

Minutes of AGM

Wednesday 15th January 2020

Present: Peter Devaliant (PD Chair) John Stone (JS Social Secretary) Heidi Bushell (HB Treasurer) Chris O'May (CO'M Scribe) Alan Buxton (AB) Jim Dormer (JD) Malcolm Fissler (MF) Martin Kerwin (MK) Peter Breeding (PB) Peter Healy (PH) Tony Bushell (TB) Martin Rayner (MR) Paul Brown (PBr) Darrin Thompson (DT) Paul Healy (PHe) David Hawke (DH) Jenna Rayner (JR) John Bond (JB)

Apologies from Keith Belsham.

The meeting began promptly at 8:00pm with PD thanking all for attending. We then made a toast to Peter Wonnacott our late Branch Secretary.

Approval of last AGM minutes passed unanimously.

Reports

HB Treasurer, reported on finances that remain healthy despite suffering losses on the Treffen and the Christmas meal. Details of accounts can be found else where.

JS Social Secretary stated it had been another successful year with pub runs and some of the bigger events such as the Treffen and Skegness being particularly memorable.

CO'M Scribe, reported that he had enjoyed the year of writing monthly reports but had unfortunately missed 1 months copy. CO'M added that he had also managed to get a couple of longer items into Nacelle about the Treffen and the Triumph factory trip. He hoped the club would be doing more significant events over the coming year to enable him to write longer pieces.

PD Chair said he had enjoyed his first year as chair and was particularly pleased with the Treffen and thanked all those who had worked to make it the success it was and how he hoped this years would be bigger and better. PD also spot lighted the trip to the Triumph factory as one of high points of the year and encouraged anyone who has not yet visited the factory to do so as it is a splendid and informative day out.

All committee members stood down with JS informing the meeting he did not wish to continue as Social Secretary.

MK suggested that JS be elected as Branch Secretary this was seconded by JR and accepted by JS. JS is now Branch Secretary.

There then followed a lively discussion about how to replace JS as Social Secretary. No one present was keen to put themselves forward for the position so PD noted that this position was a big job for one person to do, and he suggested that we have a calendar of events covering the 6 pub runs, the Sunday runs and other more lengthy trips or events. This would enable members to plan what they wished to take part in and what would be left out. It will mean there will be an event each weekend between late February and through to early October. Those at the meeting who put themselves forward to run this sub committee were CO'M, PHe and MR. This was accepted by the meeting. Later the committee accepted the offer of help from JR and she was co-opted onto the sub committee. This sub committee will hold its first meeting on the 23rd of January and will have a calendar ready for perusal by the end of January.

There followed a discussion on how runs should be publicised and confirmed. DH felt Facebook to be a poor and unreliable way to inform members of events and not suitable as a way to confirm runs/events.

AB and the members present felt that whilst all methods of communication were valid and up to personal preference. The web site would be used for notification of all events and what's app be used for confirmation and informal chit chat amongst members, but that Face book would have information on it plus text would still be sent out for most events.

Agenda items

Treffen

PD thought that though the Treffen had lost money it had been a success as those attended had had a great time, also the feedback from those attending was very positive. PD added that this year would have 2 bands and they would be on from a little earlier to avoid losing audience due to the chill of the evening.

MF observed that this years Treffen had not been agreed on by all of the membership and that it was not good practice to sanction these events that cost a good deal of club money without consultation with the membership. It was agreed to go ahead with this years Treffen but that a better level of consultation be employed in future.

The gazebo

It was agreed to replace the present gazebo at a cost of £300.

Articles etc. for publication

There had been a paragraph printed in the Nacelle that some had felt was less positive about the Treffen than it should have been. It was agreed by the majority that any items for print should be cleared by the committee prior to publication. The exception being the scribe's monthly report.

Short break in proceedings.

AOB

Ride outs

MR said it would be more welcoming to new members if when we left as group we return as a group. As we have tendency to drift off home after arrival and this can leave some without knowledge of exactly where they are stranded. It was agreed by members that the intention from now on would be remain throughout rides as a group. It was observed that this would be hard to police and the group could not actually prevent individuals leaving early.

DH suggested that all on runs should wear a reflective armband. This identification should help those on the run so that we can be kept together more effectively and guard against what happened on the 70 mile ride out where a Triumph rider got caught up in the run but when he/she wanted to leave it had caused DH to consider going after them this would have caused unnecessary disruption to the run and would have been prevented if it had been obvious that the person was just coincidentally on the run.

TB thought it would be an idea to have a piece of paper in any armband with details of the persons blood group contact for persons to be informed in case of an accident. AB added that this could be something to appeal to many other branches and maybe the club could purchase a bulk item and sell throughout the club nationally. PD stated he would look in into this and report back.

Pub meets

DH said we should open up the area we cover by meeting at other pubs. PD suggested a new meeting at the Dog & Partridge Orsett on the 1st Thursday of the month, then the 2nd Wednesday at the Country Club Battlesbridge, the third Wednesday would remain as pub ride out, the 4th Wednesday would held at the Shepherd and Dog though an effort would be undertaken to find a better venue where we were not as split up as we are at the Shepherd and Dog.

AB thought we should look into the possibility of a room hire for our monthly meetings. This idea will be looked into and costed and the committee will report back.

JR observed that she felt that the club was too much of a boys club with events such as the trip to Normandy being run as a purely male trip. It was agreed that the club should not be so much a male preserve and that all events will be open to all members regardless of gender etc.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm

Minutes by

Chris O'May