

## **Minutes of the Cambridge & District MGOc AGM 2017.**

Date, Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

Time 8.00-10.00pm. Venue, The George & Dragon PH, Elsworth.

### Agenda.

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Acceptance/Matters Arising from 2016 AGM.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Secretary's Report.
5. Treasurer's Report.
6. Web Masters Report.
7. Election of the committee for season 2017/2018.

### Proposed.

*Chairman, Des Chalk.*

*Secretary, Chris Shurlock.*

*Treasurer, Tim Clark.*

*Web Master, Glenn Pascoe.*

8. AGM Proposals. Club Constitution update/Home Pub Update/Members Details on the club web site.
9. Proposed Charity for 2018.
10. Events calendar for 2018.
11. CMOTYA.
12. Close of meeting.

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### **1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from, Roger & Jennifer Glover, Mike Hopkins, Aidan & Lisette Joy, Raymond Covey, Steve & Sarah Gibbs, Chris & Karen Way, Alan & Joyce Griffin, John Lees, Jennifer Steer, Linda & Geoff Marcus, Steve & Sue Reynolds.

## **2. 2016 AGM Minutes.**

There were no comments arising from the minutes, and so the 2016 Minutes of the Meeting, were accepted. Acceptance was proposed by Roger Taylor, and seconded by Tweed Harris.

## **3. Chairman's Report.**

Another packed year, since the last AGM, lots of events (which Chris will mention in his report).

Most of the events have been recorded in photographs on Flickr via a link from our website – if you haven't seen them go for a browse to see the range and cleanliness of some of our MGs & their owners!

Our branch has continued to grow in numbers, so is definitely doing something right!

Our finances are very healthy – well managed Tim.

The website, although basic, continues to be an effective tool – thanks to Glenn for his efforts in maintaining it. However, we could do more with the website or Social Media and Glenn will be expanding on this later.

Some important proposals to be covered in this AGM:

- Constitution update – 8 years since last version was developed (by previous officers), now in need of update to reflect current practice
- Discussion on the home pub – due to changes at the G&D Monday nights will no longer be available.
- Charity – Blue Smile has been our charity for the last 2 years so an alternative is now to be confirmed.

Tonight, we'll also decide the new committee. Although the current officers have confirmed their willingness to stand again, I should point out that in the Constitution the normal commitment is a minimum of 3 years – all the committee have now completed this.

We should recognize that the success of our branch is very much due to the enthusiasm and commitment of the committee members, and especially it's Secretary. Continued success is not necessarily a function of a length of service on committees,

and new blood should help keep the Club rejuvenated – so please bear that in mind, at least next year, if not now.

I'll just mention 2 of our events since the last AGM: the Christmas Dinner & the Snowdrop Run.

The Christmas Dinner held at the Golden Ball, Boxworth – well attended & enjoyed. Many thanks to Liz & Tweed & Tim & Barrie for organizing. There's another one coming up.

The 2017 Snowdrop Run was another good day – the starting point at Over was again very well received, Liz & Tweed found another beautiful run (not through the fens this time). The finish at Jordan's Mill was a success with ample parking, good café (even if service was a bit slow following refurbishment). The Run does take some effort to organize, and depends on volunteers giving their time - many thanks to all those others who contributed to the staging of this event – David Parker for sorting the entrants & collecting the money, Chris Shurlock for finding the snowdrops & organizing the charity, Glenn & Ros Pascoe for producing the route book (and stuffing envelopes etc.), and the helpers on the day, Pat & Barrie at the Registration Desk, Liz & Lin at the ever popular tombola stand, and the essential marshals at both ends for keeping parking & traffic under control.

Our big annual event, the 13<sup>th</sup> Snowdrop Run is being planned for Saturday Feb 17<sup>th</sup> – we'll be trying a new start venue (Melbourn Village College – which will avoid the A14 problem). I will be setting up a sub-committee to organize this & we'll need help on the day.

All in all yet another successful year, let's hope the next 12 months are equally successful.

