

The Murvi Club

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Held on: 02 April 2022 at 18.00

Present:

Andrew & Liz Bawn
Ian Baxter
Maggie & Steve Butler
Judy Coutinho & Valerie Greenfield
Ellie & Simon Elsdon
Robert & Angela Emuss
Nigel & Anne Evans
Robert & Christine Flitney
Kathryn Foster & Andrew Bennett
Heather & Chris Gould
Philip & Hilary Greenwood
Alan & Marilyn Major
Nick Mawby
Penny McCallig & Andrew Shewan
Barry & Den Moy
Roger Norman
Anne & Steve Parker
Lindsay & Wilma Paterson
Roger & Wendy Pepper
Penny & Nick Potts
Lin Powell & Wendy Palmer
Pete & Meg Privett
Keith & Lyn Ross
Andy & Karina Shire
Jacqui & Tim Simmons
Karin Sumption
Steve Sykes & Sue Pulham
Mike & Helen Vernon
Colin & Elizabeth Wallis
Julia Wright

Apologies:

Robert and Carolyn Ash
Mike & Caroline Brankin
Richard & Vicky Constable
Denise Exall & Phil Ashby
Alan & Jane Fletcher
Claire Garston
Adrian & Theresa Hitchman
Joyce & Barry Hopewell
Barry Ireland
John & Mary Laidler
Peter & Margaret Lloyd
Yvonne Mawby
Tony Phillips
Martin & Penny Sweet
Mike Warburton
Geoff & Carol Wilkinson
Alan & Chrissy Williams
Sarah Woolley & Susan Norman
Vince & Christine Wright

- 1 Julia Wright took the chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2 The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held by Zoom video conference on 10/04/21 were approved and signed by Julia Wright.
- 3 There were no matters arising from the Annual General Meeting held on 10/04/21.
- 4 Julia Wright, the Chairman, reported as follows:
After numerous false hopes, at last we seem to have turned a corner as far as Covid is concerned. (I am not even going to get started on the state of Europe at the moment.) Thank goodness the AGM meet should provide plenty of distractions and a chance to get together with old friends, some of whom we haven't seen for ages.
As you might guess, I am relieved to be chairing this year's AGM in person rather than using Zoom. I found that experience very scary and I was definitely out of my comfort zone. Having said that, it did allow us to meet our legal obligations as a Club.
Hopefully this year will see the return of more meets. I am certainly looking forward to organising another Christmas one in the south-west. It has been a frustrating few years, particularly with the pressures on campsites caused by all the new fans of motorhomes and campervans. I was, however, very pleased to discover how good some of the rally fields can be. Those at the Ellwood Football Club in the Forest of Dean and Hereford Rowing Club were excellent and could match many campsites. Their use does depend on the weather being kind as they normally feature grass pitches, but I am sure they will feature more in our programme in the future.
I have also been heartened by the reports in the forum and newsletters from our fellow club members who have made it to Europe. They have obviously found their way through the maze of new restrictions

and regulations caused by Covid and Brexit. Their feedback will prove very valuable to those of us hoping to dip our toes in foreign waters this year and next.

I would like to thank all the committee members for their hard work and support. John has been working hard on the newsletter and has produced two excellent ones. He does of course rely on the contributions he is given and I would like to thank all those members who submitted entertaining and interesting articles. Please keep them coming.

I am sure you are looking forward to our post-meeting supper. Sadly this year we are only able to share our wit and bonhomie. Given the amount of Covid still circulating we have to be careful. Looking on the bright side though, those of you who, like me, aren't terribly confident about your culinary skills, might be relieved about that.

5 Roger Pepper, the Secretary, reported as follows:

Committee meetings took place on 06 September 2021 by Zoom video conference and 12 November 2021 in person. The committee have been in regular touch by email between the meetings.

John Laidler was co-opted to the committee to act as our Editor

The following decisions have been taken:

The Club's bank account has been transitioned on 1 November 2021 to an HSBC Charitable Account at a cost of £5 per month. The sort code and account number remain the same.

The club's web hosting company has been changed to Dreamhost at a considerable saving to that previously used. Dreamhost is a reliable company and will not give any security issues.

Membership of ACCEO and our public liability insurance have both been renewed. Whilst renewing the insurance and without my authority, the brokers, Saffron Insurance, divulged my personal email to approximately 150 representatives of other ACCEO member clubs. I complained to Saffron about this data breach and they have undertaken to amend their procedures to prevent it happening in future years. Due to this event, I shall in future be using the address secretary@murviclub.org.uk for all club business.

