

SEVERN VALLEY GROUP MCC
62nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Alveley Sports Club, Alveley, WV15 6LN

7TH September 2024; 11am

Committee members present

Chairman-Phil Care

Vice Chairman- Anthony Barnsley

Secretary- Gail Cole

Treasurer- Andrea Care

Member- Janet Emeny

Official adjudicators

Adie Blake & Claire Edwards

MINUTES OF MEETING

(Non-Verbatim)

Notetaker – Gail Cole

1. Chairman's introduction

The Chairman introduced all Committee members and commented that Hayley, who is still a committee member is unable to be with us sadly due to Andy passing away on 5th September. She will now be stepping down.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 11am and welcomed all members, requesting mobile phones are switched off.

The Chairman also welcomed Les and Joyce Kendrick to the meeting, COM members.

Out of group members were also welcomed to the meeting. Adie Blake, Claire Edwards, North Counties, Christa Stokes and James Forrester, NWM&NW.

Secretary:

"I hereby announce that the 62nd AGM of the Severn Valley Group of the MCC is now convened".

Chairman called for one minute's silence for absent friends and people we have lost and asked that they always be remembered. (All members that were able stood up).

2. Apologies

Secretary read out and confirmed the following apologies:

Hayley Scarborough, Barry and Tina Robbins, Lesley and Eddie White, Jan and Steve Satchwell, Pam and Keith Wake, Alec and Sharon Avery, Antony and Stacey Morgan, Chris and Amanda Windmill, Karen and Ian Sheers, Stewart and Sheila Priddy, Keith and Elizabeth Penny, Kirstie and Richard Lamberton, Vic and Hazel Lancaster, Jim and Sharon Keown

Di and Ron Moore, John and Julie Hyde.

Further apologies received from the floor by Pat Kirby from Phil and Val Pragnall.

3. Minutes of AGM 2023

Chairman asked if members had any queries or matters arising from the minutes of the AGM on October 2023. No queries were raised.

Chairman asked for a proposer and seconder for minutes to be accepted.

Proposer-Phil Care

Secunder-John Kirby

Vote: 13 who attended the meeting last year, 0 against, 0 abstaining

4. Chairman's Report

Chairman: Phil Care

Thanked member's for attending this year's AGM. It has been an eventful year with not only losing Committee Members for long periods but also losing long standing members who were very good supporters of the group and our Rallies. He thanked Gail Cole for stepping into the Secretary role when Hayley had to stand down due to Andy's ill health. He also thanked the rest of the Committee for their support and hard work over the year.

He stated the committee have tried to respond to what Severn Valley Group members wanted from the Members meeting, following the AGM last year to the ongoing communication over the year.

More hardstanding pitches were requested and found but poorly supported by members. A loyalty scheme was introduced where regular supporters of our rallies were rewarded with a free rally after staying 16 nights.

"At cost" rallies were introduced where we did not intend to make any money at rallies.

Money off vouchers of £5 and £10 were introduced as prizes for Severn Valley members and regular supporters from other groups.

The website was updated and more information added about each venue, the majority of which was done by Andy who is sadly no longer with us.

Information and updates were added on "Facebook" and the website.

Andy was the main instigator to produce a Rally Booklet as requested by members.

We have tried to address the amount of funds that the group has accumulated by looking at how we accumulated this money.

PAT testing of the group's equipment had not been carried out for several years, this has now been addressed.

We inherited payments for the website which had previously been donated by Jeremy Layton, which has been an extra cost to the club and reduced group funds.

A full "sighted" audit was conducted of all assets and items found missing or requiring scrapping, more information is coming in the treasurer's report. and we have set aside a provision for the next Committee to purchase new IT equipment if required.

We managed to put together a full Rally Program for this year with some notable successes in new venues and being invited back in to lost venues with Christopher Whitehead being the highlight. We had a lot of feedback from members who have attended our rallies and all have agreed that we have brought the “fun and friendly” element back. It has been a struggle to get hosts and support at rallies this year and have looked at “why”? Only 87 members from a membership of 375, have attended one Rally this year. This is less than 23% of our membership. Of those attending Rallies, 42 Members attended once, only 12 attended twice which represents 14% of our Membership. Only 15 Members attended 5 or more Rallies in the year, this represents only 4% of our Membership.

We have put together the majority of next year’s Rallies but we need to look to the future of the feasibility of our Rallies, if we are only expecting 15 or less vans at rallies we need to be more selective in what we do.

The group remains in a healthy financial position and foundations have been laid for the next Committee to take over without any major issues outstanding. The Chairman thanked everyone for their support over the last year and said he looked forward to seeing and meeting everyone at future Rallies.

The Chairman invited questions from the floor, but there was none.

5. Secretary Report

Secretary; Gail Cole

At the end of the financial year, 31st July 2024 we had 374 Members on the role, of which 6 have cancelled. We also have 12 lapsed Members. This related to 356 fully paid-up Members. 70 Members cancelled their Membership over the year and 75 new Members have been added to the role up until the 31st July 2024. This leaves us with a net increase of 5 Members on last year.

The website was updated and maintained by Andy until his illness and “Facebook” has been administered by Hayley and continues to do so at this present time. Some of the Committee Members have taken over the role of maintaining and updating the website.

There is no Laptop or Printer for the Secretary’s use and Committee Members have been using their own equipment. Provision has been made for the purchase of new resources for the next Secretary, a Laptop and Printer.

The Rally booklet was put together by Andy in the main and despite some issues with print errors, it was sent out to all members at the beginning of March this year.

The group’s electrical equipment needed urgent PAT testing. This has now been actioned and a Certificate of conformity issued.