#### **4. Secretaries Report.**

I believe this last year has been another successful one for the club, both in terms of activities and membership. Activities include Natter Nights, trips out, shows, and events. Natter Nights have continued to be held here at our home pub, The George & Dragon, as well as alternative pub visits. The alternative pub visits have been in the North, South, East and West of the county of Cambridgeshire, each travelling to areas closer to member's homes. They started in the spring, and continued in to Autumn. These have generally all been well supported, and will feature again in the coming

season, but to different pubs. Another success this year was the repeat of Chris & Pat's Mystery Pub Supper Run. Again, well supported, and there was no need to google pubs in Cambridgeshire in advance! A detailed route was given to all, and everyone made it successfully to the Mystery Pub. As you will see from the AGM Agenda our home pub is an item for discussion later. As for shows, we attended our four regulars. Thanks to John Riley we were the only classic car club to be invited to The Ely Aquafest. A true feather in the cap of our club. In the case of Kimbolton however, we were just one of many classic car clubs to attend. It was our best club display at Kimbolton for a number of years, 20 cars in total, and, this year I arranged for bright sunshine for the whole day. The lengths I go to. For the third year running we attended The Sywell Pistons & Props show, though the appearance of props seem's to be getting less and less each year. Upon our arrival our pitch was moved by the organisers, we were put in line with the main entrance, whether this was better or not led to some discussion, and much walking up and down by me to satisfy everybody, but it seemed to work out ok. The last of our regular shows was The Pullox Hill Classic Vehicle Show, again well attended, and good weather. I don't think we will attend the Isleham Village Fete in 2018, it is a small show, and the day before Ely Aquafest, so not good timing. We also attended some new shows this year, including Classics on the Green in Bury, a huge show where we were just one of many clubs. We were also invited to display 6 cars at The Ely Cathedral Classic Car Show within the cathedral grounds, one I think we will, if invited attend again next year. There have been numerous other shows where we have attended. One such show was Quest Brothers Classic Cars of St Ives, who invited the club to attend their afternoon Classic Car Show, and Picnic at the Hemingford Pavilion, followed by a Drive in Movie after dark. A great day out, and a chance to snuggle up with your partner in the MG after dark just to watch the film, all great fun. The new club gazebo has been at great success at shows this year, including protection from not just rain, but sunshine too. As always, I have ensured that the club have Public Liability Insurance from MGOCS Swavesey in place where it has been required. As for events, perhaps the most satisfying of the last year was our Father Christmas Run. We delivered presents raised by club members to the Children's Ward at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital. A number of us took the presents up to the ward, and presented them to the children, they were so surprised, and pleased to see us, especially as we were dressed as Father Christmas. Afterwards, one of the parents took the trouble to contact the magazine at Swavesey, and wrote a letter of thanks to us. Well done to all those who took part. The Jersey Spring Rally was another great success for the club, though not so many of us attended this year. A certain solar red MGF once again won its class in the Pride of Ownership, and Roger Glover, our distant member from Wrexham won

the Committee Award for his work as the Event Photographer. Full credit to Roger as he forgot to take his camera this year, but went in to St Helier to buy a new one just to complete his duties.

Midweek Fun runs were again a feature of our club events. My thanks go to Roger Plummer for organising the Drive your Classic Day back in April whilst Pat and I were away in Jersey. Thanks to Tim Clark for organising the trip to The Secrete Bunker near Ongar now that he has found out where it is. A sobering visit to a bit of modern British history. My thanks also to David Gower for organising the trip to The Henry Moore Foundation at Perry Green. Henry Moore was an artist of great vision, but way beyond my understanding, however, a very enjoyable walk around the Foundation Gardens. Afterwards, we had an excellent meal at The Hoops Pub next door.

I must also thank Sue and Steve Reynolds in their absence for their hospitality in holding the Club Concourse Day in the paddock behind their house in Ellington Thorpe. The day, and BBQ could so easily have been ruined by the weather, but the last-minute decision to go ahead proved to be right, my thanks to all those who turned up in their highly polished MG's on such a miserable day, making it another great club event.

I still have to arrange The Ladies Day, and club calendar, we did eventually settle on a day in Lavenham, Suffolk. I intended to make it a late summer visit, but I am now planning it for early spring next year. The "club calendar" should go to the printers before the end of the year.

