

MOTORCARAVANNERS' CLUB

CHILTERN GROUP

60th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

St Peters Middle School, Crimp Hill, Old Windsor, SL4 2QY

22nd October 2022 at 11am

MINUTES

The Meeting was brought to order and opened at 1102 a.m. on the 22nd October 2022, by Mr Mick Mead, the Chairman.

Members present 26 of which 9 were committee members.

Chairman. I would like to open the 60th Annual General Meeting of the Chiltern Motorcaravanners Club.

When we have a vote it's going to be by a show of hands.

The meeting is being recorded for transcribing purposes, does anybody have any objections to this.

The current committee are sat the front and are :

Pete Ingham (note taking)
Shirley Ingham
Julie Noakes - Bookings
Carole Ward
Roy Ward - Equipment Officer
Emlyn Evans - Treasurer
Sharon Heritage - Rally Officer
Paul Walker

Apologies

Steve and Marion Wynn, Paul and Sue Prebble, Peter and Viv Lee, Roger and Linda Green, Di and Ivor Sollis, Sandra and Bob Yates, Sue and Clive Swift.

Minutes Silence for Absent Friends

For those that have passed on and also for those that are too poorly to come along.

Minutes of the 2021 AGM

There were no comments on the 2021 minutes Therefore a proposer and seconder were requested.

Proposer Phil Boshier **Seconded** Martin Borrill **Vote** Carried unanimously.

Matters Arising

There was some discussion as to who had received the request for questions before the meeting. Many claimed they had not had notice, yet others had. The Chairman decided that despite some members not having the opportunity to submit questions 28 days prior to the meeting, he would entertain them now. Martin Borrell had sent in a question by email:

In the minutes it is stated-

“ The opening Balance at 1st August 2020 was [REDACTED] and the closing balance at year end 31 July 2021 was [REDACTED] an increase of [REDACTED]

Thats a great balance & getting greater each year.

I know you have overheads & you are thinking about replacing some of the shelters this year.

As some Rallys were poorly attended & even some cancelled this year, would it be possible to put the Rally Fee down to 'Say' £10 pupn & the Group subsidises the extra, if any (reduction for Chiltern Members Only) & start using some of the spare funds that have built up over the years, after all, the Club is Not for Profit & Chiltern do seem to quite Wealthy at the moment.

As Chair of the Motorcycle Group I know they are quite Flush (after the Extravaganza last year) but we have been using the Funds for Food & Drink at Rallys, benefiting the members who attend, if we start to see a big increase in profits, we will react very quickly & reduce Rally Fees if need be.

Regards,

Martin Borrill

Chairman's response: So what we've got there is a legitimate question and I would like to thank Martin, as people last year went away after the meeting and discussed finance whereas in the meeting this sort of thing can be discussed properly.

Some years ago the rally fee was set at £12.50 and we have occasionally quite heavily subsidised that, the one that springs to mind is Diamond farm which charged £17.00. The committee are aware that members who attend rallies should have something given back, but the key is sensibly. Hurst school the premises alone was £600.00, we experimented with reducing the rally fees to induce increased attendance, Friars Court £10.00 per night, 12 vans inc stewards, Aylesbury Rugby Club, where there's a bar, and entertainment at £7.50 a night, 9 vans, British Sugar at Bury St Edmunds we subsidised by £3.00 per person, Cottesloe school £5 pn with just 5 vans attending, the Cock Inn used to be quite popular we charged £11.00 per night 5 vans. This AGM weekend as a ballpark figure will lose the group around £400.00. Not everybody knows this but £2,000.00 is ring fenced, we can't touch it, it's there for a contingency.

What I am saying is that we agree we have to do something but it's got to be done sensibly. There was general agreement from Martin Borrill and the rest of the floor that this was the correct way to proceed. We want more members to get to rallies but not by reducing the fee as we have tried this without success. If we did give a concession on rally fees and differentiate between visitors and group members, we feel this would be improper, if we did it for a fiver a night then that would be for everyone. So Martin, have I answered your question to your satisfaction?

Martin Borrill was content with the reply and was illustrating the different way his group (MCG), spend their funds. Sharon Heritage also explained that when the rally fee is less than the fee charged by the premises, this can lead to an embarrassing shortage of cash if the numbers attending is low when finalising the bill. Martin Borrill felt that we should move away from cash these days, however some premises are reluctant, despite providing us with written receipts. A point raised from the floor is the scheme of rewarding rally attendance by keeping a record and after a chosen amount a voucher might be issued. It was stated that Chiltern group used to have such a scheme but the administration became too much of a burden and therefore was dropped. There is also the possibility of using halls and/or food. The chairman asked if there were ideas or suggestions of how to reward rallyers, please put them forward to the committee.

The floor was then asked if there were any questions that had not been submitted by the email invite.

