

Minutes of the fourteenth AGM of the EACC

*Bromeswell Village Hall
16 April 2023*

Opening of meeting

The Secretary opened the meeting at 10:10pm.

Election of Chair for the Meeting

Neil Morley was elected to chair the meeting.

Apologies for Absence

Paul Efreme, Lindsay Neill, Paul Newton and the Lancashire Slow Riders, Andrew Roddham, Andrew Sparks, David Watson.

Approval of Minutes of the last AGM (7/11/2021)

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

Proposed: Martin Gates
Seconded: Alan Bloys
Agreed: *Nem Con*

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last AGM

The change to PDF membership cards for e-mail members has been made.

Officers' reports

Committee: While the club runs along OK without the committee interfering, we had planned to have at least one committee meeting last year, mainly to discuss last AGM's proposal to investigate accepting card payments. However, it proved impossible to get enough of the committee together at the same time and place. Sharon has investigated card payments, which she'll tell you about in her treasurer's report.

As our first attempt at an AGM wasn't quorate, we had a committee meeting instead. We agreed to split the current Secretary's job into four: Webmaster, Machine Registrar, Membership Secretary, and General Secretary; this should make it easier to recruit new officers rather than expecting someone to take on the whole lot at once. I have Secretary for 15 years—and that's long enough. The General Secretary would have to arrange committee meetings, do the minutes of these and the AGM, keep the Club Information Sheet that we send annually to all members up-to-date, be the FBHVC contact, be the club's first point of contact, etc—all those jobs that I've not been very good at getting around to.

Membership:

Year ending 31 October	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Membership at start of year	964	958
Members not renewing	160	157
Members renewing	804	801
New members	114	163
Membership at end of year	918	964
UK postal	433	461
UK e-mail	466	480
Overseas postal	1	1
Overseas e-mail	6	12
Associate	12	10

Club membership has decreased a little this year; the decline is in the number of new members joining, which probably indicates the end of the 'lock-down effect'.

Dating: The number of dating requests has also gone down: 305 this year and 394 last year. The number of V765 applications has also fallen: 33 this year and 47 last year.

Andrew Pattle

Treasurer

As you will see from this year's figures, there have been varying increases and decreases in our income and expenditure compared to last year, which has resulted in a lower net gain this time. This is partly due to our increased costs of producing the full colour version of The MAC. I have produced an up-to-date estimate of costs incurred per member, which will give evidence to the need for an increase in membership fees for those who receive the printed magazine, from the current £8 to £10. Whilst the increase won't cover the full cost straight away, it will help towards the shortfall, with a small increase the following year to bring it to an even level. We will be keeping the membership fees for e-mail members at £4 for the time being. A full list of the correct fees and methods of payment will be printed in every issue of the magazine, and is also available on our website. The new fees will take effect from 1st May 2023.

I am also proposing to make an increase in the cost of producing Dating and V765 certificates, from £10 to £15. The current fee has remained at the same level for many years despite increased costs of printing, envelopes, and postage, which the club has previously absorbed. We will be keeping the same fees to both members and non-members alike at present. These new fees will take effect from 1st May 2023. A full list of fees will be printed in the magazine and available on our website. Whilst the club's ethos is not to have large amounts of money in the bank, we believe that the service we offer should be self-funding. A certificate adds a lot of value to a bike, and other clubs' fees are similar, in some cases a lot more.

Following on from last year's AGM, I suggested that we try to reduce our postage spending by not sending a laminated membership card out. We are now issuing a pdf file so that members can print their own card if they wish. As we only started this part way in the financial year, we are already starting to see a reduction on the amount of money we give to Royal Mail!

I also highlighted the possibility of ceasing to accept payments made by cheque. Most organisations no longer accept them, and many more people nowadays are adopting internet banking as part of everyday life. The club's own bank, the TSB, will no longer accept multiple cheque deposits made at their branches. Fortunately, I am able to deposit them at my local Post Office. We also have to deal with cheques that are made out to the incorrect payee, and some that are unsigned. This creates more work for Andrew and myself. With more payment methods available these days, I would like the club to consider setting an 'End date' to cease accepting cheques—perhaps a topic for further discussion?

I have also done some research into the possibility of accepting Card payments as an alternative. It is very simple to do when the cardholder is present, but the method of taking phone or online payments this way would involve inputting information into the app, meaning someone would have to commit to being available to do so. There would also, of course, be fees incurred which would be added. Therefore we have decided that 'It's not for us' at present.

Estimated costs per Member 2022: Cost of FBHVC is £428.17. Cost of club PLI insurance is £144.70. Plus one stamp (average).

My calculations are based on 964 members, which amounts to £1.27 per member.

Cost of The MAC magazine: £4441.94 divided by 6 issues = £740 average issue, divided by 467 copies (average) = £1.58 per copy.

For 6 magazines per year = £9.48
Plus member costs as above at £1.27
= £10.75

As we currently receive £8, this leaves a £2.75 shortfall. The cost of an 'e-mail magazine' membership is currently £4.00, which results in a £2.73 profit.

