunching together on runs particularly after fuel stops etc., this may not be giving the public the right image. After some discussion it was suggested that the back marker released riders in batches after fuel, coffee stops etc.

Meeting closed at 09.50

**The UK Parliament Website indicates that Mr Bill Wiggins is currently Chair of this group.