Tina Stockall asked what is the method of communicating with members as she had not received the notice of AGM or invited to submit questions. Paul Maguire then stated that he felt this confusion of communication is what may be behind lack of attendance at rallies. We have the Chiltern website, the rally programme, The Motor Caravanner, Facebook and WhatsApp, all the groups tend to use these and the main MCC Facebook page. Paul Maguire thought that the diary that was handed out to members was lacking in information last year. The chairman invited the group members to come forward with ideas on how to publicise rallies, please do let us know as we are deeply concerned about numbers. Phil Boshier made a point of getting people to check their SPAM email box as often items can be found there. The Chairman asked that everybody who has an email keeps the database updated via the secretary.

Officers Reports

Chairman

Mick Mead. Welcome everybody - both Chiltern members and visitors alike to our AGM. I'd like to say give a special welcome to our President, Del Gosling, and to thank him for agreeing to be our President again after a few years absence.

As promised a year ago, I am not standing for Committee this year. This was my second time of being Chairman, making it 6 years in the Chair. I was also Rally Officer for 2 years before becoming Chairman.

The purpose of the Committee is to arrange rallies for members and I think during my involvement on Committee we have all enjoyed at least some of the great venues on offer, both new and old venues whether they be within our area, or further afield.

Sadly the Covid pandemic and restrictions from the government and the MCC really impacted heavily on our hobby. I still don't think things have got back to normal.

In particular, 2022 has been a strange year in terms of attendance at Chiltern rallies, with numbers being very low on most events, and with some rallies having to be cancelled due to lack of interest.

Maybe members are catching up with other things following the Covid restrictions.

As a Committee we have tried to understand why attendances have been lower this year, but my conclusion is that there is no one reason, but rather a "perfect storm" - Covid, fuel costs, general cost of living increases maybe, plus of course catching up with our families and all the other nice things we planned before our lives were interrupted upon by Covid restrictions.

I also recognise that there are so many choices of where we can camp, and members - including myself - decided to travel further afield following the restrictions we all faced for so long.

One thing I think many of us will have noticed though is the rapidly rising cost of using commercial campsites. MCC rallies, to me, seem to be even better value nowadays.

Some rally costs were reduced as the Committee recognised that cost might be an issue, but this did not increase attendances.

On a more positive note we celebrated Chiltern's 60th Anniversary in June, where a total of 43 vans attended this milestone event in our group's history.

The event was made extra special because we were able to hand the Presidents sash back to Del in the presence of his family.

I must also mention the very successful Easter holiday rally at South Lychett Manor and it's follow-on holiday rally at Weymouth.

Of course there was also the Chiltern French Holiday Rally which made its successful return after a few years absence from the Programme, but again, attendance was far short of previous years. To be fair Julie and I have missed a number of Chiltern rallies this year too.

I really do hope Chiltern gets back to "normal" attendances from 2023 since the club cannot in the long term continue to book rallies which few members choose to attend. Yes it's personal choice where you choose to go, but we have to also be mindful that venues might well not be

happy to take bookings when only a handful of 'vans attend. It can also be quite disappointing for our Stewards who put in great efforts to give us a good rally.

Whatever you decide to do, and wherever your travels take you, enjoy yourselves and stay safe Meantime I bid you farewell as Chairman and I hope to see you on a Chiltern rally next year and that our Group flourishes in the future.

Mick

Secretary's Report Apologies for absence, report read out by Chairman.

Steve Wynn. As some of you will be aware, I will be standing down from the post of Hon.Secretary as of this years AGM and, at the same time, also leaving the Committee.

As I am also unable to attend the 2022 AGM, may I pass on my thanks to the outgoing committee and to members in general for their help and support over the past two and a half years. I will continue to assist the new Secretary where possible and wish the incoming committee success for the coming year.

As in previous years, member numbers have been variable due to the after-effects of the Covid pandemic, but our membership numbers remain healthy with a current membership as of the time of this year's AGM of 230 paid-up members and 5 'lapsed' members for a total of 235, against the 2020/2021 total of 239. During the period, we had several cancellations of memberships, but an almost equal number of new members and transfers, resulting in a notional increase of 4% in membership.

Further to earlier request for photos, I have received a considerable number from members, but the group would still appreciate more if you have them - they can be sent to:

Chiltern@themotorcaravannersclub.co.uk

As it stands at present, I shall continue working on the website and will attempt to include as many photos as possible in the gallery pages thereof.

Kind regards,

Steve Wynn

Treasurer's Report

Emlyn Evans. The opening balance at 1st of August 2021 was [REDACTED] the closing balance at year end 31st July 2022 was [REDACTED] an increase of [REDACTED]

Throughout the year we have priced our rallies at £12.50 per unit night (no extra rally fee) which was a small 50p update from the previous year.

