

THAMES VALLEY AGM 5TH NOVEMBER 2022

Committee Present: P. Freeman, J. Bennett, B. Marsh, I .Foster, V. Karruck, B. White, R. Kidson . Apologies from R. Fenton

There were 16 members in attendance

Matters Arising from the 2021 AGM

Richard had agreed to look into the age of new members, it came in 55 to 65 age gap.

A suggestion from last year was that we try to start organised trips from various places and this had been actioned with events spanning the Thames Valley area (Maidenhead, West Wycombe, Henley, Alton and Princes Risborough).

A request for more members to use our email address was showing an increase this year.

Other N and N venues were continuing to be looked into, with the St. Albans area also being considered.

Chairman's Report.

The Chairman basically said that it was self-explanatory and no issues arose.

Director's Report

Main point was we are to organise the IHW in 2026. The NEC is looking at ways to promote the different areas to more of the public and non-members who might aspire to own a Healey. The first place they are looking to do this is via Facebook.

Treasurer's Report

We still have a strong amount in the account and the Chairman voiced his continuing commitment to using these funds to the benefit of active members in the region as a way of thanking them for their loyalty over the year.

Membership and Liaison Officer's Report

Richard pointed out membership was virtually static with 161 members, i.e., as we lost members for various reasons 22 new ones joined. His opinion was that our new members were slightly younger which was considered to be good news. He accepted it is a big commitment to buying and running a classic car these days but on the flip side the restorers and sales industry still seems buoyant.

Webmaster's Report

Report highlights- Thames Valley centre website has around 6,000 visitors a year- up from last year. The page most visited is our "Events" page, followed the Technical page. Rob is encouraging members to join the Facebook and WhatsApp groups, as well as contribute photos of events and also technical articles that can be posted onto the Club website.

The report was agreed to be self-explanatory and no additional points were raised.

Events Manager's Report

James ran through the list of events this year, with a view all had been successful- based on the verbal feedback received from members. He went on to emphasise the importance of coming up with interesting days out that had a mix of old favourites with new venues. From research done by Northern Centre highlighting that one-day events held the greatest appeal for most members, the Thames Valley centre approach to events is to focus mostly on organising day events.

Election of Officers

Ian stated that he wished to stand down as Chairman but remain as Director and possibly Treasurer. James Bennett had to agreed to take on the role of Chairman. Brian White also stated he now wished to stand down from the committee to pursue other interests. The rest of the standing committee agreed to stand again, and 2 new members have joined it; James B welcomed James Ansell and Jeremy Wilson to the fold and look forward to working with them. Peter Freeman has taken on the role of Club Secretary.

Proposed Events for 2023

This was introduced by James B. suggesting a New Members Day in the Spring.

Hugh Ferris wondered about a trip to the I of W possibly in May but avoiding the busy season. *This is being investigated by Ian F.*

Mick Brown suggested a trip to Fawley Hill Railway, Jerry Wilson a recent trip to the Haynes Motor Museum in Somerset. Barry related he had done a track day at Castle Combe with the Triumph Owners Club with plenty of track time, John Keener mentioned the Heritage Day track access which is only £10 for the day in October. Barry said that 2023 would see Kop Hill give more hill time to member clubs exhibiting at the site and Mick Brown reflected on a very successful day some years ago at the Brooklands circuit. James Ansell asked about the Bicester Scramble, discussion around this confirmed they no longer encourage club meets and that the price was creeping up. Events currently being planned for 2023 also include Drive It Day in April, day events to Hook Norton brewery in Cotswolds, Stratfield Saye house and gardens near Reading and Chiltern Winery near Marlow/Henley.

All the above additional ideas were noted and will be looked into by the committee.

A O B

Stephen Rein mentioned he had a number of “specialist “tools that don't get used a lot and isn't there a way that they could be offered to other Thames Valley members to borrow? Ian said Thames Valley centre (along with Northern) have a tools available page- so the opportunity exists to make more members aware of this service: [Tools - Austin Healey Club Thames Valley Centre \(austin-healey-club.co.uk\)](http://austin-healey-club.co.uk)

On this point Mick Brown made the point that members don't really know where each other live and wouldn't it be useful to have this information available. The reply to this was the problem of personal data and privacy laws but it is a good point.

The meeting ended with James B thanking Ian and presenting Ian and Anita with a gift of a theatre voucher. Brian White was also thanked for his time on the committee and presented with a bottle of whisky.

The meeting closed at 12. 55 pm.