As for club membership I will leave it to Tim Clark to give you exact numbers, but you will no doubt remember that I made it my personnel mission to lift numbers to around 50 cars by the end of 2017. Much to my surprise however, the 50<sup>th</sup> car arrived by about the end of April, and numbers have continued to increase since. We must, as a club always look to grow as there will always be natural losses, but hopefully not too many.

As well as myself as your club Area Secretary, we now have within our ranks Alan Cumming as Regional Secretary. In the months ahead, we will be working together, and, hopefully promoting some inter club events around our region during the 2018 season.

I would like to thank the Committee once again for their support in helping me carry out my secretarial duties over the last year.

I hope you have all enjoyed my being your club Secretary for another year, if you remember I said I would do the job for a maximum of two years, and here I am completing my third, and perhaps even being voted in for a fourth term. I will happily

continue in this role, if re-elected, not least because of the support I receive from you all.

Finally, I really must thank Pat for her support, and patience behind the scenes. Putting up with my disappearing at all times of the day to use the lap top on club business. Also, her enthusiasm for early Sunday morning starts, and the number of weekends that are spent on MG events of one sort or another. She has even been known to enrol new members over the telephone in my absence, that's how well trained she is!

I promise to give her a holiday away in 2018 free of MG'ing, perhaps the 3 day Silverstone Classic event!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

## **5. Treasurer's Report.**

### **Finance**

#### **Starting Balance:**

We started the financial year on 29 Sep 2016 with a balance of **£1,833 (£1,506)**.

#### **Income:**

David Parker once again did a great job with the paying in for the Snowdrop Run as I was away on a winter holiday. After paying all the expenses, the 2017 Snowdrop Run produced an income of £2,222 (£1,968).

During the year Chris Shurlock has been hard at work encouraging new Club members. As a result we had a record number of 63(43) members by September 2017, generating a further £860 (£630). Our only other income during the year was £80 (£80) from the MGOc for an article by Des Chalk about the 2017 Snowdrop Run.

The Club total annual income for 2016/17 was **£4,995 (£4,184)**, including the opening balance.

#### **Expenditure:**

During the financial year Club expenditure totaled **£2,557 (£2,360)**. We donated £2,000 (£1,650) to our Blue Smile charity, and spent £300 (£320) on last year's Christmas Dinner. Running costs for the Club, including, events, prizes, the costs of running the Club website and image library, etc were £257 (£390).

#### **Current Situation:**

Putting the above figures together, the Club balance at audit on 11 Sep 2017 - many thanks again to Lin McCreith for this - was a healthy **£2,438 (£1,824)**.

At the end of a very busy and enjoyable year, we are well placed for funding the 2017 Christmas Dinner and expenses in support of the 2018 Snowdrop Run and Club activities next year. **There is, therefore, no need to increase the annual subscription of £15 at present.** The facility of electronic payment by Club members was used for the first time during the year which slightly increased workload because of the need for more regular checks on the account.

### **Christmas Dinner 2017**

Arrangements for this year's Christmas Dinner are well in hand. An invitation went out by e-mail to Club members on 13 Sep, and 52 names are now on the list. There are now no places left as the Golden Ball can only accommodate 50 for the meal, but there will be a reserve list in case of cancelations. Last year 38 attended. The menu has now been released at a price of £26 per head, with coffee / tea available on the night on payment of £2.50 per head. An e-mail has gone out to members asking for menu choices and payment in advance, and the Club will be placing a deposit with the Golden Ball. Liz Harris will be co-ordinating meal orders and making detailed arrangements.

Note: Previous year's figures are shown in brackets.

### **6.Web Master's Report.**

The club website operates using freely available WordPress Software and has pages covering: About us, Events, Contacts, Links and Photos. The Members page remains broadly unused due to limitations with WordPress, in that there can only be a single password for all users, which only I can change.

The website seems to do what is required, it takes between 1 and 2 hours each week to keep it up to date, so is not too onerous to manage. I want to seek member's views as to their use of the website and find out how useful it is. Perhaps the largest non-member use of the website is for participants to download the Snowdrop Run applications.

The question of holding contact information for members on the website page (ableit with a common password security) needs to be asked of members. A suggestion is for those that are willing, the website would simply hold name and an e-mail address. This would at least enable members to contact each other. It would also be good to make available details of the car type each member has.

