

Minutes of the Thames Valley Centre Annual General Meeting

Held at Tao Restaurant, Beaconsfield

Monday 10th November 2012

1. Present

Brian White (Chairman)
Nick Crocker (Secretary & Local Membership Liaison Officer) & Christine
Rob Fenton (Events Notification & Web-master) & Sylvie
Stephen Huntington (Committee Member) & Ruth
Richard Winter (Committee Member)
David Gray (Committee Member)
Richard Kidson (Committee Member) & Freddie
Peter Freeman (Committee Member) & Mary
Barry Marsh (Committee Member) & Janet
Paul Burton (General Member) & Arlene
Bob Slack (General Member) & Juliet
Chris Tauchert (General Member) & Kathy

2. Apologies for absence

Ian Foster (Director and Treasurer) on honeymoon - Best wishes to him and Anita - and Dennis Horner (our good wishes to him and to Claire for her speedy recovery).

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by Chris Tauchert and seconded by Rob Slack. Brian White signed them as a true record in his capacity of Chairman. The AOB items outstanding were to be dealt with under AOB of this meeting.

4. Chairman's Report

Looking back on this past year and its activities, I can report that it has been another enjoyable year for those who attended such events. Your Committee again arranged an interesting and varied programme which was enjoyed by those who supported us and our efforts.

The programme spanned from car touring to historical to museum to sporty, finishing off with a "free for all" karting race for all comers. We were pleased to gain good support from our ladies and friends, as we had tried to select events that were of wider and broader interest.

However, your Centre has 157 members and 11 (7%) of whom are on the Committee. For the four main Thames Valley events this year, the total attendance was 93 people, of whom 54 were Committee and friends. So the Committee attendees made up 58 % of last year's attendance!

WHERE WAS THE SUPPORT FROM OUR THAMES VALLEY MEMBERS??

As your Chairman, I ask " Are our efforts worthwhile? " Why should we spend so much effort for such a poor response from our Centre's membership? So this coming

year, I would propose that we only arrange events that are selected by our Thames Valley membership.

So we propose that for next year, we prepare events that are suggested, deemed suitable and received from our members.

If you want an active centre - then support it and give us your wishes for your events for 2013.

Finally I wish to thank the Committee for their complete and enthusiastic support to me and our Thames Valley Centre during this year. Such support has made my duties enjoyable. Also on behalf of this Committee, I wish to offer our very best wishes to Ian and Anita for their future together; and also to thank Ian for undertaking his broad duties as Event Organiser, Director and Treasurer so effectively.

5. Director's Report

Presented on Ian Foster's behalf by Brian White

National Executive Committee

During the year Ian Foster was appointed as Director representing the Thames Valley Centre on the NEC Committee. It was agreed that should Ian Foster be unable to attend any NEC Committee meeting, Brian White would endeavour to attend on behalf of the Thames Valley Centre.

2013 European Meeting

The 4th European Meeting to be held in May at The Crieff Hydro Hotel in Scotland was fully booked within weeks of being advertised on the Austin Healey web site at the end of 2011. The total number of attendees at the meeting has been restricted to 500 people, mainly due to the maximum number of people that can be catered for at the Gala Dinner. The whole event will be self funding. The programme will include two days of road runs in the Highland and a track day at Knockhill.

New Members

The National membership remains around 1620 members with 118 from Overseas. The National club web page attracts on average 20,000 hits per month and with this in mind it was agreed to advertise a free copy of the Revcounter, in a hope of attracting new members.

The trial period lasted for 18 weeks and 180 copies of Revcounter were sent to potential new club members. Of the 180 copies sent, 65 were to registered owners of Austin Healeys and it has resulted in 31 joining the club. Efforts by the centres being taken to convert the remaining 34 registered owners. It has been agreed to reintroduce the exercise next year.

VAT Returns

All the centres are reporting their quarterly VAT returns

6. Treasurer's Report

Presented on Ian Foster's behalf by Brian White.

The 2012 Events Income & Expenditure Records together with the 2012 Accounts were made available to the meeting (and are attached to these Minutes). This year is our first full reporting year for a 12 month period (up to 31st August), since the

Financial Reporting date had been changed and standardized to conform to that of the NEC. Points to be noted from the reported Accounts are as under : -

- The membership levy at £785 was not included as Income as it was received too late from the Club's Treasurer to be deposited within the accounting period. See it is reported under Current Assets.
- Administration Expenses are higher this year since we provided supper at last year's AGM in an attempt to encourage attendance from our General Members. Also Committee Meeting Expenses were higher as we changed our location of our Meeting Venue, which now supplies better facilities and better service.
- The Events subsidy was lower this year mainly because the lunch venue at Ham Polo was arranged within the Club House, rather than a separate marquee with separate service, as we had lower numbers than at the previous attendance. The total Events subsidy for this year was £290 vs that of £1539 for last year. Thus a more balanced expenditure year for your Centre, since the lowering of last year's events' pricing had shown that cheaper pricing did not increase the numbers attending.
- Since VAT reporting is now required by all of the Centres, it can be seen that we benefitted by a small VAT return of £125.
- Karting is not included in this year's figures since it occurred in October. However a deposit of £350 had to be paid in July, which is reflected in the "Current Liabilities" figures.
- Accordingly the "Cash at Bank" figure at the end of this 2012 year is **£8654** versus that for last year of **£7837**.

