

## Morini Riders Club – AGM Minutes 2023

The White Pheasant, Lenwade House Drive, Lenwade, NORWICH, NR9 5QP  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023

32 members attended.

Agenda Item	Minutes
1. Welcome by Chairman	Tom welcomed us to the AGM.
2. Apologies	Apologies were received from Gary Withers, Anne Cooper, Paul Compton, Butch Almond, Steve Brown, Les Madge, John McNally, Doug Hussey, Chris Skinner, Benjy Straw, Andy Watts, Simon Panchieri
3. Minutes of the previous AGM	The minutes of the 2022 AGM were accepted
4. Committee Reports	<i>See Appendix A for written reports</i>
4a. Chairman	<i>See Appendix A</i>
4b. Secretary	No report
4c. Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The motion to accept the accounts for 2021-2022 was passed unanimously</li><li>Please note the attached report covers 2021-22 accounts as well as the unaudited position to date. The current bank balance has fallen but there has been significant investment in the club bike &amp; products</li></ul> <i>See Appendix A</i>
4d. Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Membership continues to grow</li></ul> <i>See Appendix A</i>
4e. ATG Editor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The iMac &amp; software used for composing ATG are 12 years old and need replacing: simple upgrades are not possible.</li></ul> <i>See Appendix A</i>
4f. Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pete Fisher has volunteered as Forum Admin which he has experience of for other clubs</li><li>The Dutch Morini club has disbanded this year. Their website, which is no longer supported, has always been an invaluable resource for Morini owners. The MRC website will include all their material (identified as Dutch origin) as a service to all Morini owners worldwide</li><li>The MRC website overall needs rebuilding to be easier to update &amp; be more accessible from tablets &amp; phones. If this cannot be done within the club we might have to outsource the work</li></ul> <i>See Appendix A</i>
4g. Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A successful year with Print On Demand making a huge difference in the need to hold stock. POD doesn't work for embroidered clothing but that's a minor issue</li></ul> <i>See Appendix A</i>
4h. BMF/MAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It was proposed that the MRC continues its affiliation to MAG, BMF &amp; NABD. This was passed nem con</li></ul> <i>See Appendix A</i>
4i. Section Reports	<i>See Appendix B for written reports</i>

## Morini Riders Club – AGM Minutes 2023

Agenda Item	Minutes
<b>5. Election of Officers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was proposed that all existing committee officers are re-elected with a single vote. This was passed:  Chairman – Tom Farrow  Secretary – Jem Moore  Treasurer – Nick Hancock  Membership – Mark Bridger  ATG Editor – David Marlow  Products – Chris &amp; Diane Webber  Affiliation Officer – Andy Carrott</li> <li>Other positions were not filled:  Webmaestro – vacant  Social Secretary – vacant</li> <li>Committee to appoint new Web Maestro &amp; Social Secretary when identified</li> </ul>
<b>6. International Rally</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This will be over the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at:  Lower Grange Farm, Grange Lane  Sandling  Maidstone  ME14 3DA</li> <li>This will require volunteers to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organise food &amp; licences</li> <li>Plan rides-out &amp; activities</li> <li>advertise the rally to continental clubs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>7. Club Bike</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Club bike is currently garaged with the secretary. Classic Bike plan an article on club bikes later this year.</li> <li>Need to ensure it is present at the 2024 International Rally</li> </ul>
<b>8. AOB</b>	
<b>8a. Dating Certificates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the club offers a dating service for all Morinis which the DVLA accept as authoritative. This is free to members and costs £20 to non-members. So far 153 certificates have been issued, including 2 in the Irish Republic &amp; 1 in The Netherlands</li> </ul>
<b>8b. MRC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2025 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club and a revisit to the Isle Of Man where the club was founded is being considered</li> </ul>

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Position

Name

Signature

Secretary ..... Jem Moore.....

.....