Due to recent lower attendances and the rising fuel costs we have discounted several of the recent rallies and are looking at ways of carrying this forward throughout 2023.

We feel we have sufficient funds to do this, giving back something to the members while still having money to replenish and update our inventory as required. Unfortunately the discounted charge has not resulted in a surge in attendances.

We have not purchased assets, but have some expenses mainly attributed to the Jubilee rally which again was subsidised. We have also paid deposits totalling £[REDACTED] for future events some of which had to be cancelled due to bad weather, and deposits for the forthcoming Christmas rally Transactions are now done by bank transfer wherever possible, In fact we have not written any cheques at all throughout the year.

Roy Ward is being added to the online banking to replace myself as I am not seeking re-election.

Going forward we will be subsidising the Christmas rally at a £50 charge per vehicle weekend, discount is further to £33 for singles.

The Committee is also looking at other ways of benefiting Chiltern members, suggestions have included reducing rally fees further, food provided and putting on extra attractions at rallies.

Any Questions on the Treasurer's Report?

Paul Maguire queried that the balance sheet did not contain a statement about the accounts being examined, despite there being a certificate from an examiner in other paperwork. Paul Maguire also queried why the cash in the bank did not read the same as the total closing balance.

Tina Stockall queried why the expenses and receipts for the jubilee weekend were not shown separately. There followed a general discussion about which items should have their own entries on the balance sheet.

Vote. Proposed: Paul Maguire Seconded: Tina Stockall.

Rally Officer

Sharon Heritage. After last years speech I will keep it short. We had to cancel two rallies, due to low take up, Padworth and Cheney Manor. Old Warden has been postponed due to storm Eunice and deferred until next year. The two best rallies were Cropredy and British Sugar at Bury St Edmunds. I think most people who went to Cropredy had a good time, except for slight issues at the entrance. The low number of vans was disheartening but I believe we are still playing catch up after Covid.

Equipment Officer

Roy Ward. Whilst all the equipment is accounted for, some of it including shelters and feather pods are located at the late Ray Barrett's, when the time is appropriate we intend to collect these but you can appreciate its not best at the moment.

Now concerning the shelters, two have been reproofed by Pete and Shirley, the other one has a tear in it, so as we have said in previous years we shall have a look at replacing these. Hats off to Phil Boshier who has PAT all our electrical equipment. Also on equipment we have a printer which does not function, so we are going to have to purchase a replacement. Lastly I would like to express my thanks to all the members who have helped store and transport the equipment over the years. This benefits all members of the club, so a big thank you to you all.

Mick Mead added an appeal about equipment. Just to add to what Roy has said, there is a piece of equipment that went missing about three years ago, this was a nostalgic thing really, if you remember Fred Henley, he gave as a gift, a Cow Bell, which he was given when he was three, so the bell was eighty odd years old, nearly ninety years old, and we thought rather than put it in a cupboard, we had it cleaned up and called it the Fred Henley Bell, the plan was to use it at large rallies. It's missing, three years plus, I'm not suggesting any of you have got it but If you're taking bits and pieces to your shed or garage, just have a look, it's not that big it could be tucked behind something. We would really like to get it back to Chiltern, it's a bit of an artefact, it's very sad that it's gone missing, if that does turn up then please let the committee know.

Mick Mead. Now that concludes all the officer reports, so what we have to do now is the whole committee now stand down, this is the way we do it at Chiltern and a nominated member will read out the nominations for the new committee.

ELECTION OF THE 2022-2023 COMMITTEE

The outgoing committee all stood down to the applause of the membership. Tina Stockall took over the chair for the election of the new committee.

The following offered themselves for election and all were elected unanimously:

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Chairperson	Carole Ward	Jane Turnbull	Paul Hipgrave
Rally Officer	Sharon Heritage	William Fry	Gordon Alder
Treasurer	Roy Ward	Jane Turnbull	Paul Hipgrave
Hon Sec	Peter Ingham	Linda Green	Roger Green
General	Paul Walker	Gordon Alder	William Fry
General	David Moth	David Turnbull	Steve Wynn
General	Shirley Ingham	Roger Green	Linda Green

The newly elected committee then returned to the table for the continuation of the meeting.

ELECTION OF PERSON TO EXAMINE THE ACCOUNTS

Emlyn Evans was proposed as accounts examiner.

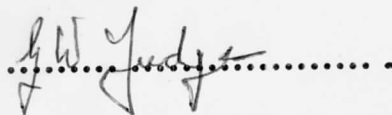
Vote For 24 Against nil Abstentions 2

The 60th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WAS CLOSED AT 1201 HOURS

THE CHILTERN GROUP
THE MOTOR CARAVANNERS' CLUB

Accounts Certificate

I have examined the Income and Expenditure Account for The Chiltern Group of The Motor Caravanner's Club, together with the books, receipts, banking and other information supplied by the Group Treasurer. It is my opinion that the said accounts are a true record of the financial transactions of the Group during the year ending 31st. July 2021.

