

TVR Car Club Annual General Meeting

Stradey Park Hotel, Pembrey, Wales, 20th October, 2001, 6pm

Committee Members/Officers Present:

Chairman	John Hayter	Publicity	Martin Payne
Secretary	Nicky Evans	Treasurer	Tony Connor
RO Co-Ordinator	Paul Shrimpton	Events Co-ordinator	Richard Mayoh
Track	Bernie Hartnett		
Club Office	Carol Folkard		

Apologies were received from:

Pietro Abate	Bruce Smith	Steve Heath	Stewart McQuillian
Debbie Rogers	Oliver Edwards 2851	Jim Davie 5451	Chris Norman
	John Case	David Balderson	Mervyn Larner
	Steve Heath		

Introductions. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced the members of the committee present.

1 Minutes of the last AGM Meeting

It was noted that the RO for W Yorkshire was incorrectly reported as being John Hall by Rich Abbott. The minutes of the last AGM meeting were proposed Jack Acres and seconded by Ralph Dodds, then approved unanimously.

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2 Chairman's Report

The chairman read his report to the meeting.(Hard copy only available)

There were no questions arising from the report. Martin Payne proposed and Ian Massey-Cross seconded the approval of the report which was unanimously approved.

Martin Payne proposed a vote of thanks to John Hayter for his work to negotiate club through very difficult times over the last three years.

3 Treasurer's Report

The 2001 accounts were available for the meeting to read. The Treasurer, Tony Connor, read his report:

The Club's committee has been cautious with its spending in the past year because we needed to recover from an overstated position at the end of the previous financial year.

Whilst last year's accounts looked satisfactory when published, it was discovered soon after publication that an outstanding bill relating to the Blackpool Back Home event had not been included in the financial summary. The effect of this was to turn a reported surplus of £18,000 into a true deficit of £7,000. Additionally, our cash reserves had been depleted to a worrying level.

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However, I am pleased to be able to report that, through a combination of prudent cost control, coupled with the positive effect of last year's increased membership fees, we have been able to get ourselves back to a satisfactory position in just the one year.

This year's accounts show a bottom-line surplus of £5,000 for the year, and this takes into account the £25,000 debit which should have been included in last year's figures. The true trading surplus for the year is therefore a very satisfactory £30,000.

We need to maintain these sort of figures in order to provide an ever - improving range of services for our members, and to make sure we don't get into cash-flow problems. We have to pay out large sums of money during the early part of the year, by way of event deposits, so we need to maintain a good cash reserve. In order to help us track our finances more accurately, I have installed a much more sophisticated accounting system than the Club used to operate.

We are not a profit-making organisation, and our pricing on events such as Track Days are pitched such that there is just a bit of leeway to cover us for those events which, for one reason or another, do not work out as planned. Our aim overall, is to provide good value for money for our members.

I am confident that we are heading for another good year, aided by an increase in membership numbers as Griffiths and Chimaeras become more affordable to the type of enthusiast who is likely to join the Club.

I am also hopeful that our membership retention figures will improve, aided by the new-look magazine, which has been very well received. But then, I would say that wouldn't I !?

Questions arising from the report:

- I. Simon Lacey asked whether the auditors have explained how they missed such a large omission?
TC: The auditors queried twice, but the treasurer stated that everything was OK. Mistakes were going to be made while the job was done on a voluntary basis, TC has every sympathy with his predecessor.
- II. Bernie Hartnett proposed the report be accepted, Simon Lacey seconded him. The meeting voted unanimously.

4 Secretary Report

Nicky Evans presented her report

- I. Membership
 - ▲ 5428 Members - up 6.3% year on year (+328) (Oct)
 - ▲ But still 26% turnover (1408)
- II. Region Status
 - ▲ 46 regions
 - ▲ 28 registered ROs/Deputies
 - ▲ 4 vacant positions
 - ▲ 34 ROs/Deputies on line

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III. Full Committee Meetings - around the UK

- ▲ Mandate for fewer meetings overtaken by events - financial and editorial
 - ▲ Greater use of subcommittee meetings - more productivity between meetings
 - ▲ e-mail the tool for collaborative working - as above
-)))(IV We are Back to Profit

- ▲ An average 3% / £10k pa - over the last 6 years..
- ▲ This years profit is understated because of the £25,000 bill for Back Home which came into this years figures.

V. 2 Year Progress Report...Committee Milestones to a stronger club:

- ▲ Accounts now professionally managed - with accounting package
- ▲ New format magazine - with paid editor
- ▲ Focus on strategy and healthier debate on the things that matter
- ▲ Rotating venues and shorter meetings
- ▲ Committee Meetings
- ▲ Faster Communications to RO's.
- ▲ 2 weeks draft minutes, 3 weeks final copy to issue
- ▲ e-group grown from 20-34 RO's on e-mail
- ▲ more feedback now committee included in group.
- ▲ Appreciate the diversity of membership - we should exploit it:
- ▲ Volunteers: The plumbing that makes this club is done by many individuals behind the scenes - not just those on the committee

VI. What should our Future Strategy be? (a personal view)

- ▲ Build and Capitalise Factory relationship - its a two way thing - what can they get from the relationship?
- ▲ Strengthen Regional liaison - share the workload - for largest group of active members
- ▲ Wider membership benefits -TVR cars are also a lifestyle thing.

There were no questions arising from the Secretary report.