## **Morini Riders Club – AGM Minutes 2023**

### **Appendix A: Committee Reports**

#### **Chairman**

Welcome to the 2023 AGM and thank you for making the journey across the Norfolk. We have continued our aim to host the AGM in different parts of the country and hope that the variety of locations is interesting and fair to all. Next year, because we will be hosting the international rally, we will likely have a more central and lower key AGM at another time in the year, but we are always open to suggestions of locations for future rallies.

Speaking of which, plans for the 2024 international rally are well underway and details will be filtering through ATG over the next few issues, but please take the opportunity to talk with us over this weekend to find out more information, offer suggestions or help.

Our club continues to grow, we've established some popular regular events in the calendar and sections which get together regularly. There is always room for more though, with some sections less active or needing a new leader, so if you want to represent the club or your section at an event, organise a ride or meeting and are willing to do the leg work then please let us know.

Because of the coronation, we lost our booking for the Chairman's run to Brooklands museum at the 11th hour, which was a disappointment, and unsurprisingly the hastily arranged alternative event was not very well attended (myself included) for which I can only apologise, but thank you to those who did attend.

The Dutch Morini club recently disbanded partly as a result of losing web traffic and members to Facebook groups. Whilst quick and easily accessible, social media based groups can never replace the knowledge and camaraderie that a fully-fledged club possesses. In support of the Dutch club, and to ensure the trove of information on the Dutch club website is preserved, we have offered to migrate the [motomoriniclub.nl](http://motomoriniclub.nl) content onto our website and to host it indefinitely for them. This process is nearly complete and will go live later in the year.

Having volunteers is essential for the running of the club and your committee works hard for the benefit of our ~550 members. Most of us have been in committee roles for a number of years now, and we would appreciate additional help - whether that be taking an active part in running the club, representing the club at shows and events, sending content into the magazine, etc.

**Tom Farrow**

#### **Secretary**

No written report submitted.

#### **Treasurer's Report 2023**

For the 2021 – 2022 financial year we started the period with £25,483.85 in the bank and ended with £24,543.19 in the account.

The club remains solvent with total income being £32,991.54 and total outgoings of £35,093.87. Therefore, the club's outgoings for the year exceeded the incomings by £2,102.33. However, we have spent £2,815.81 on the club bike which included a partial rebuild and a new ignition system after not spending anything for several years, in fact less than £500 over the previous five years.

The Cadwell trackday in 2022 generated a surplus of £3,953.00 and provides a great boost to the club's funds. Associated costs were £12,412.00 with income being £16,365.00.

Membership income stands at £12,061.83 with the cost of publishing and providing ATG being £9,906.84. The remaining subs not only contribute to the costs of running the club but also subsidise the AGM and Rally Weekend.

Budget wise I'd targeted a small surplus of £900 but this only included a spend of £500 on the club bike and it needed doing. The joys of splitting the budget between both Operational and Capital expenditure, allows us to do this without financial risk to the running of the club.

Looking forward we are also going to need to replace the Editor's Mac as it's getting to the end of its useful life and ATG doesn't create itself.

As at 1st September 2023 the bank balance was £23,726.58.

**Nick Hancock**

## **Morini Riders Club – AGM Minutes 2023**

### **Membership Secretary Report September 2023**

As of 1st August 2023, the current paid up and Honorary/Life membership, excluding corporate, count stands at:

506	UK members	[476]
17	EU members	[13]
13	RoW members	[14]]
20	Virtual members	[19]
556	total	[522]

[1st August 2022 numbers in brackets]

Compared to 1st August 2022 membership has increased by 34.

87 new or returning members joined in the last year: again, as in previous years, the most popular choice is a 3½ Strada followed by 3½ Sport, 6 new members with 1200s but still, so far, no new members with the new 650s.

New members were signed up from the North of Scotland to the far South West, from West Wales to Norfolk, from USA to New Zealand, the club indeed has a worldwide presence. 5 members of the former Dutch club took up the offer of free virtual membership as a gesture of good will from the MRC.

Around 53 members did not renew, a low turnover of about 10% of the membership per annum is I think a measure of the fact that for many members Morinis are a “keeper”.

