

Morini Riders Club – AGM Minutes 2025

Ralegh's Cross Inn, Brendon Hill, Exmoor, Somerset, TA23 0LN
Saturday 13th September 2025

Agenda Item	Minutes
1. Welcome by Chairman	<p>Tom welcomed us to the AGM.</p> <p>This year has celebrated 50 years of the club's existence since its founding by Simon Pancheri in the Isle Of Man. We have marked the occasion by being the featured marque at the VMCC "Taverners Section" Founders Day at Stanford Hall, a grand display at the Ace Café and a relaxed meeting on the Isle Of Man.</p> <p>The club had successful meetings at The Bristol Show (Shepton Mallet, thanks to Jem Moore), the Scottish Bike Show (thanks to David Gray & Alan Pike), the Dirt Bike Show at Telford (thanks to Ian Boydell) and the Stafford Bike Shows (Butch and Julia).</p> <p>Track-day at Cadwell Park (thanks to Mike Condliffe for managing) was successful (with help from David Marlow as paddock organiser– he should get out on a bike more). It also contributed a useful surplus to club funds. Thanks were also expressed to sections which bring life to the club and the committee for all their contributions.</p> <p>It was sadly reported that Ben Wylie had died in a motor accident collision. He was a great supporter of the new Morini models and a stalwart expert on them. He will be greatly missed and his colleague, Sam, is committed to continuing support.</p>
2. Apologies	<p>Apologies were received from Arthur Farrow, Benjy Straw, Andy Carrott, Will Hoather, Tom Callis, Sally & Phil Bootherstone</p>
3. Minutes of the previous AGM	<p>The minutes of the 2024 AGM were accepted. See appendix A 20 in favour 10 abstentions</p>
4. Committee Reports	<p><i>See Appendix B for written reports</i></p>
4a. Chairman	<p>A written report was not submitted due to work commitments. However, despite strict instructions that all motions must be submitted to the secretary in advance, he proposed that the resigning secretary be given Life Membership and asked that the secretary leave the room so the vote was anonymous.</p> <p><i>Records cease at this point.</i></p> <p>The secretary returned to the room promising a drink to everyone who opposed the vote: sadly the vote was unanimous.</p>
4b. Secretary	<p><i>No report.</i></p> <p>Not strictly an AGM matter but best wishes were offered to David & Ann Marlow whose daughter Tasha was marrying Olly a week after the AGM and son Alex was marrying Amy in November. Both Tasha (with her baking) & Alex (with his photography) have supported the club at rallies. The meeting unanimously echoed these wishes.</p>

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4c. Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For financial year 2023-24 we started the period with £22,434.91 in the bank & ended with £25,688.62. It was proposed to accept the accounts for 2023-2024 the motion was passed unanimously <p>See Appendix B for full report. Detailed accounts are attached. Digital copies of the accounts or are available from the treasurer.</p> <p>Note: <i>value of club assets were not reported:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club bike ATG editor's PC Display materials
4d. Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership is at its highest level since the club started <p>See Appendix B</p> <p>Costs of mailing ATG to the EU remain a problem. One answer is to offer virtual membership to EU members.</p> <p>Trevor Ward offered to carry ATG to Italy as he visits regularly.</p>
4e. ATG Editor	<p>See Appendix B</p> <p>"Best club magazine ever seen" was a comment from the floor.</p>
4f. Website	See Appendix B
4g. Products	See Appendix B
4h. BMF/MAG	No report was submitted
5. Election of Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was proposed that Mike Eltringham was elected as Secretary. Proposed – Jem Moore seconded – Mike Smyth <i>the motion was passed unanimously</i> It was proposed that all other existing committee officers are re-elected with a single vote. Chairman – Tom Farrow Treasurer – Nick Hancock Membership – Mark Bridger ATG Editor – David Marlow Products – Chris & Diane Webber Web Maestro – Barry Widmer BMF/MAG Affiliation Officer – Andy Carrott <i>the motion was passed unanimously</i>

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6. Motions	Two motions were proposed by the Treasurer
6a Subscriptions	<p>Increase subscriptions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK £30.00 • Europe £35.00 • Rest of World £42.00 • Virtual £17.50 <p>Proposed: Nick Hancock (treasurer), seconded: Tom Farrow (chairman)</p> <p>Q Paul Bowen asked when was the last increased? answer 2018 (NB. this was incorrect: the subscriptions were increased in 2016)</p> <p>Q Mike Hill asked why an increase was needed as the only definite costs mentioned were £300 VAT on ATG postage and £120 on bank charges? <i>Issues put back to the committee</i></p> <p>Q Neil Trinder asked about a 'rainy day fund'?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve White commented that most clubs (and for example parish councils) kept a reserve of 50% on annual expenditure <p>Q Robin Carr asked why we need an increase if we have 50% reserves?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Marlow commented that printers are closing due to online competition <p>A vote was called with committee not voting: 31 in favour 1 abstention 2 against</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the discussion Jem Moore commented that setting the subscription was a matter for the committee and that the rules do not allow an AGM (or EGM) to dictate how the committee acts
6b Cheque payments	<p>Introduce a charge of 50p surcharge on all cheques received (see treasurer's report)</p> <p>Proposed: Nick Hancock (treasurer), seconded: Jem Moore</p> <p>Q Julian Harty asked why not charge the full 70p?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various comments were made about being fair to members who didn't like online banking or standing orders from joint bank accounts • Membership secretary commented that he receives about 25 cheques for renewals • products secretary commented that they receive occasional cheques for products <p>An amendment was proposed to charge the full 70p 15 in favour 13 against</p> <p>A vote on the substantive motion (charge 70p) resulted in: 21 in favour 6 against 5 abstentions</p> <p>The result is that the club will charge 70p for all cheque payments <i>the same comment under 6a about the AGM not dictating to the committee apply</i></p>

