



**30<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

This is a special news flash to provide you with the results of voting at the AGM.

## **2021 Annual General Meeting – results of the voting**

Thank you, everyone, who voted at our very first virtual AGM. Turnout was 46.5%.

Here is the result of the voting:

1. Previous (2020) minutes – accepted with 1 abstention (a new member)
2. Treasurer’s Report – accepted with 1 abstention (a member that raised a question)
3. Budget Proposal - accepted with 1 abstention (a new member)
4. Election of Officers:
  - 4.1. Secretary – accepted unanimously
  - 4.2. Merchandise Officer– accepted unanimously
  - 4.3. Valuation Officer – accepted unanimously
  - 4.4. Rally Co-ordinator – accepted unanimously
5. Events Proposal – accepted with 1 against (a member that made a comment)
6. Support for Charities – accepted unanimously
7. Cancer Care Javea award – accepted with 1 abstention (a member that raised a question)

We received a number of additional comments, most of which were praising the committee for keeping the club active in these difficult times. Thank you.

Other comments, which we promised we would publish and address, are below:

1. Re Accounts, I cannot understand why the accounts are not presented in the conventional manner - a profit & loss account and a balance sheet. As presently presented these two aspects of the club's finances are confused and uninformative.

*Committee response* – although this would be considered standard practice, it is not a requirement as stipulated in the Statutes. Article 17 - Responsibilities of The Management Committee, paragraph f, reads: ‘To present a financial statement (incomes and expenditures) for the current year for approval at the Annual General Meeting.’, which means that the Treasurer’s Report provided to members was sufficient, albeit that the words income and expenditure were not explicitly used. The Treasurer’s Report has followed the same format at previous AGMs but, bearing in mind that all other voters did not comment on the format, the member that raised this issue will be invited to suggest an alternative, clearer, simpler format that can be considered for the future.

2. Re Charity, I agree with the principle of supporting the charity, but we need to be careful how this is done. My suspicion is that the club has no mandate to use income for any reason other than the running of the club (The Articles need to be checked). Charitable funds need to be kept strictly separate from club funds.

*Committee response* – the Statutes do not specifically mention donations to charities or how the committee should dispose of funds received from members other than in Article 23 - Profit from Association Activities, where it states: 'Any benefits obtained from economic activities, including services rendered by The Association, will be used exclusively to support the goals of The Association.' Donating to a local charity is a declared aim of the club and is voted on by members at the AGMs. This is covered in the Internal Rules: Article 29 – Charities – 'The club will support a chosen charity throughout the year'. In previous years the donation to the charity for that year has been made up from money raised from charitable events, such as the Charity BBQ and specific raffles. Given that 2020 was a very different year and our ability to conduct charitable events was severely hampered, rather than not make a donation, the committee proposed an alternative way to fund Cancer Care Javea, and this has been accepted by the members at this AGM.

3. Budget Proposal - I note the provision of 1440 euros for official book keeper and tax declaration. This is a major expenditure for the club that to my knowledge has not been brought to the attention of the membership. Is it a mandatory requirement or just a choice by the committee?

*Committee response* – this is the first time we have advertised the fact that we have considered employing accountants to verify the club accounts. Employing an accountancy service is not requirement specified in the Statutes but there has been a feeling in the committee that it is the correct thing to do, following an incident many years ago and to give the membership assurances that their funds are being managed properly. To date we have received 2 quotations, both circa 100-120€ per month – hence the budget figure of 1440€. Yes, this does seem high (about 14€ per member) and we will seek further quotations before considering whether it is sensible to bring the proposal to the membership. The membership can decide on its worth.

4. Events - I STRONGLY disagree with any Ace Cafe or monthly rally events being organized until the current Covid regulations are relaxed. Several members have contacted me to say that they feel the club is making questionable decisions and taking unnecessary risks by doing so.

*Committee response* – the committee discuss the affect of the COVID-19 restrictions at every committee meeting and, often, in-between as well. The committee receive a number of comments from members, both for activities and against, and the member's attitude seems to depend upon their outlook on COVID-19, their love for a get-together, to look at beautiful cars and the fun of a rally. In every news flash, since the restrictions have become much tougher, the committee have made it very clear that it is up to each member whether they should take part or not. Members are under no obligation to take part. Both the Ace Cafés and rallies are being organised (or not) on a month-by-month basis, following the discussion of the prevalent COVID-19 restrictions, at the preceding committee meeting. The committee have decided that Ace Cafés will

go ahead, if they are legally allowed to, and on the assurance from El Campo that they can confirm their ability to accommodate us within the in-force rules. The committee have also decided that a rally will be organised without the meal at the end and that the instructions will be made available on the website. This means members can drive the rally (in their own car) without the need to mix with other members if they do not wish to. The club is not inciting members to meet up but are, instead, providing a rally that can be conducted safely and within the law, for those that wish to make use of it.

5. I would like to ask about the 2021 membership cards. Although I paid my annual subscription prior to the 13th December 2020 'Ace cafe' meeting, no card was available. I had the same problem last year whereby David Moran e-mailed me a covering letter to satisfy my Classic Car Insurance Company so would it be possible to e-mail the membership cards in the same way that the U3A are doing.

*Committee response* – the committee accept that the renewal process this year has been awkward for everyone, not least for the Membership Secretary and the Treasurer. We will be discussing a better way forward at our next committee meeting, which could well mean emailing all membership documentation. This is likely to involve issuing a temporary paper membership card. The plastic membership card can then be collected at an event, whenever possible. We will also look into providing a letter for insurance purposes. For your information, we have previously considered sending membership documentation by traditional post but this requires each member's home address to be accurate on our files and we know that a lot of them are not as there has, previously, been no particular requirement for a member to update us when they move home.

Thank you for reading this news flash and I hope you found it useful. If you have any comments you can email me using [peter.alt@marinaaltacc.com](mailto:peter.alt@marinaaltacc.com).

I hope to see you soon.

*Peter Alt*

President