After discussion with COMS it was established there is no requirement for the committee to have fire extinguishers at rallies, each member should have their own fire extinguisher and fire blanket.

The current extinguishers held by the group were either discharged, not working and had not been serviced for a number of years. The Committee made a decision to scrap them at zero cost to the group.

A 'sighted audit' of Assets was carried out which has been raised in the Treasurer's report. This concludes the Secretary's report, no questions raised.

6. Treasurers Report

Treasurer; Andrea Care

All significant paperwork has been given as a handout to members and I ask that all questions be held until after the report. The group had a loss on the Rallies over the course of the year. The committee had made a decision to run all rallies at cost, introduce a loyalty scheme and a reward scheme to repay Severn Valley Members which had a direct impact on covering our losses.

The main losses were caused from our 2023 AGM, Xmas, New Year and Yorkley Rally over the year. The losses were caused in the main by lack of support at these rallies which had fixed costs.

We have paid deposits to the sum of £840 out of the end of year bank balance to various rallies to complete the 2024 rally calendar. Significant expenditure this year above last year was the Rally Booklet, Website costs, PAT testing along with basic running costs which brings our total costs to over £2000. A breakdown of expenditure is in the handout attached to the report.

The Group still remains in a healthy bank balance and the only provision that the Committee would recommend is the purchase of x 2 new Laptops and a Printer.

As mentioned before, a "sighted" audit of our assets was carried out and a number of items were not found, despite a request asking all group items to be returned to the Chairman. I propose that these items having no residual value be written off. Asset sheets have been attached to this report for your inspection.

Chairman went through the balance sheets, we wanted to bring balance down as requested by members at the last AGM. Last year balance £15558.54p our Current balance £13528.17p. The profit and loss sheet was explained and the introduction of the loyalty scheme and member rewards will amount to £700 going back to members in free rally vouchers and prizes will have a financial impact and will continue into the financial year 2024-2025. Looking at the assets page, we cannot find, Laptop and printer highlighted, and a Boiler purchased in August 2014. A number of items failed PAT testing, including a kettle and printer. As these items have no residual value to proposal in this report is to write them off. Comments raised by Derek Harrison, stated when he was Secretary the Laptop and Printer was handed back at end of term.

Pat Kirby suggested that any equipment issued to a committee member should be signed for via a requisition form which the Chairman agreed, who will help Andrea put one together.

Treasurer's Report and Accounts was voted on

Proposer – Mick Emeney

Seconder – Pat Kirby

26 in favour 0 against

7. Proposed changes to the supplementary document 5.2,

At present our Committee members can have a maximum of 15 members and minimum of 5 members and it was proposed that the group have a minimum of 4 members.

No issues Raised.

Proposer John Kirby

Seconder Derek Harrison

Vote was unanimous – all in favour

8. 5.10 Supplementary document

The second change, it was decided that all Committee members step down after one year at last AGM. The proposal was that this is to be changed back to 36 months or 3rd AGM as per MCC Constitution.

No issues were raised

Proposer..... Pat Kirby

Seconder..... Alan Harvey

Vote was unanimous and motion was carried as all in favour

9. Presidents Medallion

As we are aware of the sad passing of Derek Lawton earlier this year, the Chairman proposed that Jenny Barlow become Honorary President of the Severn Valley Group.

Proposer..... Pat Kirby

Seconder..... Liz Harrison

Vote was unanimous, all were in favour

Jenny kindly accepted this honour, Tony Barnsley presented Jenny with the medal for

Honorary President, a photo was taken by John Kirby. (applause from all members)

10. Barlow trophy

Vice chairman, Tony Barnsley announced the winners of who attended the most rallies.

1st place; Andrea and Phil Care, who attended 15 rallies throughout the year for a total of 43 nights.

2nd place; Jan and Mick Emeney, who attended 13 rallies for a total of 39 nights.

3rd place; Di and Ron Moore, who attended 9 rallies for a total of 25 nights.

Tony announced Phil and Andrea are the winners of the Barlow trophy which he presented to them. (applause)

11. Election of Officers, independent adjudicators.

The Chairman stated that he has asked Adie Blake and Claire Edwards to be elected and stand as official adjudicators because we will be having a ballot for new committee members, they agreed.

Proposed – Phil Care

Seconded – Tony Barnsley

Vote was unanimous, all in favour

12.Any other business

Nothing was brought up

Election of Committee

The Chairman told members that there had been no response on ballot papers for a new committee prior to the AGM. He asked if any member would like to come forward to stand for the committee but no one came forward.

The Chairman asked all present committee members if they would be prepared to stand again and all agreed. He asked if anyone would like each present committee to stand for re-election.

Phil Care	Proposer.... Derek Harrison
	Secunder.... John Kirby

Gail Cole	Proposer..... Liz Harrison
	Secunder..... John Kirby

Andrea Care	Proposer..... Len Layton
	Secunder..... Rose Layton

Anthony Barnsley	Proposer..... Mick Emeny
	Secunder..... Phil Care

Jan Emeney	Proposer..... Derek Harrison
	Secunder..... Beryl Staite

Phil asked all members to vote using their ballot papers and declared all nominations closed as there were no other nominations.

All ballot papers were collected by official adjudicators Adie Blake and Claire Edwards.

All nominated members were voted in by a majority of votes (applause by members)

30 votes for Phil, Gail, Andrea and Tony, 28 votes for Jan (1 unmarked paper).

Phil invited Les Kendrick from CoMS to speak, who wished to say a few words, he was expecting the Severn Valley group to be closing at this meeting but is glad to see that it will now continue. He thanked the old Committee for their hard work over the past year and welcomed the new Committee.

Phil wished the new Committee good luck, thanked everyone for attending this year's AGM and declared the meeting closed at 1145am