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45 members attended:

Alex Arthur	John Frears Hogg	Ann Marlow	Sarah Ward
Paul Bowen	Ian Furey-King	David Marlow	Trevor Ward
Clare Bridger	Nick Hancock	John Marshall	Chris Webber
Mark Bridger	Julian Harty	Jem Moore	Diane Webber
Tony Brown	Mike Hill	Ralph Oakley	Ian Wegner
Francis Caddy	Oliver Hulme	Tim Ralph	Simon White
Robin Carr	Alan Jennings	Colin Ryan	Stephen White
Mike Chapman	Judy Jennings	Pete Smith	Barry Widmer
Anne Cooper	George Lane	Michael Smyth	Gary Withers
Nick Edwards	Chris Laughton	Neil Trinder	
Mike Eltringham	Ian Lucas	Ian Wagstaff	
Tom Farrow	Kevin McNally	Nigel Ward	

Signed: Date:
Position Name Signature



Secretary Jem Moore.....
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Appendix A: Minutes of 2024 AGM



MRC AGM Minutes
2024 v3.pdf

Appendix B: Committee Reports

Chairman

Report delayed due to work commitments.

Tom Farrow

Treasurer: Report Period: 01/11/2023 – 31/10/2024

For the 2023 – 2024 financial year, we started the period with £22,434.91 in the bank and ended with £25,688.62 in the account.

Total income for the period was £52,592 and total outgoing were £50,527.41 therefore our income exceeded our costs by £2,064.59.

Membership income stands at £15,676.21 with the cost of publishing and providing ATG being £13,831.15 although this is going to increase going forward as the publishers are now applying VAT to the UK postage costs. The remaining subs not only contribute to the costs of running the club, but also subsidises the AGM and events throughout the year.

The Cadwell trackday in 2024 generated a surplus of £4,284.80 and provides a great boost to the club's funds. Associated costs were £12,995.20 with income being £17,280. We do carry a risk when putting these events on, but they are enjoyable.

The other highlight of the financial year was the 2024 International Rally in Kent. The total cost of this event was £11,478.68 of which £1,085.06 was the cost of the beer, well done everyone! The income generated, excluding any product sales was £12,055.34 so an overall gain of £576.66. This shows that we are pricing tickets at a level appropriate for the event.

Looking to the future, our running costs are going to increase. Not only are suppliers having to charge more, our bank Santander no longer offer free banking and are introducing charges from October 2025. These include a £9.99 monthly fee and a £0.70 charge to deposit cheques.

As at 29th July 2025 the bank balance was £31,012.92.

I am also proposing two motions for debate regarding subscriptions and banking charges – see the AGM agenda.

Nick Hancock



MRCLedger -
NH.xlsb.xlsx



DPS_Breakdown.xlsx

Membership Report 01/08/2025

As of 01/08/2025 the current paid up and honorary membership, count stands at **595**; note 2024, 2023 and 2022 numbers in brackets. [non-voting free memberships such as foreign clubs, librarian and business members are excluded]

<u>2025</u>		<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
544	UK members	[526]	[506]	[476]
17	EU members	[23]	[17]	[13]
13	RoW members	[14]	[13]	[14]
23	Virtual members	[16]	[20]	[19]
595	Total	[579]	[556]	[522]

Compared to 01/08/2024 we have, despite all the external factors affecting motorcycling in the UK, increased membership by 16. It might be interesting to note that in 2010 membership was a lowly 225 having been much higher in the 80s and 90s. It had reached 329 when my predecessor Les Madge took over in 2015 and was 436 when I took over in 2020.

Since the Brexit transition period has ended a number of EU members have been subjected to horrendous custom release fees to receive their paper ATG. The only way to avoid this is to have the duty paid in the UK, this

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is possible using a duty paid scheme run by the Post Office however despite the EU's single customs union a number of countries are not included yet; Belgium, Italy and Denmark to name 3, directly impact our members. For these members they will need to be converted to virtual members and refunds given.

The renewal period went pretty well, 70 members did not renew by end of November, meaning that 510 members were able to get it together to renew promptly. Then there were as usual the 10 or so who despite numerous reminders cause delay for everyone else and extra work. In all we lost 71 members for the usual reasons; ill health, sold bike or for reasons we will never know as they never responded to any emails or texts.

