



## **Witley & District MCC Annual General Meeting – Minutes 2025 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 - held at The Compton Club, Spiceall. GU31JQ**

- The chairman, Ian George called the meeting to order at 20:07.
- Within a total attendance of 32 there were 25 members with voting rights present, including 4 committee members on the Top Table : Ian George (chairman), Rob Carey (treasurer), Laurence Richards (President) and Gordon Ayshford (committee member, taking minutes)

### **1 Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence**

Ian welcomed everyone to the meeting, commenting on the good attendance (more, he felt, than in the previous few years) and thanked everyone present for making the effort and noted apologies for absence from: Adam Pearson, Tristan Robinson, Bernard Jay, and Gordon Kerr.

### **2 Receive and confirm the Minutes of the 2024 AGM**

The minutes from the 2024 AGM were proposed by Laurence Richards, seconded by Shaun Smith and accepted unanimously by the meeting as a true record of the 2024 AGM.

### **3 Presentation of the Club's Treasurer's Report for the year 2024**

The Treasurer, Rob Carey reported that the Club was in good financial health though a small deficit had resulted from the 2024 financial year, the current Balance being £44K. This was due largely to the expenditure made by the club for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration events, such as the Tilford show, the Brooklands show and the promotional aspects involved.

The Treasurers report accepted unanimously by the meeting proposed by Barry Brockman seconded by Marc Green.

Rob Carey, in his role as Company Secretary, also reported on the existing issue whereby the Witley and District Motorcycle Club limited company was shown as dissolved by Companies House due to a clerical problem in communications between Companies House and our accountant. This was now due to be resolved in the very near future and the Witley Club would be restored to Ltd. Company Status. If for any reason this were to fail; Rob stated that a New limited company would be created.

A short discussion followed and it was agreed that the liabilities that the Club is concerned about being protected from should be identified by the committee and the level of protection provided by being a Ltd. Company be clarified.

### **4 Presentation of the Club Secretary's Report**

### **5 Presentation of the Club Chairman's Report and Future Objectives**

Due to the absence of the Club Hon. Secretary, Item 4 was combined with Item 5 and shared between Ian George (Chairman) and Laurence Richards (President). They summarised and commented on, the events that the club had run throughout the year and plans for the future.

IG: **Scramble 100** – in addition to this very successful, prestige event held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024 as a centenary celebration of the first scramble in the world at the same venue on 24<sup>th</sup> March 1924, there had been a follow-up of a presentation and a talk at Surrey museum and a Blue Plaque to commemorate the 1924 event has been mounted on a building on London Road Camberley, that is sited adjacent to the now demolished Victoria Pub where the 1924 event had started. The building (now flats) had been the Frimley & Camberley Urban District Council Offices at the time and until 1988. A second Plaque commemorating this has been mounted adjacent to the Scramble Plaque. Camberley Council had wanted a single plaque to cover both but Ian George had refused and by Witley paying the cost, had forced the council to accept two separate plaques.

LR: **Tilford Centenary Celebration** – 8<sup>th</sup> June There had been a good response from both currently active and past members resulting in a very successful event with over 40 motorcycles on display.

IG: **Dragon Enduro** –16<sup>th</sup> June. A new venue in Horsham provided a challenging and rewarding event. The landowner was enthusiastic and a bigger and better event involving a wider range of activities is being planned for 2025.

LR: **National Road Rally** – 6 July. A Witley squad of Gordon Ayshford, Gordon Kerr, Laurence Richards and Shaun Smith had successfully completed a pleasant and interesting 290-mile route in the Daytime Gold class. A one-day entry had been chosen due to commitments to the Brooklands show the following day. There is to be no National Rally in 2025 due to lack of admin personnel. To fill the gap for Road Riders a non-competitive Witley run, based heavily on the enjoyable 2024 route, is planned for a date TBA in the summer.

LR: **Brooklands Show** – 7<sup>th</sup> July. Witley had booked a large pitch and filled it with an impressive display including the Witley branded truck, trailer, arches, and about 20 bikes covering a wide range of genres. Despite variable weather conditions, wet at times the day was a great success worthy of our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year.