7. Membership Liaison Officer's Report

Compared with 157 this time a year ago, Thames Valley Membership is almost unchanged at 158. As will be seen from the Secretary's report below, a very small proportion of these attended this year's events.

8. Secretary's Report

We implemented the request made by some members at the last AGM and continued to run a number of good events this year, rather than (as had been intended) limit events to one or two, to reflect the lack of members' support for such activities. Unfortunately the lack of support continued in that the numbers of Thames Valley non-Committee attendees was, as has sadly been the norm for years, disappointing, though there was a hard core of half a dozen non-Committee members who were frequently present. Events held during the year were:

1. The season kick-off ("Three Men in a Boat") was originally scheduled for April 29th, but dire weather forecasts intervened and forced a move to June 17th, when Richard Winter had produced a good run from the Crown at Burchetts Green to the Barley Mow at Clifton Hampden with suitable

refreshments organised. 8 cars attended, 6 Thames Valley Committee members, 2 non-Committee.

2. We had organised a day at the July 1st Military Air Pageant at Shuttleworth and 10 cars representing 5 Thames Valley Committee members, 3 out-of-area members and 2 non-Committee members from Thames Valley had booked. Sadly that very morning one of the Shuttleworth Collection's vintage aircraft had crashed, killing the pilot, so we arrived only to be turned away, the event having been cancelled. We hope to run it again in 2013.
3. On July 28th Ian Foster had set up an excellent visit to Bletchley Park, the World War II home of the Enigma code-breakers. The attendees enjoyed guided tours of Bletchley House and the exhibitions. Attendance from 16 cars was booked (6 from Thames Valley Committee) and all turned up on fine sunny day, except Mr Joe Cox's car decided it did not want to attend and became a breakdown casualty.
4. On Sunday 19th August we repeated the successful 2010 visit to the London Polo Club at Ham. The group of 13 cars met up in Richmond Park and drove in convoy to Ham, arriving to be welcomed with a Pimms, followed by an excellent buffet lunch. During the "treading in" break between chukkas, the cars paraded round the perimeter of the ground with their drivers and passengers waving like royalty, accompanied by a descriptive commentary given with verve by Rob Fenton. We were made very welcome indeed during one of the hottest days of this summer, and only a light shower interrupted the homeward drive.
5. The week-end of October 6th/7th saw us visiting Castle Combe for the AH 3000 Race Meeting, including Joe Cox's final appearance. Unfortunately time ran out for a full weekend rally and only two committee members made the run to watch the racing on the Saturday.
6. On October 20th, 10 teams from Thames Valley and other Centres, with guest team appearances from Rawles and Orchard plus friends from Imperial College, took part in a 2.5 hour Karting marathon with 3 pit stops to change wheels, at Premier Karting's figure-of-eight track near Reading. Much fun was experienced on a rather full track with 10 cars rushing round at any one time, apparently hitting 45mph on the straight, with spins, bumps and pushes being the order of the day, when the marshals were not watching. There were a number of incidents including our Chairman Brian White being black-flagged for speeding in the pit lane!!! There was also an all ladies team who did themselves proud. The final winner was a team captained by an ex-TV member Mike Chilman winning by a couple of seconds thanks to an audacious overtaking manoeuvre on the last lap. A bottle of good Champagne for the winners, a few bruises for the losers.
7. In summary, an enjoyable Thames Valley Events programme for 2012.

9. Webmaster's Report

Rob Fenton reported that, after long discussions, Thames Valley had relinquished its web site name to NEC and had a new site name: www.ahc-thamesvalley.org.uk .

10. Election of Officers

Richard Winter stated that he wished to stand down from the Committee to pursue other interests. He was thanked for his significant contributions.

The remainder of the previous Committee, listed below, was re-elected en bloc without opposition, proposed by Bob Slack and seconded by Chris Tauchert.

Brian White (Chairman).

Nick Crocker (Secretary & Local Membership Liaison Officer).

