

West Midlands 4x4 Response AGM

Held at 1200hrs Sunday 24th September 2023 at Rugeley Rifle Club, Wharf Road, Rugeley

Present: S Ikins, D Miller, D Glover, K Scrivens, L Scrivens, D Forster, S Skett, D Haigh, N Haigh, K Aubrey, T Prior, J Francis, D Ellett, P Ingram, D Gower, D Stebbings, D Griffiths, P Collins, M Harper, M Hemming, T Glover, D Lees, J Lees, S Gomm, J Dye, D Dye, E Hughes, G Hughes, L Fisher, L Doyle, S Bagley, P Greenaway + partner, C Bagley + partner, L Whitehouse, J Fisher, T Childes, J Lewis

Meeting commenced at 1216 hours with D Glover welcoming members and giving a safety brief.

Full Accounts could not be produced at the AGM, it was explained that this was due to a previous Trustee not being forthcoming with information enabling full access to the likes of Paypal and Quickbooks. The members told the current Trustees that it was not acceptable and there was general discontent about the situation. At this point D Glover suggested the members put a vote of no confidence in and the 2 Trustees would stand down immediately. This was not carried, D Gower asked who was Chairing the meeting, S Gomm was nominated.

It was explained that Kim Scrivens was in place to help with this and was in the process of going through the accounts to enable a full and complete version to be produced.

It was asked if this was a “blame Miles” meeting to which was answered NO. However there were some issues that could not be answered due to that persons absence. Having had a personal account linked with the Charitys account on PayPal was the biggest headache. It was suggested by members that an offence of fraud may have occurred, however the Trustees told them that if that was the case then the Police would be contacted to investigate. At this time KS is still going through he accounts to see if any discrepancies are found. The discussion continued for some time, a provisional date of 19th November was given to produce the accounts.

As of September the account stood at £27859.

Someone was obviously leaking details of the meeting to Miles Trowmans, as he sent a text message to some of the members present, DG stopped the meeting and told the membership to stop this or the meeting would be abandoned, if MT could not be bothered to turn up, he had no right to hear it covertly.

The wrong accounts were submitted last year and MT was asked to change them but failed to do so.

There is now a purchase order system in place all t ogo via Accounts email address. Costs of SIM cards have also been drastically reduced. The conversation regarding accounts continued for some time before being concluded.

Voting for new Trustee then took place with members present voting, email and proxy votes also being counted during a comfort break.

Votes as follows: Steve Bagley 12, Tom Prior 13 Lee Scrivens 16. Counted by D Glover, S Gomm and witnessed by D Dye.

On resuming Lee Scrivens addressed the members, laying out his views. Kim Scrivens spoke about the accounts explaining the problems she is encountering. Any further spending will be brought before members in future.

AOB

Food and drink being at events on the stand was covered, basically no food or hot drinks will be allowed on the stand due to Health and Safety issues and insurance liabilities. Trustees and leadership to review

There will be a refresh of Leadersip positions/ roles.

KA asked what do the members get for the £30 fee? Should be able to get DBS, radios and some kit, Leadership reviewing this

D Gower asked if MOU's were up to date, LS answered that he his looking at them including a new call out phone number instead of premium rate number or personal number and email that has recently been given out. SB stated there was a 033 number which is free that was there for use.

S Bagley asked for a review on the £30 fee as most others only charge £15. Propoed S Bagley seconded D Gower

SB also stated that at last AGM Leadership should be voted in by members, S Gomm stated constitution allowed Trustees to appoint Leadership Team.

Tim Childes explained parts of the constitution to the meeting.

A request was put out for volunteers to join the Leadership groups to assist as there are jobs that need people to assist with. Peter Greenway commented on whether members knew what was involved on the roles. Leadership to take on board

Jamie Francis asked if uniform tops were being looked at as the current ones are too hot in the summer. Uniform is being looked at and there will be a list of items in the form of an online shop hopefully within 4 weeks.

Lewis Fisher propped for reintroduction of training lead seconded D Dye

D Dye asked if Lee Scrivens should be replaced in his Comms role lead - Leadership to look at.

TC Asked as Trustees are standing back should there be an Ops Manager / Intermediary to liaise between the Leadership and trustees, as it needs a link between them. Proprsed TC seconded D Gower - Trustees to review and report back to members on result

The Leadership team will be reviewed to better utilise peoples strengths

PG suggested Trustees have a monthly meeting

D Gower suggested more general meetings to catch up, even on a Teams platform. Agreed that a Teams meeting would be done in 8 weeks for updates to members. Meeting was told that the quarterly meetings were not being held due to places charging stupid amounts for use of meeting rooms

Telegram Group Chat was mentioned and members asked to use it properly, no swearing etc and to respect each other. Suggested to give 1 warning then remove person if they continue as opposed to slowing it down.

TC stated he was at the emergency Services Show and had met up with the national chairperson of Search and Rescue, who had similar issues to the group. We have the makings of a wonderful group, so lets keep it going.

DF announced the winner of the recent photo competition, well done to Lewis Fisher for his photo of his Defender in the snow.

LS stated he had been in contact with BTP who want to get an MOU with us, and Support Staffordshire was also mentioned, with Leadership looking at opportunities with them.

Meeting was closed at 1423 hours