IG: **ISDE** - Spain 14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> October. A fantastic event with 4 Witley riders competing. Riding in a Witley Team; Dan Alldred Achieved a Silver Medal; Neil Foster a Bronze and Rob Carey a Bronze. President Laurence Richards presented these riders with their medals to applause from all present. Ben Alldred had ridden with Paul and Brad Armstrong to form a joint Witley/SETRA team. Ben had ridden strongly until suffering injury which led to him pulling out. Ben's performance and courage was also met with applause from all present. For the **2025 ISDE** being held at Bergamo in Italy 24<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August. Witley have applied for 3 teams:

Witley A – Richard Alldred, Ben Alldred and Dan Alldred. Witley B – Tristan Robinson, Guy Chandler and Josh Kirby. Witley C – Ross Kerr, Adam Pearson and Elliot Davies.

There will be a big push in 2025 for fund-raising events.

IG: **Stubble Day** – 26<sup>th</sup> Oct Down Farm. Held on the day before the LDT. This was once again a very successful running of an event that has become very popular, allowing riders to practice on a “run what you bring” basis.

IG: **LDT** – 27<sup>th</sup> Oct Down Farm. Roger Brown had once again set out the route for this annual event and will again for 2025. The entry was large and the weather was fine giving a good day's sport.

IG: **Charlie Wake – Southern Experts Trial** – 9th November, Kingsfold. A team under Guy Chandler and Terry Tidbury set out 10 sections to challenge rider's skills. This great event gave an opportunity for top level riders to be seen cleaning sections that looked impossible.

IG: **Dinner and Dance** - 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Hogs Back Hotel. This was well supported by both Witley and Normandy club members and enjoyed by all present. The 2025 event is planned to be the same.

LR: **Kempton Show** - A show involving 14 bikes had been planned for 7<sup>th</sup> December, but the event was cancelled at the last minute due to the anticipated impact of Storm Darragh. A repeat of the intended Witley stand is proposed for the 2025 show.

IG: **BXDE** – Dec 27<sup>th</sup>, Woodbury Lane, Rowlands Castle. This venue was chosen due to it being the last opportunity to run such an event on this land. Parking looked challenging but there were no problems on the day and the event was a success. A venue is required for the 2025 BXDE, planning is in progress.

IG: **Classic Enduro** – 9<sup>th</sup> Feb, Warren Heath. Adam Pearson was Clerk of the Course and once again set out an excellent course and the event ran smoothly.

## 6 Review of Club Rules and Code of Conduct

Ian George explained to the floor that following a review of the document by the committee a few minor updates and rationalising and clarification of the wording had been performed. There were no changes to the spirit or intent of the document.

In Clause 5e), relating to capital expenditure the spend limit above which committee approval was required had been increased from £100 to £1000 to reflect current costs. It was noted that the Clerk of the Course has authority for spending outside this limit within the event context.

In Clause 13c)5) The Quorum for an AGM had been reduced from 25 to 20 members with voting rights.

Ian Hayward raised a question about Clause 3 concerning the dissolution of the club, where the words *"No payments or assets are to be passed to members or subscribers of the company"* has been removed. It was explained that these words were unnecessary and meaningless as the previous paragraph had stated that *"all remaining financial and material assets shall be given or transferred to no less than three organisations associated with the sport. (Example: ACU Benevolent fund or Youth motorcycling)"*.

Acceptance of the updated rule document was accepted unanimously by the meeting; proposed by Barry Brockman and seconded by Ian Hayward.

## 7 Election of Officers to the Management Committee

Chairman, Ian George handed the chair of the meeting temporarily to President Laurence Richards for the election of the position of Club Chairman. Ian was willing to continue as Chairman. There being no other candidates or objections Ian was duly re-elected and took back the chair of the meeting for the remaining elections summarised below.

Gordon Kerr had stepped down from the position of Club Secretary and there were no nominations for this position and it has currently been left vacant with the scope of the secretary's duties being covered by other committee members.