Ian Foster (Treasurer & Director)

Rob Fenton (Web-master including Events Notifications)

Peter Freeman (Committee Member)

David Gray (Committee Member)

Dennis Horner (Committee Member)

Stephen Huntington (Committee Member)

Richard Kidson (Committee Member)

Barry Marsh (Committee Member)

11. AOB

a. We had just received the new dates for the Shuttleworth Military Air Pageant. These are Sat July 6th (evening) and Sunday July 28 (day). Two problems arise from these dates: the previous weekend is the Henley Traditional Boat Rally (which the Club may well support) and the 28th may well be a Silverstone race day. To be discussed at first Committee meeting of the New Year.

b. Rob Fenton reported on the status of Christmas Card sales: for an expenditure of £370 for two new Sprite artwork to date; printing costs to come, he has already sold 620 cards with more expected.

c. Carried forward from 2011 AGM: signature form for Nationwide had been signed by TV necessary officers and passed to Centre (Peter Holland) for action. No action, still outstanding.

d. It was agreed that the Old Bell at Hurley had been a satisfactory Noggin & Natter trial venue and that it would therefore be formalized for 3rd Tuesday each month and would be entered into the Rev Counter calendar. Action by Richard Kidson.

e. Peter Freeman proposed that a significant charity donation (c£1000) from the positive funds of our TV Centre should be donated to the new Healey museum in the Netherlands. Carried forward to next Committee meeting when more detail about the museum will be needed. Brian White agreed to discuss this concept with John Keener to assess if this should be considered by the Club, rather than by individual Centres.

f. Barry Marsh brought up for discussion a trip to Lake Garda and the Stelvio pass, cost for 9 nights half board c£600/head (which seems almost too good to be true!). Also carried forward.

g. Following on from the Chairman's comments in his tabled report re the lack of event support from the general membership, Stephen Huntington put forward that the Committee should stop worrying about that and continue to run events which the Committee wanted and would attend, any other attendance being seen as a bonus. Brian White intends to write to members to give them a (last) chance to specify events they want, failing responses we would follow Stephen's proposal.

h. It was agreed that the selection of the programme for Events for 2013 would be commenced at our next Meeting which was to be set in early January 2013; Brian White will email Committee with proposed dates.

As no other business was raised - the Chairman thanked those present and declared the AGM Meeting closed.

AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB - Thames Valley
Income and Expenditure to 31st August 2012

		2012		2011
		12		10
		months		months
INCOME	£	£		£
Membership Levy	0		740	
Sales of Xmas cards	517		1613	
Events income	1460		3009	
			<hr/>	
Bank interest	1		1	
		1978		5363
Cost of Sales				
Xmas card printing costs/postage	127		891	
			<hr/>	
Events expenditure	1750		4548	
		1877		5439
			<hr/>	
Gross Surplus		101		-76
Administrative Expenses				
Committee Meeting Expenses	559		447	
Cost of AGM	440		76	
			<hr/>	
Thames Valley Web page	8			
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		1007		523
Excess of Expenditure over income		-906		-599
				<hr/>
Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2012		2012		2011
Fixed Assets				
Current Assets				
Xmas card stock	81		280	
			<hr/>	
Cash at bank	8654		7837	
VAT	125		44	
			<hr/>	
Membership Levy	785			
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		9645		8161
Less current liabilities				

Creditors(Premier Karting)	350	350
Reserves		
Accumulated reserves	9645	9800
Less excess of income over expenditure	-906	-599
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Less current liabilities	350	44
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9089	9245

JUNE - THREE MEN IN A BOAT

NUMBER OF CARS	8		
TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDEE'S	17		
COMMITTEE MEMBERS/FRIENDS	10		
COST	£65	SUBSIDY	£65

JULY - BLETCHLEY PARK

NUMBER OF CARS	16		
TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDEE'S	30		
COMMITTEE MEMBERS/FRIENDS	12		
COST	£522		
INCOME	£336	SUBSIDY	£186

JULY - SHUTTLEWORTH

NUMBER OF CARS	10		
TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDEE'S	20		
COMMITTEE MEMBERS/FRIENDS	14		
COST	£399		
INCOME	£399	SUBSIDY	0

AUGUST - HAM POLO

NUMBER OF CARS	13		
TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDEE'S	26		
COMMITTEE MEMBERS/FRIENDS	18		
COST	£764		
INCOME	£725	SUBSIDY	£39

OCTOBER - KARTING

TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDEE'S	48		
COMMITTEE MEMBERS/FRIENDS	6		
COST	£1,800		
INCOME	£1,772	SUBSIDY	£28

**TOTAL SUBSIDY
=£318**

**TOATAL
ATTENDEE'S =
141**

**INCLUDING
COMMITTEE/FRIENDS =
60**