

Monmouth & District Rifle Club

Annual General Meeting - Minutes

Thursday 5 May 2022

1. Apologies for Absence: - Paul Waldron; Chris England; Christopher Potter; Richard Snelson; Lynford Fletcher; Terry Lowman; Denis Jackson; Pete Toogood; Hugh Murray; Joe Pugh; Joe Woolley; Mark Ripley & Matt Jones.

2. Attendees:- Mark Nicholas; Maria Bartlett; Adam Sinfield; Richard Wilson; Christian Bartlett; Mike Idziaszcz Alan Evans; Bill Harvey; Marc Griffiths; Mike Young; Kevin Lockett; Colin Robertshaw; Simon Gibson; Clinton Nicholls; Kevin Mayo; C V Jenkins; Marcus Rastall; Tom Clegg

3. The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting dated 21 February 2021 were read and agreed.

4 Chair's Address

Chair addressed the group and thanked all those who contribute i.e. directors, RCO's etc. Membership numbers are steady but we need to encourage younger members and ladies.

Chair raised the matter of subscriptions being paid late as there was a significant number of people who paid very late and this is not acceptable in an organisation ran by volunteers.

5. Membership Secretaries Report

Membership numbers currently stand at 237 with 8 awaiting inductions. 82 inductions were completed in the last year and the Club has seen an increase in family groups. Adam stated he is not halting new membership numbers to the Club until RCO's raise concerns of the number of shooters attending.

M.o.D shoots are back on and three people have stepped up to take over running this freeing Adam up for other things. One of the people is a serving soldier who can access the M.o.D calendar which will make booking ranges much easier.

The precision rifle competitions are well attended and Christian Bartlett is to organise practical events soon.

IT improvements are going well, the range booking system is running well. Joe Woolley is looking at digitising shooting logs and other relevant items to help with compliance. The plan is to have a pad to enable people to log in rather than continue with the paper records.

6. Treasurer's Report:-

Now that we are an incorporated company, the annual accounts must be lodged with Companies House within nine months of the year end. If they are not acceptable in format they will be rejected.

This year, after a fifteen month period for the last exercise, we are back to the usual twelve months. This might explain why some of last year's figures could be larger than this year's.

As far as large projects and maintenance are concerned, we have had a fairly quiet year and have returned to an excess of income over expenditure, and have made a surplus of £3,200. The last major project to be undertaken is the drainage down the sides of the range. Last year we were quoted some fairly steep prices for this, but have managed to find a much more reasonable supplier, and this may be undertaken later this year. In the meantime, we have managed to replenish our coffers, and currently have nearly £16,000 in our bank account.

After the lockdowns of the past two years, we should be returning to normality.

7. Election of Club Officers – (present incumbents):-

Chair (Mark Nicholas)
Deputy Chair/Membership Secretary (Adam Sinfield)
Treasurer (Richard Wilson)
Secretary (Maria Bartlett)

Richard Wilson is resigning as treasurer and director.

Mike Idziaszczyk volunteered to be treasurer and this was seconded by everyone in attendance.

Mike accepted being a director – subject to attending the next directors meeting, being informed of responsibilities and being happy to accept.

Updated Club Officers:-

*Chair (Mark Nicholas)
Deputy Chair/Membership Secretary (Adam Sinfield)
Treasurer (Mike Idziaszczyk)
Secretary (Maria Bartlett)*

8. Current Committee Members are (as well as the above mentioned)

Chris England
Alan Evans
Bill Harvey

Committee members staying on the committee. reinstated as a committee	Terry Kevin Kevin Chris	Lowman Luckett Mayo Mills	unanimously agreed with Richard Wilson Chris Mills has been removed and can be member if he requests.
Adam proposed Joe unanimously agreed and	Mike	Young	Woolley joining the committee which was secretary to inform Joe of the vote.

New Committee Members:-

9. <u>Members to raise points</u>	<i>Chris</i>	<i>England</i>	<u>to new committee</u>
	<i>Alan</i>	<i>Evans</i>	
CB – what actions are members?	<i>Bill</i>	<i>Harvey</i>	being undertaken to attract younger
	<i>Terry</i>	<i>Lowman</i>	
	<i>Kevin</i>	<i>Luckett</i>	
Chair – over the last two Covid. Younger members and ammunition and to they are at university – For very young children	<i>Kevin</i>	<i>Mayo</i>	years not much has been achieved due to
	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Wilson</i>	have difficulty being able to purchase guns
	<i>Joe</i>	<i>Woolley</i>	find a place to install their safe especially if
	<i>Mike</i>	<i>Young</i>	only when they graduate may this change.
			we have to have a parent with them.

AS - some of the new junior members have joined for stalking/practical shooting. We will get our MoD accreditation once our floor drainage has been sorted out. We need a Youth Officer who could hire places like the hall holding the AGM to run classes to young people to help them get into shooting.

Chair – to enable us to appoint a Youth Officer we need a small collective to discuss who would be best for the position etc. AS will send out email to see who is interested and/or have the skills to deal with this. Various RCO's have offered to help out with younger groups.

Simon Gibson – there is a Gwent Police Endowment Fund which we could apply for to help us encourage younger members and to run classes etc. MI to look into this.

10. Club Fees:-

Current Club fees are £75 per year; is there any proposal to increase this for 2023 or to leave it the same?

Our Club fees are very low and we have no need to raise them. Junior membership is £10 with no joining fee up to the age of 18/25 if in full time education.