A development we might like to consider is holding a list of tools etc. that members have and would be willing to loan to those members who maintain their own cars. This would of course rely on being able to display contact details.

The ability to invite and see who is planning to attend or definitely attending an event remains a deficiency. The simplest way is to, in addition to the website, make use of either Facebook or WhatsApp to enable this to happen. This does however rely on members using, or being willing to start using one of these applications.

We already have a Facebook page (largely unused) which would be the easiest option.

Using Facebook or WhatsApp will require additional time commitment on my part but I am happy to do this if 2/3<sup>rds</sup> or more of members would use it.

Attached is a form for members to provide their views about the website and gain views regarding the above. The intention is to e-mail it to all members. I will then collate the responses. If members have any suggestions or comments they would be welcomed, there is always room for further developments.

### **Cambridge and District MG Owners Club**

#### Website and Social Media questionnaire 2017

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. How often do you access the website?  
**WEEKLY    MONTHLY    LESS OFTEN**

2. What do you mainly use it for? \_\_\_\_\_  
V  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Would you support the holding of a limited membership details (name and e-mail address) on the Members page on the website? **YES / NO**

4. Would you support holding car type (i.e. MGA, MGB etc.) as part of the above list? **YES / NO**

5. Do you, or would you use Facebook to look at events and see who is going? **YES / NO**

6. Do you, or would you use WhatsApp to look at events and see who is going? **YES / NO**

7. Would you support holding a list of tools etc. available to members to borrow? **YES / NO**

**Other comments / suggestions**

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**Please reply by e-mail or post to Glenn Pascoe by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**7. Election of new Committee.**

As the existing Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Web Master were standing for re-election, and there were no other proposals put forward, a block vote was proposed for these positions. This was accepted, and proposed by Jane Gower, and seconded by Roger Plummer.

**8. The Club Constitution.**

The current Club Constitution dates from 2009 and the Chairman felt it should be update to reflect the current club situation. The updated Club Constitution will be added to the club website where it can be viewed by all club members.

New member enrolment automatically includes immediate family.

New visitors would be expected to join the club after 2/3 visits.

Honorary club members now to be included in the Constitution.

The chosen club charity is to be included in the AGM agenda.

Quorum, now to be 20% of members present. Voting is to be carried out by 2/3rds majority of those members attending the meeting.

The result of the survey on our home pub selection gave equal results between The George & Dragon, and The Golden Ball. Both pubs had plus and minus attractions, so the decision was to stay at The George & Dragon.

The findings on the Members Details being on the club web site will be subject to discussion at the next committee meeting.

## **9. Proposed Charity for 2017.**

Three charities were suggested by members,

*i) Liz Harris, Cherryhomes Trust, to help those suffering from progressive wasting disease to stay in their own homes.*

*ii) Peter Cowper, Target Ovarian Cancer.*

*iii) Roger Taylor, Guide Dogs for the Blind.*

Each member gave the meeting a short presentation of their chosen charity, and a vote was taken afterwards by the members present. The results were, i) 8 votes, ii) 17 votes, iii) 7 votes. It was therefore agreed that Target Ovarian Cancer would be the chosen club charity for 2018. It was agreed to keep the other two charities under review for next year. Roger Plummer put forward the idea of increasing the Snowdrop Run entry fee, but it was decided that this is high enough already. We do ask if entrants wish to make extra donations, so this will remain.

## **10. Events for 2018.**

The club website is the main place for events to be viewed, and is updated regularly to include new events. The secretary also continues to circulate by monthly email reminders of events. Some events may be limited in numbers attending, this is made clear where necessary, and it will be up to members to apply quickly if they wish to attend. Regular events, and shows will continue. Events suggested include Saffron Walden Classic Car Show, a visit to P & A Woods Rolls Royce Restorers. Also, a visit to Morgan Cars was suggested by Tom Johnson, and Roger Taylor suggested the North

Coast 500, all will be considered in future years. MGOC Swavesey Public Liability Insurance for events is generally applied for where necessary.

#### **10. Club Member of the Year.**

The committee once again agreed to make the award to a club member, or members who they felt did just that little bit more for the club. This year the award goes to Alan and Janet Humphreys for attending most club events, and organising the club clothing.

#### **12. Close of meeting.**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00pm.