

# RREC WESSEX SECTION

## Minutes of the Annual General Meetings held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 11am at the Village Hall Piddlehinton Dorset DT2 7TD. Minutes taken by Chris Sheldrake

### 1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Chairman Brian Palmer and others. The meeting was therefore chaired by Secretary, Steve Wilks, in Brian's absence. The presence of RREC Director John Neale and his wife, Mary, representing Hunt House was acknowledged and much appreciated.

### 2. Minutes of the AGM held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

Acceptance of the Minutes of the previous AGM were proposed by John Ryley, seconded by Georgia Cheer-Ryley and were unanimously approved by those in attendance.

### 3. Chairman's Report

In the absence through ill health of Chairman, Brian Palmer, the Chairman's report was read to the meeting by Steve Wilks. A copy of the report had been circulated via email and one is also attached to these minutes and forms an integral part of the minutes. The report began by expressing the sad news that two of our most senior and respected committee members had died within eight days of one another. Michael Dant and Stuart Bladon had been highly valued members of the committee and both had had honorary membership bestowed on them by the committee.

The Meeting unanimously approved the Chairman's Report.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report had also been issued by email. Simon drew the Meeting's attention to the Receipts and Payments Account. The Section accounts had further improved from their buoyant position in 2021-22, standing at a balance of £14,000 at the end of 2022, although some of this sum consisted of the full payment by our advertisers and sponsors for 2023, although the cost of three more editions of our quarterly Magazine *Torque* ! Would need to be paid from from this sum.

Nevertheless, funds are well in excess of our likely costs and are likely to continue their upward trajectory. He added that HSBC, the Section's bank, was closing its branch in New Milton ( the Lymington branch having already closed) so that the use internet banking was more necessary than ever.

He noted that Silver Lady of Bournemouth was sponsoring *Torque* again and that they promoted our Section by handing out spare copies of *Torque* magazine.

The Meeting approved the Treasurer's Report, a copy of which is attached.

5. Two members had been seconded to the committee following our sad losses, and both Chris Sheldrake and Scott Vincent were prepared to stand for election as Magazine and Website Editor and Events Coordinator respectively. They were unanimously elected to serve for 2023-24.
6. Re-Election to the Committee of Brian Palmer, Gary Trinder, Simon Crofts, and Steve Wilks  
The re-election of the above four Members to the Section Committee was unanimously approved by those in attendance at the meeting.
7. Any Other Business and Motions from the floor

John Neale was invited to take the floor and responded to member's questions. One concerning the Hunt House AGM, which a member had suggested had only lasted 11 minutes as a result of no questions being allowed from the floor. He advised that there was no reason why questions should not be put to the AGM, particularly if submitted in advance.

It was suggested that events should be more widely publicised in the hope that RREC members from further afield might attend more of our events and our own Section members might become more involved. John Neale commented that only the most important events should be put on the RREC Events calendar as Spirit and Speed might become overwhelmed with events with little room for anything else ! Chris Sheldrake informed those present that our Chairman is particularly interested in attracting members from further afield and that we would therefore continue to circulate All Torque to our entire database which consists of more than 600 RREC members who have previously expressed an interest in Wessex Section and our events.

Several members expressed concern at the build up of Section funds while we had no plan or policy for its expenditure, in full or in part. Various suggestions were made including free copies of at least one edition of *Torque* ! per year, a donation to the Henry Royce Foundation, and discounts to attract members to attend their first Wessex event.

The acting chairman agreed that the Committee should consider the matter and report back at a later date.

8. Future Events

Chris Sheldrake announced that a visit to the Tank Museum at Bovington has just been arranged for the 4<sup>th</sup> May. He invited those interested to contact him. The event will be publicised in the next All Torque.

Chris went on to speak about the visit to the Classic Car Show in Rouen on the weekend of 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> September and invited those interested in bringing their cars along to exhibit to contact him.

The Annual General Meetings ended at 12:45pm. And most members adjourned to the Thimble Inn for an excellent lunch.