6 Alan Major, the Treasurer, reported as follows:

As the lockdown eased in the spring the Club became more active and was able to run events again.

The collection and disbursement of rally fees generated a small surplus for the year.

Unfortunately, the Club has experienced a significant rise in the premium for its Public Liability Insurance. Additionally at the end of the year the Club's bank HSBC started to charge clubs and charities for maintaining their bank accounts. Since the Club undertakes most of its transactions electronically it is well placed to mitigate the impact of these charges and so for now will monitor this landscape as a change of bankers is not without pain to both the Club and the membership.

Despite these headwinds the Club's finances remain strong.

Heather Gould proposed and Keith Ross seconded that the accounts for the year to 31 December 2021 be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

7 Karin Sumption, the Rally Secretary, reported as follows:

After having been very confined in 2020 and early 2021, the club sprang into action last summer. Quite a few members got together for small informal meets. I think it is great that belonging to the club makes these sort of get-togethers easier to plan, and they are especially good for those of us camping on our own. We also managed to run ten proper meets during the last twelve months, some with large numbers of attendees. It says something about the intrepid nature of the club's members that we have so many happy to camp in the winter. My friends think I'm mad!

This year, thanks to Alan, we have a new system of booking for rallies. As the bookings are done online, all your details are automatically transferred to the spreadsheet so that your email addresses and phone numbers etc should be correct on all our forms, as no copying needs to be done. It also makes the job of the person organising the rally, and Alan, the treasurer, a lot easier, as all the information is in one place and individual emails can be generated for each participant. If you have more than one email address, especially if you have a Gmail address that isn't the one you normally use, please make sure that the one on the booking form is the one you want us to use all the time. Gmail sometimes thinks it knows better than you, so please check the form before you send it off!

In 2019 we instigated a system of sharing details of members going to festivals and shows, it was very successful with a club presence at 10 that year. It would be good if we could do it again this year. If you are booking to go to a festival and would like company there, let me know all the details and I will put the information on the website and email other members about it. They can then contact you to arrange to meet up. So far we have the Southern Motorhome Show, in May, on the list.

We have two more meets planned so far this year, both in Dorset, one in July and the other in November. It would be nice to have lots more during the spring and autumn as well. Please do think about whether you can organise one and let me know if you decide to.

I expect our two Christmas meets will be reinstated. I keep hoping that there will be more of them, especially in the north. Will someone make my dream come true this year?
Happy camping!

Julia Wright said she intended to run 2 meets linked to Heather Gould's Wareham meet and details will be circulated shortly.

Meg Privett noted that in another club she belonged to Gmail emails had a tendency of not arriving at their intended recipient. Roger Pepper said that the use of Gmail in the club's booking system was due to be discussed at the executive committee meeting due to be held the following day.

- 8 Nick Mawby, the IT and Membership Secretary, reported as follows:
It is good to see 30 vans at this year's A.G.M. rally. There were 50 booked for the 2020 10th anniversary event which was cancelled due to the pandemic. It was hoped that this would have increased to 90 by the time the rally would have taken place.
I had hoped to organise a geocaching expedition during this weekend but due to John Laidler's enforced absence was unable to do so. Instead I decided to hold a best buffed black bumper competition, and I announce Robert Emuss as the first winner!
There are currently 300 paid up members of the club. Over the last two years 68 members have left the club. There were 124 members when the first A.G.M. took place. There have been a total of 567 members during the lifetime of the club.
I like to include on the website, tips for improving and repairing our vans but few have been sent me in recent years. Please give some thought to what you know that may be of interest and or help to other members and email it to me.
My thanks are due to Alan Major for his work over the last 12 months in automating the rally booking and payment system, and the attendee photographs. This will lead to a considerable reduction in the workload of rally organisers.
Several members have commented that their photos used on the attendees lists are out of date. If new ones are emailed to me, I will replace them.

Hillary Greenwood said she had trouble seeing threads on the chat line. Nick Mawby suggested that she may be using a gmail account from some time ago.

Keith Ross asked that when members start a new subject on the chat line, they use a fresh email rather than adding it an existing thread.

- 9 Alan Major, Nick Mawby, Roger Pepper, Karin Sumption and Julia Wright were elected to the Executive Committee with acclamation.
- 10 Kate Foster proposed Martin Sweet as Auditor. This was seconded by Angela Emus and carried unanimously with the meeting's thanks to Martin for carrying out this function.
- 11 The next Annual General Meeting will be held on 25 March 2023 at a location to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 18.35