5 Election of Officers

The Chairman asked whether there were any issues or questions the meeting wished to raise to the committee before the election of officers.

I. Struan Robertson: what has happened to the regional logos.

TC: the designer and TC some didn't have the quality required for the new magazine, or fitted in with the new look. TC had only one complaint to date on this.

II. Jack Acres: Can notices and reminders on regional events be put into the equivalent of 'notice board' in the old magazine - especially when advertising events that require payment up front, thus a commitment to attend? What is the policy on getting members to see and respond to events, when they don't read future events?

Discussion took place (John Hayter, Alan Morris , John Isgrove) on various methods used by RO's to publicise events and how to ensure publication in the magazine - e-mail, letter, etc.

TC and JH apologised that there had been some problems with e-mail during the transition of the editorship and publication of the magazine in the early part of the year, meaning some regional reports hadn't been received, forwarded and therefore published in the magazine. TC to investigate whether 'noticeboard' can be reinstated

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Carol Folkard stated that the club offices takes 20 calls per day enquiring about events and information that is clearly written in Sprint? The club office is happy to provide a label list of regional members to RO's for their own mailings, or send an RO generated mailing to selected members (by post code).

Struan Robertson stated that for many, Sprint is still regarded the bible for what's on - and will still refer to Sprint even if its on the web.

George Carter stated the Pistonheads e-mail of news by subscription is a useful reminder agent Steve Lewis –stated that TVRCC web site will become more important as a more immediate form of communication and advertising in the future. T Connor stated he is working with Paul Calland to develop the web site, but it has taken a back seat over the priority of getting the new format Sprint up and running. The long term aim is to have a news page on the web pages. Paul Calland: whatever the means of distribution - electronic, Sprint or mailing, the club needs to have the news/events to publicise - and so far there is not enough material coming through.

Paul Shrimpton: The RO is still the local focal point - and they fall into 2 categories, those that do communicate with their members, and those who don't.

III. Patrick Weightman. Runs East Midlands web site at own cost. Is the club going to provide funds to do this? TC – needs to consider how to do this.

Paul Calland is working to put subsets onto the back of the site to give consistency to the look and feel of club e-mail IDs and sites. Once he has approval, he will go ahead and implement.

IV. The Chairman handed the meeting to the secretary for final voting to be carried out and added to the postal votes already received.

Committee Position	Nomination	For	Against	Abstain	Total
Chairman	Chris Wright	120	1	17	138
Treasurer	Tony Connor	124	0	14	138
Advertising Manager	Pietro Abate	125	0	13	138
Club Marketing Manager	Martin Payne	121	1	16	138
Competition Secretary	Stewart McQuillian	118	1	19	138
Track Day Co-Ordinator	Bernie Hartnett	122	0	16	138
Deputy Track Day Co-ord	Bruce Smith	117	3	18	138
National Events Manager	Richard Mayoh	116	1	21	138
RO Co-ordinator	Paul Shrimpton	117	2	19	138
Model Registrar	Mervyn Larnar	123	1	14	138
Technical Editor	Steve Heath	124	1	13	138
Proposals					
Daw, White & Murrall are appointed auditors		110	4	24	138
Life Membership					
John Hayter		108	2	28	138
Ralph Dodds		116	3	19	138
Karen Jamieson		110	5	23	138
Nicky Evans		105	6	27	138
Ian Loader		110	1	27	138
Tracie & Vasco		115	2	21	138

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All the proposals achieved the 67% majority vote required to be carried.

The secretary handed the meeting back to the newly elected Chairman, Chris Wright who introduced himself to the meeting..

Chris Wright advised the meeting that the committee had been in discussions with Claire Hilton, and she had volunteered to take over the position of secretary. However, these discussions had only recently taken place, which was why there was no proposal for the position. It was therefore the intention of the committee to co-opt Claire onto the committee at the next meeting, when she returned from vacation.

6 Open Forum

I. Richard Abbott (RO Harrogate) asked whether there is a minimum benchmark or standard for RO's, as he felt many do not pull their weight, and get a free ride when their membership is paid for. John Hayter confirmed that 2 out of the 3 criteria laid out must be met: to hold regular events, be regular contributors to Sprint and be registered on annual basis for their own (insurance) protection. Discussion took place on the variations in regional activities: some active, yet don't submit articles to the magazine, some with dormant RO's - meaning that if the criteria aren't met, some regions won't have RO's. There is more work to be done here.

II. Richard Abbott asked whether the club can advise the RO when new members join the club so that they can be welcomed by the local RO. Carol Folkard (Club Office) advised that when a region provided the club office with a welcome letter, it was sent out to new joiners, but newsletters have fallen off. The Club office doesn't have the resources to send out to 46 regions individual members - many of which won't be followed up. Why not send out single to all RO's so they can select the new members in their area?

III. Struan Robertson asked whether a track day log book could be introduced to encourage the good apples and track the bad apples? Bernie Hartnett confirmed that there are track day guidelines on etiquette. The challenge is how to encourage new TVR owners to get onto the track, administer and manage rogue. BH will look into with BS.

7 Presentation of Awards

The Club presented a cheque for £5,000 to Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, this money will train one dog and support the owner and the dog for the dogs working life. Marlyn Sydenham from the local branch of H.D.for D.P. along with Nellie and her owner collected the cheque. Nellie is a 12 year old dog and was found as a stray in Blackpool.

The meeting closed at 8pm.