Of the 87 new and returning members joining in the last year the breakdown of bikes is approximately as follows (some members reported multiple bikes) and some none at all due to missing or incomplete on-line jotform.

Unknown/none/Cadwell/

looking for a Morini/

social members 22

3½ Strada 21

3½ Sport 22

3½ not stated 5

500 7

250 2C 2

Kanguro 4

175 3

Granpasso 1200 2

125 Corsaro 2

The following models had 1 500 Camel, 501 Camel, Milano, New York, Tresette, Dart, 9½

It is encouraging to see 4 new 1200 owners, the forum has become more active recently.

We had as per last year, as far as we know, no new members joining with 650s of any sort this is disappointing it seems we are not reaching potential new owners, or the club is seen as a classic bike only club and not relevant to them. It is encouraging that people join the club before buying a classic Morini though.

Mark Bridger, Membership Secretary

ATG Editor & Librarian

ATG continues as ever. We are still currently untroubled as far as we know by the steep price increases for both printing and postage that we have been predicting for a number of years, but it is something that we continue to fret about.

What we do need to attend to is the problems we have with posting the magazine to anywhere in Europe as the rules on tax and customs appear to be different for each country and change several times a year ever since Brexit. This has taken up so much of the time of the membership secretary that we are considering withdrawing the option of a printed magazine for members in European countries.

As ever I am always looking for content and would welcome submissions from any members about any Morini related subject. In particular, I would welcome members with interesting non-standard or historical bikes to get in touch so that we could perhaps arrange articles about them and make appointments when we could get them properly photographed.

In my dual-hatted role as librarian I am also very interested in any old photos or slides of bikes and club events that could be used in ATG or for a possible side project of a picture book of bikes and events from the classic years.

David Marlow, ATG Editor

Website Report

The existing MRC Website has served the club well for many years but now has a very dated look and feel, with support for mobile devices being limited. The site is hard coded using HTML, as was the norm when it was developed, but this makes it difficult to edit and maintain without a specialist knowledge of the coding. Finding a volunteer to take over from Tom has taken some years, as an understanding of coding, SFTP, SSH, is required. This situation also creates a Single Point of Failure, where maintaining the club's web presence is concerned.

The Committee has accepted a proposal to build a new site using WordPress software and the Divi Theme. WordPress is one of the most widely used web platforms, having an excellent support network and is available on most Web Hosting Services, including Fast Hosts which we currently use for the existing site, email provision and hosting of the archived Netherlands website.

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Using WordPress will address the short comings of the existing site:

- Divi Theme has advanced support for mobile devices out of the box
- Hundreds of plugins and modules available to expand the functionality as the site evolves
- User friendly and relatively little specialist knowledge required to maintain
- Easier Web Maestro succession planning, given the widespread use of WordPress and an easy learning curve for those who want to become involved
- Excellent support, user forums and YouTube Tutorials!

The existing site relies on just one person to update it and add content. With the basic structure and pages in place there is opportunity for other people to have an 'Editor' login in allowing them post updates, or maintain their section's pages, if they'd like to get involved.

Please do let me know if you have any suggestions for additional things you'd like to see on the site or any content you'd like to share!

We plan to roll the new site out in October so Member Logins can be migrated at the same time as membership renewals happen.

Barry Widmer, Webmaestro

Products Report 01/11/2023 – 31/10/2024

Summary

This report is for the 2023-24 financial year, ending October 2024. Print on Demand products remain successful, especially the Cadwell T-shirt which remains a popular one-off annual production. Stock value at the end of the FY was high at just over £4,000 due to a recent investment in fuel tap diaphragms which cost £35 each to produce and were offered at £38.50 before member's discount. Fortunately, we have sold the majority of these (buy one now before we sell out).

It's worth noting that Products also forms a major part of our visible presence at shows, as usually the banners and regalia support our motorcycle display area.

The Figures

Web sales for our FY year up to end October 2024 were £2,440 plus post charges of £380 compared to £1,525 plus £330.54 for the 2023/24 period – a strong recovery after a poor year. Stock value of sales at £1861 gave us an acceptable 'margin' of £586 or around 20% overall; still below standard clothing retail levels. Furthermore we offer a service to members and so we continue to operate with this approach – an increasing proportion of our sales are print on demand which has significantly reduced the stock value and risk on our stock holding.

Highlights

- Products support our representation at M/C shows, forming a significant part of displays featuring our machines, as we usually bring the supporting banners and additional display items.
- We have invested £3,500 in producing 100 fuel tap diaphragms to enable owners of the Lambertini machines to retail the solenoid operated fuel tap in working order. These have proved popular but are currently still available to buy.
- Cadwell T-shirts, available via print on demand, remain our most popular item, available to members and Cadwell track day participants.
- The Calendar is a useful PR item, being distributed to supportive dealers and the Morini community around Europe, as well as the factory representative in Italy.
- Total sales for the year, including sales at shows, contributed over £750 to Club funds, as well as giving members a great range of quality items that helps publicise our Club.

Thanks Again

to Julia 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 Representative

No report submitted.

Andy Carrott