



Witley & District MCC Annual General Meeting – Minutes 2024

Wednesday 3rd April 2024 - The Compton Club

- **The Chairman, Ian George, bought the meeting to order at 2015hrs.**

1. Ian welcomed everyone to the meeting and passed on apologies from Bernard Jay and Gordon Ayshford for their absence. There were 28 people in attendance.
2. The Minutes from the 2023 AGM were proposed by Barry Brockman and seconded by Tristan Robinson.

3. **Presentation of the Club's Financial Accounts for the year 2023.**

The Treasurer, Robert Carey, reported a profit for the year of £13,798. In response from a question posed by Ian Hayward, Robert explained that there was a balance of £52,000 at the time of the meeting. He also mentioned that several large bills were awaiting payment from the Scramble 100 event.

There was also an explanation as to why Witley MCC had been removed from Companies House register of Companies. It was explained that this was due to an error by Companies House and was no fault of Witley MCC or their Accountant.

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

The Secretary, Gordon Kerr, began by mentioning that he hoped to acknowledge everyone who had been involved during the year and apologised in advance if he forgot anyone but stressed that everyone present had in some way contributed to the success of the club.

He gave a description of the following:

- The Wallop Enduro
- The Weston Trophy Trial
- The National Road Rally
- The Brooklands Museum Event
- The Stubble Day and Training Day
- The Long Distance Trial
- The Charlie Wake Trial
- The Dinner Dance
- The Kempton Off Road Show
- The Classic Enduro

He also spoke about the temporary closure of The Compton Club and its subsequent reopening.

Next, Gordon covered some admin issues including the ongoing problems with the ACU booking system, Sport 80. He noted the assistance of Tristan Robinson in coming up with an alternative booking system and thanked him for that.

Lastly, he mentioned the continuing development of a positive relationship with Team Medic and Gurkha Security.

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

The Chairman, Ian George, began by thanking Gordon Kerr for his secretarial work, Robert Carey for his tireless work trying to sort out the issues with Companies House and Laurie Richards for his design work and his patience with the numerous changes he is asked to make.

Ian then went on to outline some of the upcoming events planned for the rest of what will be a busy year for the Club.

He talked about the day that is planned at The Rural Life Centre and encouraged members to attend. He explained that we will once again be attending The Kempton Off Road Show.

Tristan Robinson was thanked for his work, securing new land to run competitions on and noted that other clubs were losing venues.

He stated that we would be running a section at Hook Woods again this year.

He then went on to personally thank Adam Pearson for stepping up to the task of being Clerk of the course for one of our most prestigious events, The Classic Enduro.

He also explained that Adam had turned up to help at the Boxing Day Enduro in 2022 and said that he would like to get involved with the club, and from then on has become a major asset to the Club. The Dinner Dance was talked about and again he encouraged everyone to attend, quipping that we cannot allow ourselves to be outnumbered by Normandy MCC members.

Ian then went on to recount setting up the Long-Distance Trial. He humorously mentioned that he was not prepared to ride with anyone called Gordon again as it always results in a curtailed day. An appeal was made that people should attend the Southern Experts Trial at Kingsfold this year.

The Boxing Day Enduro was discussed with the announcement that the plan was to run at Longmoor but failing that, a return to Down Farm was a possibility.

The idea of a Christmas Party was also mooted.

Finally, Ian made a very heartfelt mention of the late Colin Boniface, noting how much his efforts have been missed.

6. Election of Officers to the Management Committee

Ian George temporarily handed Chairmanship of the Meeting over to The President Laurie Richards. A vote was then held by a show of hands for Ian to continue as Club Chairman, this was voted in favour of by a unanimous decision. Ian then took back chairmanship of the meeting and started the nomination process for the Committee going forward. The results of that procedure are below:

Position	Nomination	Proposed	Seconded
President	Laurie Richards		
Chairman	Ian George	Voted from the floor	
Vice Chairman	Tristan Robinson	Dan Alldred	Simon Beken
Vice Chairman	Shaun Smith	Terry Tidbury	Dave Kavanagh
Hon. Secretary	Gordon Kerr	Tristan Robinson	Ross Kerr
Treasurer	Robert Carey	Ian Hayward	Simon Beken
Publicity/Webmaster	Laurie Richards	Barry Brockman	Ian Hayward
Social Captain	Ian George assisted by Jane Richards	Tristan Robinson	Simon Beken
Committee Member	Simon Beken	Elliot Beken	Gordon Kerr
Committee Member	Guy Chandler	Terry Tidbury	Robert Carey
Committee Member	Gordon Ayshford	Barry Brockman	Terry Tidbury
Committee Member	Dan Alldred	Tristan Robinson	Adam Pearson
Committee Member	Barry Brockman	Robert Carey	Simon Beken
Under 25 Rep	Ross Kerr	Dave Kavanagh	Simon Beken
Auditor	TBA		
Vice President	Barry Brockman	Robert Carey	Simon Beken
Company Secretary	Robert Carey	Barry Brockman	Shaun Smith

7. 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.

The first comment from the floor was from Jane Richards pointing out that communications about Club activities needs to be improved. Ian responded by asking if there were any ideas as to how this could be improved. He mentioned that Bernard Jay had said that he had felt left out from Club news. Ian said we may start an email newsletter that might improve matters.

A discussion followed a question from Rebecca Brockman, about the number of WhatsApp groups and Ian acknowledged that there were too many of them. Tristan Robinson explained that all the groups were together in one folder now which was designed to make it easier for people to navigate. George Crocket asked if the website had everything on it and Laurie Richards confirmed that it did. There was another suggestion from Paul Burnett regarding the use of Mailchimp.

Next there was a question from Ian Hayward, he asked why the Wallop Enduro was now being run by Wayback. Tristan Robinson explained that a new piece of land had been secured near Horsham and the intention was to use that venue as a SEEC Time Card event run by Witley MCC. Under SEEC rules each club is only allowed to run a maximum of two SEEC enduros each year. Therefore, the decision has been made for The Wallop to run as an extra SEEC enduro under the Wayback club. Tristan pointed out that no other club or individual would be able to run at Farleigh Wallop due to the unique personal relationship he has with the estate. Ian George also went on to point out that, with other clubs losing land we did not want to appear selfish by running multiple events. Tristan Robinson stated that if The Dragon Enduro does not continue as a venue after this year, The Wallop will come back under the umbrella of Witley MCC.

Neil Foster mentioned that a lot of help would be needed to run the Wallop Enduro but Ian George pointed out that it would be inappropriate to ask for help during the Witley MCC AGM.

Paul Burnett mentioned the training day at Down Farm and said how much he had enjoyed it. He then asked if it would be possible to run more training days for both trials and enduro without the use of outside instructors but using the talent that is already in the club. Robert Carey suggested the use of the rookery for training days. Tristan Robinson raised the idea of using the Saturday afternoons before an event as a training day, using those venues. Neil Foster pointed out that it was about mates helping mates.

Jane Hammond mentioned that Fuzz and Ammo would be at a local Grass Track meeting on the 28th July if the Road Bike group were interested in a ride out.

8. Presentation and remarks by the Club President

The President, Laurie Richards, started off by thanking the Committee and volunteers for all their efforts during the previous year. He specifically mentioned Ian George for all his hard work in organising The Scramble 100, Robert Carey for his work with Companies House and Gordon Kerr for his secretarial duties.

Next, he reminded us that this was Witley MCC's 100th year. He noted that there was much to look forward to and reflected on the advent of electric bikes and their part in our future. He said how nice it was to see more people out on road bikes and invited anyone who is interested, to join in. He also spoke about the event this summer at the Rural Life Centre and encouraged people to attend.

Lastly, Laurie Richards presented Gordon Kerr with a Silver Badge as recognition of his previous hard work as a Committee member and putting in huge amounts effort during his first year as Secretary, including countless hours on the phone to the ACU understanding and sorting out the Club's involvement with Sport80 (the new ACU entry system). More countless hours on the phone sorting out several Club insurance issues (truck, Club equipment, hired in equipment etc), for the understanding of the ACU rulings regards Ambulances and making sure we are covered, brokering a discounted rate for blue light attendance, taking on the Secretary of the Meeting role for nearly every event, these are just a few of the many ways that Gordon has tirelessly worked on behalf of the Club. All those present were unanimous in congratulation of Gordon becoming this recipient of this year's Silver Badge.

Ian George then took the opportunity to present Laurie Richards with a belated Gold Badge to celebrate the fact that Laurie has over fifty years of unbroken membership of Witley MCC. Laurie should have been presented with a gold badge 2 years ago, but it slipped by unnoticed, once again those present were unanimous in their congratulation of Laurie and his 50 years' membership.

Ian George then thanked Jo Ayshford and Rebecca Brockman for the delicious looking spread they had laid on.

The meeting was closed at 2113hrs.

