

**The Norton Owners Club**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Sunday 13th January 2019, The Chace Hotel, Coventry**

Attending: Tim Harrison (Chairman), Barry Owen (Vice Chairman), Nicole Hill (Treasurer) Marcia Ripley (Secretary), Neil Shoosmith (Spares Officer), Rose Somerville (Merchandise Officer), Peter White (Int. Liaison Officer), Chris and Jill Streater (Librarian/Records Officer (Singles), Tony Ripley (Technical Advisor), Dave Kington (Web and Data Manager), Brian Harriss (Advertising Officer), Dave Harris (Events), Dom Loram (Publicity), Mark Woodward (RDH Editor), Peter Scatchard (Branch Liaison Officer), Dave Catton (Records Officer (Twins)) Joan Catton (Membership Secretary)

Guests: Dave Fenner (ex EC member), Philip Partington (Virtuoso Legal)

1. Welcome and apologies

The meeting was opened by the Chairman who acknowledged with thanks Rose Somerville's presence; a brief silence was held in respect for Ian Somerville.

There were no apologies. Dave Fenner was welcomed to the meeting and the committee were informed Philip Partington a representative from Virtuoso Legal would be joining the meeting, by video link, for item 4.

2. Minutes of Executive Committee meeting 8th September 2018

Minutes from the last EC meeting had been previously circulated. These were approved as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

**Proposed Barry Owen. 2nd Peter White. Agreed.**

It was acknowledged that minutes of the Sub Admin Committee meeting, 11th November 2018 had previously been circulated and received by all EC members.

3. Matters arising not on the agenda

There were no outstanding actions reported from EC meeting 8th September 2018.

Minutes of Sub Admin Committee – The Treasurer reported that bank balances have been updated, the new accounts package (Quick Books) is up and running. A schedule has been agreed with auditors who have confirmed the audit and accounts will be done and published in time for the AGM. The committee was advised digital VAT inputs (Tax Linked Digital) is a legal requirement by HMRC and confirmed this will be done through the new accounts package; the new system does not allow changes to be made to the end of quarter accounts, and the importance of submitting correct figures to the Treasurer was stressed.

The chair briefly went over the topics covered in the last Admin Sub Committee meetings and concluded by opening up to the committee for any queries, there were no questions from the committee, the following updates were offered:

The Editor stated the archiving back log of RDH magazines was continuing and going well.

Librarian/Records Officer reported RDH submission done. Records Officer (Singles) replacement is in place; non-disclosure form has been drafted for Records Officer positions.  
Twin Records replacement still ongoing.  
Chairman reported one interest in Membership Secretary position

#### 4. Legal Dispute

Philip Partington (Virtuoso Legal) joined the committee at 11:25hrs by video link. Mr Partington was introduced to the committee; a long and useful discussion took place in which the committee received specialist legal advice and were further advised not to comment until judicial process has been completed. Mr Partington was thanked and the call finished at approximately 12:50hrs.

Lunch break 13:10 – 13:45

ILO confirmed that with the assistance of Dave Fenner a brief history of the drawings from 1966 to the present day was being compiled. It is anticipated to be 4 or 5 pages long for publishing in March issue of RDH; The Chairman agreed to confirm in his foreword for February's issue of RDH that the committee have taken legal advice.

The EC having been advised that were they not to file a defence it will automatically be found against them, it was proposed, and agreed that adequate funds were to be available to indemnify members of the EC against costs resulting in legal action, It was further confirmed our claim has been registered with the insurers but there is a need to ensure we are completely indemnified.

**Action: ILO to write brief history as detailed above.**  
**Chairman RDH forward for February issue as above.**

#### 5. AGM

The 2018 AGM has been arranged for Sunday 14th April 2019, venue is:

National Waterways Museum  
South Pier Road  
Ellesmere Port  
Cheshire CH65 4FW

Our guest speaker is to be confirmed; Mr T Jobson has been invited to explain about incorporation and it is hoped that a Q & A session will be available.

**Action: Vice Chairman to approach Mr Jobson about transferral of assets.**

#### 6. Branch Secretary's Annual Meeting

The Branch Liaison Officer (BLO) reported the Branch Secretary's meeting has been arranged for Saturday 13th April venue as the AGM (see above). Secretaries (or representatives) from twenty of the thirty branches will be attending; various representatives from the EC will also be present (Tech. Admin, Rally Team, Chairman, Club Secretary, Records Officer, Web and Data manager, BLO). A seminar on the use of technology by ILO (supported by Web and Data Manager) is planned. Accommodation enquiries have been made to Days Inn, awaiting final quote and detail on how to make deposit payment to secure.

Branch Grants – applications have been received from 13 branches, the combined total being £2131 (rounded), and approval for payment of the grants was requested. Concern was voiced on the number of individual £75 claims received from Branches without details. A guideline budget for 2019 was suggested as £2.5k

Proposed: Barry Owen. Seconded by Dom Loram. Agreed.

Action: BLO to submit to Treasurer approved claims for payment. Treasurer to pay.  
BLO is requested to remind branches that they need to supply greater details on future claims, especially up-to-£75 ones.

#### International Liaison Officer (ILO).

The committee were delighted to hear of branch grant claims being received from branches in Austria, Spain, Germany and New Zealand (New Zealand is holding its national rally in Christ Church next month).

Action: ILO is requested to check and pass claims as appropriate to Treasurer for payment and report at next meeting.