Committee member Gordon Ayshford had agreed to be responsible for keeping minutes and creating agendas and the role of “Minutes Secretary” was re-instated (having been eliminated when the secretary took on the role). Laurence Richards will act as back-up.

Ian George had stepped down from the role of Social Captain and Jane Richards from being his assistant after a particularly busy and successful term including our 100th anniversary year celebrations. There were no nominees to take on this role and it has currently been left vacant.

All the other officers and committee members were willing to stand for re-election. There being no other candidates or objections all existing officers and members of the committee were re-elected. The list of all current Officers and committee members from 2025 AGM is given below. Life members and committee to 2026 are included for completeness. Proposers and seconders only given for those elected at 2025 AGM.

<i>Position</i>	<i>Position Holder(s)</i>	<i>Proposed</i>	<i>Seconded</i>
President	Laurence Richards	Ian George	Gordon Ayshford
Vice Presidents (8 max)	Barry Brockman Derek Cranfield Peter Crummett Derek Prior	Rob Carey (Existing VP proposed & elected en-bloc)	Richard Alldred
Honorary Life Vice President	Bernard Jay		
Honorary Life Members (4 Voted positions Max plus Members with over 50 years membership)	Ian Hayward (over 50 years) Derek Cranfield (over 50 years) Peter Crummett (over 50 Years) Derek Prior (over 50 Years) Laurence Richards (over 50 years)		
Chairman	Ian George	Richard Alldred	Dave Mair
Vice Chairmen (2)	Tristan Robinson Shaun Smith	Terry Tidbury Rob Carey	Dave Kavanagh Terry Tidbury
Club Hon. Secretary	Vacant		
Minutes Secretary	Gordon Ayshford	Barry Brockman	Rob Carey
Club & Ltd. Co.Treasurer	Robert Carey	Simon Beken	Paul Burnett
Ltd. Co. Secretary	Robert Carey	Gordon Ayshford	Neil Foster
Membership Secretary	Elliott Beken	Rob Carey	Gordon Ayshford
Committee to 2026	Dan Alldred Gordon Ayshford Simon Beken Guy Chandler		
Committee to 2027	Aaron Dibnah Dave Kavanagh Adam Pearson Terry Tidbury	Rob Carey (proposed & elected en-bloc)	Dan Alldred
Social Captain	Vacant		
Under 25 Representative	Ross Kerr	Shaun Smith	Rob Carey
Publicity Officer / Website	Laurence Richards	Barry Brockman	Rob Carey

**8 Any Other Business brought before the meeting which has been submitted to the Secretary not less than seven days prior to the AGM; and Any Other Business not included above and deemed relevant by the Chairman**

- Neil Foster asked about the “health” of membership numbers from the floor. It was established that membership fees were not a key driver to finances, Events drive the bank balance and what the club requires is not a large membership but a large proportion of active members to run the events.
- Pete Crummett spoke from the floor asking for a vote of thanks to everyone involved in putting on events in the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year.
- Ian George thanked Jane Richards for all her hard work in the organisation of the social events.
- Rebecca Brockman announced that there will be a Fund-raising Barbeque on 29<sup>th</sup> May at a cost of £10 per ticket and that she or Jo Ayshford need be advised of numbers to cater for.
- Paul Burnett asked what the Club does to promote itself to landowners. The committee response was that Tristan had produced a glossy brochure that promotes the club within the SE Centre that gives a positive description of the events and how they are managed. This has received a positive response and has led to discussions with landowners but to date, the costs have been prohibitive for these to be followed up.

**9 Presentation and Remarks by the Club President**

The President, Laurence Richards started by thanking all those present for attending, commenting that there were more present than for some time.

Laurence then made the presentation of the Silver Badge to Simon Beken. This was for his long-term services to Enduro within the club since joining in 1996. Having ridden in top level events including the ISDE he has also always been available to help with course building and improvement of course content for good rider experience and he has helped many riders sort out problems.

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**The meeting was closed at 21:23.**

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