

Austin Healey Club, Thames Valley Centre, Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held on 19th November 2019 At the Kings Head Little Marlow

1. Chairman's Welcome.

The Chairman, Ian Foster, welcomed all of the 32 attendees which included 22 General members plus the 10 Committee members - to the AGM and confirmed there had been 6 apologies.

Ian advised the Meeting there is a need to focus on encouraging new members and welcomed members participation. He further asked the Meeting to give suggestions for events which the Committee can develop and adopt as necessary. In 2019 the Centre subsidized the various events to the value of £750. The committee is committed to continue supporting events at the same level during the 2020 season. Ian also advised the Meeting that the Centre has purchased a gazebo for use at Kop Hill and other events. It is to be noted that the two main sources of income are from the sales of Xmas cards and the Annual Levy rebate.

2. Membership.

Richard Kidson reported the membership of the Thames Valley Centre remained stable at 150 (confirmed by the National Executive) with losses running at 25 pa but balanced by a similar number of new members. Hence, as announced by the Chairman, we need a new initiative to get more members.

3. Secretary.

Robert confirmed the success of the events completed during 2019. The best turnout was for the " drive it day" The major event of the year was the Tour of Southern Ireland. We had 11 cars and enjoyed driving the Ring of Kerry and the Healey Pass - how could we not do this! We also had a good participation at the Thames Traditional Boat Festival at Henley and the RAF Benson Families event. Kop Hill too was well attended by club members and we used the Gazebo for the first time. Kop Hill raised some £106,000 for local charities.

The final event of 2019 is the Christmas lunch to be held on 17 December. The event is being organised by Peter Freeman.

The Committee is currently working on the programme for 2020.

4. Website.

Robert Fenton advised the Meeting that there had been a steady volume of traffic on the website with a lot of interest from abroad - Australia, USA, China. He also advised the meeting concerning the sale of Christmas Cards with web sales contributing half of all sales.

5. Election of Officers.

The current officers declared their continuing interest in continuing to serve on the committee. The meeting approved their nomination which was Proposed by Hugh Ferris and Seconded Sue Brown.

6. Events for 2020.

The current options for events throughout 2020 were presented by the Chairman:

26APR20 - Drive it Day. Peter Freeman is organising this event which will comprise coffee and pastries, then a drive for around 2 hours before reaching a restaurant for lunch before dispersing.

06-10 MAY20 - Visit Healey Museum in Holland. Event will also include a visit to a major Tulip nursery and a tour of the water level management facility and on the way back, a visit to Arnham Bridge and the port of Dunkerque. Members will take a ferry from Harwich to the Hook of Holland and the return will be from Dunkerque. Presently we have 9 cars booked and can take 3 more cars.

28 MAY20 - Visit Stratfield Saye House - the home of the Duke of Wellington.

25-28JUN20 - Tour of the Brecon Beacon and the Black Mountains staying at the popular resort for Classic Cars - Llanerchindda Farm. Great driving is waiting for us. 11 Cars can participate. There are some vacancies still available.

10-12JUL 20- International Meeting of the Austin Healey Centres to be held at Stanbrook Manor, Worcestershire. - fully booked.

18 -19 JULY 20 – Visit to The Thames Traditional Boat Festival at Henley on Thames.

JULY/AUGUST 20– A further visit to RAF Benson due to the popularity of the event in 2019.

13AUG20 - Visit Rousham House and Gardens tour. Programme will be: meet for coffee and pastries and attendees to bring a picnic.

06-09SEP20 - Tour of Norfolk

Other events are being considered plus some suggestions proposed by the general members at the AGM i.e.

Horse Racing

Broadlands Estate

Speakers at the Noggin and Natters

Kop Hill

The Meeting was closed at 20.50 as the supper had arrived

Robert Slack

Secretary