Proposed membership fees from May 1st 2023: For 'e-mail' members: £4.00 by bank transfer or £4.45 via PayPal

For members who receive the printed MAC magazine: £10.00 by bank transfer or £10.60 via PayPal

European members who receive the printed magazine: £18.00 by bank transfer, or £18.60 if paid via PayPal. (This is to cover increases in overseas postage rates.)

Our preferred method of payment is by Bank transfer—easy to do, and no fees. Our banking details are: TSB bank, Account number 00848165, Sort code 30-93-22. You can also take these details to your own bank who will make the transfer for you if you do not wish to use internet banking yourself. If you wish to send a cheque, please make payable to: 'East Anglian Cyclemotor Club' or 'EACC' and PLEASE MAKE SURE IT IS SIGNED!

Proposed new Dating and V765 fees from May 1st 2023:

Dating and V765 Certificates: £15.00 by bank transfer or £15.80 via PayPal

Reprints of Certificates: £6.00 by bank transfer or £6.50 via PayPal

For multiple certificates:

For two certificates: £30 by bank transfer or £31.25 via PayPal

For three: £45 by bank transfer or £46.60 via PayPal

For four: £60 by bank transfer or £62.20 via PayPal

For further quantities please ring or e-mail me so that I can give an accurate cost which includes the correct fees for paying by PayPal.

Sharon

The proposed changes to Membership and dating fees were accepted *nem con.*

There was a discussion on an 'end date' for accepting cheques but no proposal was made.

Editor

Firstly I must say thanks to all who have contributed to the newsletter for my four years as editor in chief. We started OK-ish for the first year and then the dreaded pandemic came along and for two years we still managed to fill our 28 pages without having to trawl for archive stuff or fill the pages with pictures. However, this last year has seen less and less submitted to the extent that an executive decision was made to relinquish the position. It was always my intention for the newsletter to be members' content driven but with that in short supply and my lack of authorship abilities it's time for somebody else to move it on!

Dave.

Andrew Sparks was appointed as editor at the committee meeting on 13 November 2022; he has already produced two editions of The MAC.

Events

No report

Publicity

Best not to mention the two previous years as most activities were scuttled by the dreaded Covid and the many restrictions.

However, this year started in January with the on – off – on – off – will it – won't it (due to the hall being re-purposed) Manchester Bike Show. A great effort by Paul, Nev, and the team of the Lancashire Slow Riders for putting on a fantastic display; the stand was kept busy with the many visitors to the stand and was certainly good publicity for the club.

Just a month later it was the turn of the Wiltshire Whizzers to have a stand at the Bristol Classic Bike show. Again another great effort by Steve and the crew for putting on a fine display of bikes. A first for the Whizzers and not in the best of locations at the back of an annexed hall but the stand had a steady flow of visitors and lots interest shown in our smaller type machines. A return with a bigger and better display is already in the pipeline for next year.

A pleasant two days was spent displaying four bikes and a couple of ring displays at the Eastern Vintage Show seemed to go down well with the many visitors to this major event at the Royal Norfolk Showground, maybe something we can build on for a bigger display next year (if the event does actually happen).

A late entry, and I was at the excellent Copdock Motorcycle Show, another good effort from Martin and Co at probably the biggest bike show in the East.

I will not be seeking re-election to the committee at the AGM, but it will business as usual at the EACC Facebook page, the Forum, and Norfolk Section.

Dave

Regalia

No report.

Spares

No report.

Alan Course has resigned from the Spares Officer post; the committee appointed Garth Jeffrey at its meeting on 13 November 2022.

Election of Committee

Secretary

Andrew Roddham

Proposed: Andrew Pattle

Seconded: Neil Bowen

Agreed: *Nem Con*

Treasurer

Committee members (a minimum of 1, a maximum of 6)

David Watson and Alan Course no longer want to be on the committee; the remaining current members of the committee (Sharon Wikner—treasurer, Paul Efreme, Mark Daniels, Martin Gates, Neil Morley) were re-elected *en bloc*

Proposed: Alan Bloys

Seconded: Mark Gibb

Agreed: *Nem Con*

Garth Jeffrey was elected to a vacant committee post.

Proposed: Andrew Pattle

Seconded: Neil Morley

Agreed: *Nem Con*

Any Other Business

Reduction of General Meeting quorum to 15:

Proposed: Martin Wikner

Amendment to set quorum at 17:

Proposed: Andrew Pattle

Setting the figure at 17 means there have to be more ‘ordinary’ members than committee members at an AGM. The amendment was accepted by the proposer of the original motion.

The amended motion was

Seconded: Andrew Pattle

Agreed: *Nem Con*

Mark Daniels outlined some of the current problems with NOVA caused by HMRC insisting on a customs agent being used. This can result in the agents fees being much greater than the actual duty that’s payable. Other clubs are experiencing the same problems and are pressuring the FBHVC to intervene. Mark will be writing in The MAC to keep the membership informed on any developments.

The 2023 AGM will be in November as normal; it will be **before** the Kneels Wheels Run as this should result in a larger attendance.

Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 10:45am