Chair queried those in attendance if they wanted to raise fees and was met with silence!

AS raised covering costs of MoD shoots as Rogiet Moor requires lots of members to shoot while when using Sennybridge we break even/have an excess at times. AS queried whether we have a separate fee for MoD shoots or raise daily rates? Chair stated we monitor regularly to see if we are breaking even or not and charge more per shoot. RW informed us we are down £1,000 with MoD days – these shoots are now being subsidised whereas nobody else is. AS explained the fees from Landmarc and how long it is until we get the invoice (six months). Number of people booked on the shoot affects the number of lanes, range wardens etc. CB proposed adding £25 for MoD shoots onto annual fee and asked if we could get the price list from Landmarc. AS confirmed we have the price list but there are so many variables you never can tell what the price will be. AS suggested we query receiving the invoices earlier. Clinton Nicholls proposed contacting Clubs around to invite members to shoot at MoD shoots and this is open for all members to raise with any other Club they are a part of.

A.S – most equitable way is charging £25/£30 per shooter at MoD ranges. If the price goes up too much people will stop attending. AS is trying to get Sennybridge booked more than Rogiet Moor as cheaper.

CB as Competitions Officer queried setting up a Monmouthshire Shoot and if we would be able to have it at an MoD range considering how complicated it is to work out prices. A South Wales shoot would be held at MDRC. AS and CB to discuss this in more detail.

It was agreed that membership fees for 2023 would be:-

Adult membership -	£75.00 per year
Joining fee-	£30.00
Junior membership-	£10 no joining fee
Fees payable on/before-	31 December

Chair stated that in future late payers will be clamped down on and bank records will be accessed via online and AS will cross-reference and terminate membership if not paid. If they wish to re-join there will not be a fine but they will need to pay the joining fee. Members who have informed us they are struggling to pay before end of December will have their fee postponed for now and communications will continue over their situation until they are able to pay.

Tom Clegg raised changing name and stated we should have taken the bank's advice and changed account number. He stated that we should have made a clean break and changed so that direct debits can go to MDRC CIC Ltd. Tom raised BT and council tax being paid by direct debit and it would have been better to have changed bank account number. RW informed Tom we pay SWALEC and BT by direct debit. AS stated changing account would not have made any difference to payments be members.

Tom mentioned that he has been received calls from BT and again asked when his name would be taken off the account. Chair told Tom when BT contract is renewed in June then we can update address details and Tom should then be taken off of contact details and never receive another letter or telephone

call. Chair confirmed we will do everything we can to ensure Tom's details are removed. Richard Snelson should be able to access BT account and Chair will email him.

Tom then queried who are external auditor is and RW confirmed we do not have one. TC thought it was Dave Rowland but he only used to check the accounts.

11. Range & Club Developments:-

Range Rubbish Concerns

Chair confirmed you can no longer go to the tip – you have to live in Monmouth and book a visit. Chair has organised bins for brass/rubbish/paper etc. Chair requests all members who live in Monmouth take recycling with them. It would be appreciated if people would take rubbish with them as everyone contributes so equally responsible.

MI raised live rounds in paper waste – can all members triple check their ammunition boxes are empty before throwing them away.

Range Safety Concerns

The light bar in front of the targets has been shot due to people not zeroing their scopes. If doubts about members by RCO's make sure they start at 10 yards.

Some members are placing their guns on shooting point before being told to – RCO's need to tighten up on this.

AS to arrange RCO conference to remind everyone what their duties are.

Floor Drains

The floor drains are a current work in progress – there was a little difficulty as concrete was thicker/harder than expected. A new machine is now being used.

Cleaning of truss covering raised by member as going to need doing as covered in concrete dust. Secretary confirmed this will be completed at maintenance day.

Metal Shutters over Electric Boxes

Chair has someone coming to meet him to discuss shutters. We require quarter inch steel with wooden batten in front of it. Chair raised if there are any accidental discharges then the wood should suffice. We need to discuss at RCO conference whether to produce a checklist for RCO's or delegate for someone on the night to check. No excuse for side wood shooting – very dangerous.

Firing Point Lights

The lights are not up to standard. Chair has been in contact with an electrician who is a shooter who is going to come and look at lights and let us know prices and the best lights to use.

Digital - Sharepoint/Consolidation & Improvements

We have gone from a small to a big Club with lots of digital items. We need to organise all of this and Joe Woolley is dealing with this – this will enable us to have a sharepoint where documents are accessible by directors/RCO's/membership this will enable integration and reduce paper and documents in the yellow cabin and held on different laptops. A data breach test will be required once all sharepoint systems completed.

For continuity of communication it was agreed:-

Officers of Club = club email address for continuity.

Postal address = MDRC tunnel address.

Accounting/Banking Reforms.

Our account is with Lloyds Bank and Chair is not impressed. It has taken over eight months to add Secretary and Deputy Chair as signatories. Chair explained all the problems we have had/experienced with Lloyds over the last eight months.

Chair and Deputy Chair now have access to online banking and Secretary to set up access.

Cheques will be dispensed with where possible and all other payments will be completed electronically. RW stated it would be a bad idea to preclude any method of payment – especially from members.

12. Matters of Interest

Training for electric payment of ammunition will be brought up at the RCO conference.

AS to chase if there is any movement in the ability to cancel attendance on the booking system.

13 Date of next Committee meeting

Director meeting – 16 May

Committee meeting – To be agreed.