The membership secretary continues to field questions about logins; both website and forum, and it has to be said that some of the correspondence is at times quite amusing. Seriously though, the management of logins and passwords could be more efficiently handled by a new Webmaestro.

**Mark Bridger**

### **ATG Editor Report September 2023 & Librarian’s Report September 2023**

ATG continues as usual. We have had some interest from new dealers in placing adverts and so the committee will need to agree and confirm the percentage of the magazine that we will allow to be adverts so that it does not suddenly start looking like lots of other owners’ club magazines, as we are presuming that the membership is happy with the current balance and format.

After 12 years it has now become time to upgrade the editorial iMac and consequent professional Adobe software that we use for production of the magazine and this has resulted in the need to look at alternatives for financial reasons. Hopefully the readership will not notice any difference, normally because every issue tends to have its own style anyway, but this is going to be a challenge to carry out the updates in time for the very time consuming production of the Christmas issue.

Content wise I am still dependent upon submissions from the membership that I can use as inspiration, and I am looking forward to receiving any stories from new 650 owners, they need to be told that Facebook posts are fleeting and transient whereas publication in ATG is forever.

Always on the lookout for members submissions especially if it is a half-page product review or even better a “Letter to the Editor”.

There will also be substantial need for help for next year’s International Rally as the editor played a large role in the organization of the last one and it is less than a year away, so all offers of support are welcome and encouraged.

**David Marlow**

### **Web-maestro (resigning) 2023**

The webmaestro position is currently vacant and we have been appealing for a volunteer to take this on for a number of years now. The role needs somebody with the time and knowledge to move the website forwards as well as deal with ad hoc technical support and questions from members.

In the absence of a webmaestro today I will report on the main points:

- Over the last year we have upgraded our web hosting to give us more space, which will also enable us to host the Dutch club website as an online archive going into the future.
- Our web hosting, including club email and the forum costs around £240 per year which represents good value to the club and meets our needs currently.
- Traffic to our forum is still fairly high and it is one of the most valuable online Morini resources. The website itself is well overdue a technical and content update which we need help with. I would say that if we can’t find a volunteer very soon, the club may have to consider outsourcing the role which would be costly and probably not convey enough of the wealth of knowledge the club has.

## **Morini Riders Club – AGM Minutes 2023**

The website is the main window into the club for non members, as well as what should be an invaluable go-to for our members. It's the enabler for so much we do- selling products, taking rally and trackday bookings, publicising upcoming events.

I can't stress enough the importance of bringing a new webmaestro onto the team, and I urge you to come and speak to me if you think it's something you could help with.

**Tom Farrow**

### **Web editor 2023**

No report

### **Products 2023**

**Summary:** It has been a good year for the Club and Product sales have reflected this. We restocked the rubber side panel pins and had another batch of ATG Binders produced as a result of repeated requests. Print on Demand clothing products remain successful; the Cadwell T-shirt is a popular one-off annual production and we sold 30 this year. The 2023 Calendar was slower to sell out this year, with the last two copies only going in June!

**Numbers:** Web sales for the FY 2021-22 year (ie. up to end October 2022) were at £1,685 plus post charges of £318.95. The postage costs were £278.53; this excludes £32 for posting pre-ordered calendars sent in the current FY. Stock value of sales was £1,286 giving us a 'margin' of over 20%, below standard retail levels. As we offer a service to members we can continue to operate with this approach – especially as many of our sales are now print on demand and we continue to manage stock level values which we aim to keep in the range of £2,000-2,500. Restocking has pushed the current (mid-2023) figure to the limit of this range.

**Highlights:**

- The move the Club made to offering 'print on demand products' such as the Cadwell T giving a strong contribution to on-line sales.
- Managing stock levels through the use of Print on Demand has meant that we have reduced our levels of stock, and therefore financial risk to the Club.
- Returning to Motorcycle Shows has been a double-edged sword – it allows us to present a public face to fellow Morini riders but increases cost to the Club, and with generally lower attendances pure sales income remains insufficient to cover these.
- Rubber side panel pin costs continue to sell well. Increased costs to the Club at the time of restocking will be passed on once we have sold old stock.
- The Club Calendar remains popular, and is also a useful PR item.
- Total sales for the year contributed £400 to Club funds, as well as giving members access to a great range of quality items that helps publicise our Club.