#### 7. Social Media (Submitted by Publicity Officer)

Face Book As of Friday evening (11th January) we have 2,890 followers, with an average post reaching 934 and an average of 278 engage with the post. Our best post for engagement was one asking for help finding a stolen Norton with a prompt to share. We averaged 2,418 page shows with the most popular time of day being between 1pm-3pm for page hits. 91% followers are male, with the most popular age bracket being 25yrs-34yrs and 35yrs-44yrs each sharing 20% each. Closely followed by 55yrs-64yrs bracket at 18% and 45yrs-54yrs with 17%. Highest country follower is UK with 784, Malaysia 334 followed by America with 282, Indonesia 215 and then Australia at 144.

Twitter We have 806 followers and have an average tweet impression of 9,550, we are planning on pushing on more through Twitter; and an Instagram account for the club has just been set up, and has been running for a week, early days yet! The aim is to increase the clubs presence on social media.

NOC App The app has been revised with updated Norton models; gallery's have a section for wanted parts, restoration stories and also a 'find a Norton/where are they now' section. We have 1016 app users, currently with approximately 508 users per month and last month 23 new users were registered. I'm planning on creating a promotion video to share through our other social media platforms for the app and its uses.

Publicity Our adverts have been amended to bi-monthly in all magazines, and doubled the size; this is thought to be better value, a bigger advert still reaching about 70% of the readers (calculated on annual subscriptions figures) We are signed up for 6 inserts, the artwork is due for replacement next month (appearing after the AGM) .

CRMC: Sponsorship for the 2018 season is £1,300, plus vat of £260. The club had 11 attendees last seasons for the 7 meetings, despite reviews in Roadholder and promoting on the club Facebook pages; this season has a new meeting place of Castle Coombe. Is it worth going?

The Chairman thanked the Publicity Officer for all his hard work and the very comprehensive report. On the question of events/sponsorship and value for money, it was agreed to put this on a future agenda for discussion.

An explanation and an apology was offered for the accidental personal posts which appeared on Face Book, the error was discovered and corrected. The Chairman, on behalf of the committee, accepted gratefully the explanation and apology.

#### 8. Web Site

Web and Data Manager reported 'the new web site is a wonderful thing and everyone loves it'; Initially there were some errors reported by members who have Apple computers, this has been resolved. White-Hot Design were thanked for the quality of the finished product and the very competitive quote given.

#### 9. Dominator Service Notes

The Editor reported no progress had been made on the publication of Dominator service notes despite work continuing, this was due to health and personal reasons; but confirmed that he was set up and waiting to go.

#### 10. EC Vacancies

Membership Secretary – The Chairman reported there has been an expression of interest.

Records Officer (Twins) – An expression of interest has been received, nothing further to report.

Records Officer (Singles) – Two applicants were received resulting in one candidate being offered the post (subject to election at AGM).

Merchandise Manager vacancy to be advertised in RDH, February issue. The committee are grateful to Rose Somerville who has agreed to continue until the AGM.

Calendar Manager – After many years in post the managers have stood down and this post is now vacant. An advertisement is to be placed in the RDH February issue.

#### 11. Events

Events manager reported plans to attend Stafford Show, where we will be displaying for four anniversaries this year (2019) ( Dominators, Light weights, 961's and club's Diamond Jubilee). Quotes of £1k (each) for two specific stands have been received, this was thought to be overly expensive and rejected; the club will be at the same stands as last year.

The club plan to be present at Banbury (15th & 16th June), 1000 Bikes (30th July) and Norton Burnout (31st Aug – 1 Sept). We are waiting to hear news on Endurance Legends, Donington Park (May).

Sadly the club are not attending Race Retro this year; this is due to continued problems with booking this event. Records Officer (Singles) reported for the previous two years Race Retro have been reluctant to confirm the clubs bookings until late in the season, thus making it difficult for those wishing to attend to organise accommodation.

The Chairman stated that there were other events which might be worth looking at and suggested Motorcycle Live (Peterborough) as a possibility.

Repair of Club van was raised; it was confirmed this had been agreed at last meeting, quotes are being sought for repairs. Proposals forwarded at Admin -Sub Committee meeting were approved. The chair presented a quote received for the van awning for £3300, this was discussed by the committee. The Chairman proposed acceptance of the quote, there was no opposition, acceptance agreed.

## 12. Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

The committee asked if the Diamond Jubilee badge could be supplied as a machine badge and a sticker; it was requested a quote be arranged.

**Action: Vice Chairman to obtain quote on machine badge and forward to BLO.**

The Editor advised a diamond jubilee booklet was being put together, approximately 128 page, and should be ready by May (possibly June). The cost for this is £10.3k, and it will be included within RDH mailing.

## 13. Any other Business

The Librarian reported the need for a new printer/scanner. The committee approved this request and a budget of £150 was suggested.

**Proposed: Chairman, Seconded: Tech Admin. Agreed.**

The Editor requested more input on events being held, very little has been made available for inclusion in RDH. It was suggested to make it a part of branch grants applications, this was agreed

The Clubs proposed move to a Ltd Company was discussed extensively; the need and desire that our current constitution is to be used as the basis for the articles (as far as legally possible) was reiterated and agreed.

## 14. Confirmation of next EC.

The next full EC meeting is Saturday 9th March at Hastings House

The Chairman thanked all those attending for their input and closed the meeting at 16:05