 (signature)
G W JUDGES

Honorary Independent Accounts Examiner

24/08/ 2022

Geoff Judges

1 Arnwood Road,

Tadley,

Hants

.RG26 3UW

MEMBERS MEETING

Post AGM 22 October 2022

The meeting was opened at 12:25 by the incoming chairperson, Carole Ward, she thanked Mick Mead the outgoing chairman for his hard work and commitment over the past few years. As well as thanking Emlyn Evans for being the treasurer, and Julie Noakes for her hard work with the bookings over the Covid period. Steve Wynn as outgoing secretary assisted by Marion, was thanked in their absence. A round of applause was given by the members.

It was stressed that comments around the matters discussed would not be binding as we had a new committee, but they would be canvassed at this afternoon's Committee meeting.

Members were asked to identify themselves when asking questions for the benefit of both other members and the record for the meeting.

Matters discussed:

The list of rallies had been left in the hall for all members to look at, most of them now have stewards.

Julie has agreed to continue with the booking for the Christmas rally as this is so near. A few spaces were still available. Shirley Ingham has agreed to take over the bookings of rallies after the Christmas

Sharon said Ducklington Steam Rally was booked and members were asked to express an early interest as we had only 15 spaces, but it might be possible to have more after the new year. Tina Stockall said that once vans had parked they could not leave the site, but the bus, walking and cycling were easy to access. This was going to be promoted by Paul Walker on all the media we use.

Sharon had been having problems with one of the sites not getting back to her and the Easter rally had not yet been finalised. The booking of this had been handed over to her late. A number of rallies had been cancelled at short notice over the course of the year and the members were asked if we could do more to encourage attendance.

Paul Mcguire asked if we could have a wider spread of rallies, stating that there were none in Hertfordshire and only one in Buckinghamshire. Sharon replied the problem was the cost of the halls and schools, which in the area is very expensive at over £450 for hall hire and then a separate cost of £15 per van per night. Sharon will be working very hard to get more rallies in different areas. It was suggested that perhaps the 4 day rallies were putting stewards off volunteering for longer, the normal 2 day rally had been getting better attendance in the past. Jane Turnbull suggested rallies could be shared by stewards. A popular site that was used has now got building work going on.

Carole asked if there were any more ideas that people had they could speak to us at the weekend or email.

The day meet has been moved to Great Bourton village hall, and members have the opportunity to book into the Barnstones campsite and make a weekend of it. The reason this has been moved is because the garden centre we had been using was taking over 30 minutes to serve tea and they had squashed everyone into a very small area, making members feel uncomfortable.

No more questions were raised and Carole thanked members for attending. The hall would be open at 7:30pm in the evening for entertainment.

The meeting closed at 12:40pm

Chiltern Group MCC Supplementary Document Oct 2021

5. **Group administration:**

5.2 The Group Committee shall comprise of not more than 12 members and not less than 3.

The Officers of the Committee consist of:

- a. Chairman
- b. Vice-Chairman
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Rally Secretary

5.7 The voting procedure at the AGM is by a show of hands.

5.10 Electing the Group Committee – all Group Committee Members stand down and can stand for re-election.

5.11 The Officers shall be elected at the said AGM by Group members; the nomination and election of Officers and Committee Members to be controlled by an independent arbiter.

5.21 The quorum for an emergency meeting of the Group Committee is 4 including two officers.

6.6.12 **Business proposals:** Procedure for controlling voting at the AGM.

Any financial/administrative changes proposed will be displayed at rallies at least 28 days before the AGM. The Chairman to invite proposer to present the motion and will invite questions or comments before putting the proposal to a vote.

7.1 **Finance:**

The Group funds are held in an account with Lloyds TSB, 27-31 White Hart Street, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP11 2HL.

Account number: 03726928

Sort code: 30 94 28

All cheques require two signatories, and use of the Internet banking facilities also requires two validations

7.6 The amount of money to be held in the protected fund of the combined total of monies held in the Group account is £2,000.00 as agreed at the Committee meeting held in August 2019.

Additional procedures operated by the Group:

- All rallies start at 2pm unless otherwise stated in the rally book or on the rally hotline 07955 410773.
- The Group operates a hotline to warn of changes to rallies or provide additional information.
- Whenever possible a Committee Member will be available at a rally to advise or assist.
- Where electric hook-ups are available but limited in number, Stewards will give priority to members having known medical conditions or special needs. Members having such conditions should contact the Stewards prior to the rally to state their intention of attending the rally.

Financial Report for A G M 2022

Dated 22 August 2022

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Chiltern MCC
Treasurers report 2022.

E Evans