Thanks; to Julie and Butch for their help in offering a range of products at shows; to David for putting together our most collectable calendar, to Tom for work with the web shop, design and creating the line of print on demand items, and to you all for supporting the Club through your purchases over the year.

**Chris and Diane Webber**

### **BMF/MAG 2023**

Andy Carrott outlined the case for the MRC's continued affiliation of both MAG and the BMF. He gave an update of the current activities and state of both organisations highlighting that the BMF had made the decision to leave the Federation of European Motorcyclists Associations, stating cost as the primary consideration although the UK leaving the EU was a factor. MAG is also considering its membership. Most BMF campaigns activity is now via the National Motorcycle Council whereas MAG employs its own campaigns and political team. Both organisations continue to work on theft, licensing, parking and taxation issues. Driverless cars and Emissions/Congestion charging are a particular focus. In answer to a question Andy cited success in both Oxford and Cambridge in respect to exemption from charges plus the ULEZ exemption in London for older bikes passing independent testing. MAG also has particular focus on reversing the proposed ban on petrol engine motorcycles.

**Andy Carrott**

## **Morini Riders Club – AGM Minutes 2023**

### **Appendix B: Section Reports**

#### **Corsaro Section Report**

The Corsaro Section continues to meet on the first Saturday of the month and has a number of regular and occasionally new attendees. We are a welcoming section and you don't have to own a Corsaro, nor even a Morini... Dave Roberts has been known to turn up in a variety of interesting vehicles, both two and four wheeled. Having met at the "Pub With No Name" for a number of years now, a change in management resulted in a change of menu (no more sandwiches) and an attempt to make the pub into something that it was not. Standards had dropped and we weren't the only disgruntled customers. Having used the section chat, it was agreed to move to a new venue, the George and Falcon a few miles down the road. The "For Sale" sign outside is a bit of a worry though... hopefully nothing to do with the section.

All in all, the section continues to thrive and long may it continue.

**Nick Hancock**

#### **Green Lane Section Report**

Section membership seems to be steady at the 30 plus level.

The section year has seemed quiet apart from regular conversations on the Whatsapp group. In reality, despite our members being dispersed across the UK and even one in Switzerland, there has been a reasonable amount of riding activity. Members have attended the ABR festival and ridden their long-distance trail, showing the modern bike riders what they are missing, and that was written up in ATG by Nic Cosmos. Others have been involved with group TRF rides in their own areas from Devon to the North of England and the Isle of Man.

Plenty of technical help and advice on spare parts is to be found on our whatsapp group, possibly even more than on the MRC forum, which I hope we are not starving!

As this report is being typed a small group of us are heading for Northern Spain and the TET routes in the Picos mountains-look out for reports and hopefully some YouTube clips to follow.

I still hope to get another attempt at the record for Morinis on lanes in, before the year is out.

Next year I want to arrange a group ride on the Isle of Man as well, please get in touch if this floats your ferry boat.

**Steve Brown**

#### **London and South East Section**

I'm not able to come this year as I'm travelling. Unfortunately, London events have not been well attended - there was a ride round Surrey with only me and Tony - and I think that a few members are preferring to go to the south east or Corsaro sections so I'm not sure whether it's viable to keep as a separate entity. Sorry not to be more upbeat.

**John McNally**

#### **Warwickshire Section**

Warwickshire section meetings continue to happen second Monday of the month at caffeine and machine and we usually get half a dozen or so turn up, with the exception of a few quieter months in the winter. We've decamped to Arthur's a few times over the winter months to drink his beer and look at his bikes instead of the longer ride down the fosse. A few new members this year too which is great. Not much happens in between section meetings but the WhatsApp group is there should anyone decide to

**Tom Farrow**

#### **North Midlands**

No written report submitted.