

Shropshire and Powys Advanced Riders

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting January 8th 2025 by Zoom

Item	Minutes	Actions
Attendance	<p>Attending: Rob Hall (Chair) David Rogers (Treasurer) Ken Swinton (Website, data & Clothing) Kevin Fletcher (Training Officer) Tina Kelly (Membership) Nigel Bright (Secretary, Rideout Coordinator, Website and social media), Steve Clarke (Marketing)</p> <p>Bill Croxon, Nigel Clifford, Robin Padgett</p>	
Apologies	Simon Plevin, Hugh Trevor Jones, Bryan Murphy	
Minutes of the 2023 AGM and matters arising	The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted with no matters arising.	
Chairmans report	<p>The membership remains fairly stable, although it has dropped. This is due to a decision about members needing to hold a current Advanced Test Pass, in training to take their test or waiting to be allocated a tutor. There was also an email from RoSPA regarding their status as RoSPA members which again led to people reviewing their membership.</p> <p>That said we have also had several new members some of whom have thrown themselves into helping with the smooth running of the group. In particular I would like to thank Nigel Bright and Steve Clarke.</p> <p>Nigel has taken over various tasks including becoming Group Secretary, Rideout coordinator, Website Manager and Social Media (he's not sure about the last one but I have confidence in him).</p>	

Steve has been very proactive trying and succeeding in recruiting new members through attending various bike meetings. He also stepped up to organising our attendance at B4L and signing up on the day several prospective members.

It would be helpful if all members when attending motorcycle events also promoted the group and the advantages of advanced training. If anyone wishes to assist in this regard, please speak with Steve for advice and help.

It was disappointing that at the start of the year Kev Fletcher our training officer arranged a free assessment ride for all members at the Honda Centre in Shrewsbury. This was to enable riders who had not ridden much through the winter to have a ride and see if they were still at the level they wanted to be at. Sadly, there were no takers and the event was cancelled.

I have been liaising with other RoSPA groups and the IAM to try to set up joint events, but we have been thwarted by dates and availability of tutors, hopefully we can try again in the coming year.

Our group accreditation is up for renewal, and I have been liaising with RoSPA to ensure this happens smoothly.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the committee members for their help, support and hard work throughout the year, without them the group would not function. I would also like to thank them for agreeing to put themselves forward for re-election this coming year. There is one notable exception to this and that is Ken Swinton.

Ken has decided to stand down. As all of you know Ken has been a stalwart of the group for more years that he cares to remember. He has built the website managed it, fixed it and kept all the databases up to date. He has stepped in and filled gaps when we have had vacancies on the committee and run things. He has helped and filled in as Rideout coordinator/leader and Tail End Charlie whenever we have been short.

Personally, he has he has always been there helping and reminding me of things that I need to be do or have forgotten to do. Most members have no idea of how much he has done over the years in the background, and he will be sorely missed.

His decision to step back does not mean he will disappear as he will remain an honorary member for life, and he will ensure that the handover to Nigel goes smoothly.

	So, thank you Ken for all you have done for SaPAR.	
Training Officers Reports	<p>The groups' primary objective is to offer voluntary Advanced Motorcycle Training to new and current members and continue to promote road safety. This includes our commitment to carry out regular assessments of knowledge and practical ability in order to maintain the highest possible standards in accordance with RoSPA guidelines and recommendations. Furthermore, as part of our objective it is important that we are proactive in promoting our groups services to ensure that we are known throughout the Shropshire and Powys areas. 'We may well be the best advanced motorcycle training group in our area but if no one knows of us this is immaterial'. Unfortunately, our member numbers are in decline, and we have recently experienced a shortage of associates to train and therefore recommend that the committee gives priority and addresses this problem at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>On a more positive note, I am pleased to report that over the past summer months our tutors have been busy training their associates, carrying out pretest assessments and assisting with our tutor training programme. It is encouraging that we can boast 8 gold and 4 silver test pass results since last year's AGM. We can also take a positive from our tutor training programme by congratulating and welcoming Steve Clarke for qualifying as a SaPAR group tutor. The group currently has three active senior tutors, one resting senior tutor, three active group tutors, one inactive tutor and one trainee tutor.</p> <p>Our training campaign of 2024 started with a senior tutors meeting combined with refresher riding assessments held on Wednesday 3rd April 2024. This was followed by our annual tutor riding and knowledge assessment day conducted by our senior tutors and included a pre-ride meeting held on Sunday 14th April 2024. All in attendance passed with flying colours and were allocated to their new associates. It was encouraging that we had an excellent turnout and positive feedback from all tutors and trainee tutors.</p> <p>To conclude, I would like to thank Rob, Martin, Bill, all group tutors and the committee for their continued support and look forward to working with them to promote road safety in the future.</p>	
Treasurer's report and Adoption of the Accounts	<p>The accounts which have been sent to all members show no major changes from the previous year.</p> <p>Income and the annual surplus are both slightly lower than the previous year, mainly because membership numbers are also slightly lower.</p> <p>However, we did make a small surplus of £487 and this has resulted in the bank balance increasing to £9,472 and the assets of the group increasing to £10,692.</p> <p>We continue to be profitable and have a strong financial position mainly represented by the bank balance.</p>	

	<p>The accounts have been approved by the Committee and have been checked by an external accountant. I have received no queries from members following circulation of the accounts. If there are no questions all that remains is for the members here today to agree to adopt the accounts for the year.</p> <p>The accounts were adopted by members at the AGM</p>	
Election of Officers/Committee members	<p>All committee members with the exception of Ken Swinton made themselves available for re-election and were elected unopposed by the meeting.</p> <p>The Chair and committee thanked Ken for his outstanding commitment to the group over the years, in particular for his work on the website and membership database, the level of which has been considerable and underestimated.</p>	
Glyn Jones Award	<p>The winner of the final Glyn Jones award is Kevin Fletcher in recognition of his outstanding work as Training Officer</p>	
AOB	<p>The reduced membership fee for those aged 30 and under was discussed and confirmed to be promoted on leaflets, the website and Facebook.</p> <p>Bill Croxon sadly advised the meeting that he will not be renewing his RoSPA or SaPAR membership.</p>	<p>Steve Clarke and Nigel Bright</p>

Meeting closed at 19.49 hours. Next meeting is on 19th February 2025 at 7pm by Zoom

Signed.....CHAIRMAN.

Date: