



MINUTES

Essex Land Rover Club Ltd - AGM

June 2026

Location: Writtle Sports & Social Club

Date: Saturday 27th June 2026 *Time:* 6.00pm

1. Attendees: 23 members & Committee (except KR, AK).

2. Apologies of absence: Karl Reilly; Pat & Geoff Bunkle; Richard Garwood; Ian Finch.

3. Accept the Minutes of 2025 AGM: Approved

4. Matters arising of previous meeting:

- a) Previous charity donations made in 5 years: £500, £300, Platinum bricks; total £2,000.
- b) Query of IT expenses: new card printer & ribbon, cards, ink.

5. Reports from outgoing Committee: Each report can be found below; except: Laning.

6. Election of New Committee:

- a) No other members put their name forward to join the Committee.
- b) All existing Committee members volunteered to continue in their role.

- **Chairman** – Karl Reilly
- **Vice-Chairman** – Ralph Coulson
- **Secretary** – John Musham
- **Treasurer** – John Musham & Ralph Coulson
- **Membership Secretary** – Ralph Coulson
- **Exploits Editor** – Sue Coulson
- **Competition Secretary** – Ian Barton
- **4x4 Response** – Steve Wood / George Petty
- **Charity Event Support** – Steve Wood / George Petty
- **Rights of Way / Laning Officer** – Alistair King
- **Social Media / Webmaster** – Sue / Ralph Coulson & assisted by others. [* see James Day]
- **Shows & Displays** – Ethan Musham

c) **Safeguarding Officer** – to be voted in by the New Committee

- Previously Steve Wood (to be voted in by Committee)

d) **Items raised by attendees to the Committee** (*to be picked up at the next Committee Meeting*)

- If members book in, the Committee will arrange a **Gymkhana**, at the Homestead Caravan site. SC/RC
- **New Sites query** – why haven't the Committee sort new sites? Contacts are required, if members can assist. Suggested Shows locations. Some sites charge a lot of money, Cliff suggested 'crowd funding from members – the club does have funds however members do need to book in. James Day suggested Young Farmers. Try Tendering Showground [Ethan]. Try Barleylands again. IB, EM,
- **Shows query** – although good attendance – more support from members, i.e. from the regular trailers or green laners. Issue recently booking in as it was only found in Calendar section (The Lawns was a late decision). RC
- **New Shows request** – Ethan has organised several shows over the last year, if members can forward other ones they would like to attend as a ELRC group – please let Ethan know. Members
- **Committee members not responding** – when an enquiry is made, John forwards to Committee, however a response to the originator is not always made and if a response is made, John is not always copied in [Alistair / Ethan / Ian to note]. Committee AK/EM/IB
- **Greenlaning** – the Committee attendees received several criticisms about communication and of the organising of events; attendees believed there is a need/requirement for ELRC to run events [rival Essex Greenlaning had 3 groups of 7 last week]. ELRC will follow the Glass rules. Support & leaders is a requirement – Ian B, Ian Finch, Terry have said they could lead however did not want to be the Laning Officer. Members suggested setting up WhatsApp group specifically for this, it can have sub-headings, announcement's, what's on etc AK

- **Accessing attendees list** – this is different on the new website to the old site; suggestion to make it clearer, or link from signing in form to the appropriate section [see “Event Entries]. RC
- **New Website** – Cliff thanked Ralph for working tirelessly behind the scenes on the new greatly improved site – which was easier to navigate and have members areas to enter their details. Ralph noted that he was his time paid a sum to revamp the site (discounted for the club). RC Note
- **New Website Login Request** - ALL Lead Members received an email inviting them to login and enter any relevant details – only a small fraction of members have taken up that offer. Members
- **New Website AGM minutes, John to upload to the site for members to view.** JM
- **Events** – SC/RC is trying to organise a “Classic” Car Run and ‘Tea on the Tailgate’ meet at the Zero2 Bus Museum, possibly Saturday 1st August – if members will attend. RC/SC
- **Suggestion Geo Tag tour / Classic Car Run / Green Laning** – more information required. Committee

7. Nomination of the club charity for the following year.

- Essex & Herts Air Ambulance. [history: ELRC called them out twice (although only once did the helicopter actually come out), this saved the life of one of the members.]

8. Annual Awards

- National Trophies – ALRC: ELRC awards were discussed, including Ralph who showed his award.
- Spirit of the Club - Matt Wright [attending multiple events and still supporting the club whilst recovering from a heart operation].
- Presidents Rose Bowl - Day Family [continued support of the club, introducing new members].
- Marshall – Ralph [hotly contested].
- John Beadle Trophy - Joe Bushell [at The Nationals, the Marshall miss scored him, Joe raised this with the CoC meaning he lost first in class; ELRC awarded Joe this Trophy in recognition of a worthy winner and spirit of the club].
- Outstanding Contribution to the Club- not being issued this year.
- Geoff Bunkle Family Award -Eddie & George Hendry [both now attending events and supporting & promoting the club – willing to get stuck in and help the community].
- Day into Night – RTV – Tim Wyman.
- Day into Night – TYRO – Dave Wood.
- Junior Driver – James Day [see Homestead league table].
- Homestead – Ian Finch [Overall Winner - see Homestead league table].
- TYRO – Ian Finch [see Homestead league table].
- SID Trophy – was awarded.

9. Raffle: in aid of the club’s chosen charity: E&HAA. £60 raised

10. Any Other Business.

- *James Day kindly offered to assist as Social Secretary with his friends on behalf of the Club. This was welcomed by all attendees. However, as he and his friends are 16, an adult (parent) will need to attend and assist to meet safeguarding rules.
- Set of 90/Discovery 1 Brake pads donated: Sue to sell via the website – all proceeds to E&HAA.
- Trevor still has an old Club Gazebo, arrangements to be made to store it at Roland place (in the trailer) and to make use of it.
- Cliff thanked the hard-working Committee volunteers who run the club on behalf of the club members.
- Trevor has ‘the Wooden Spoon’ trophy that he would like to see awarded at the next AGM, *more about this and potential nominations required for next year!*

Meeting closed at 8:38pm (the AGM included a break for supper funded by ELRC funds).

REPORTS

a) Chairman's Report [Karl]

- Firstly, apologies for not being at the AGM in person (I am at another motoring event).
- I was persuaded to return as Chairman last September after the club found itself without anyone willing to take on the role. Having previously done a 25 year, or so, stint on the committee I want to see the club continue and continue to be successful.
- I haven't been as active in the role recently I would like to have been for no reason other than there are not enough weekends in the year to fit everything in. If that doesn't work for the club, then I'm more than willing to step aside.
- Assuming I get re-elected, over the coming year I want to find ways to engage more of the membership in more activities that the club hosts. If anyone has any good ideas, then please do get in touch.
- I'll wrap this very brief report to offer thanks to, and highlight all the work of, the rest of the committee. Volunteers they are all and do all that they do for the benefit of you, the members. Please join me in thanking them all.

b) Secretary's Report [John]

- The club goes from strength to strength, steady stream of new members trying out the different aspects of the club, whilst long standing members trying out parts, they don't always take part in. The summer and winter Members Days continue to prove popular, although we would love to see even more members taking part. Numbers taking part in RTV and green laning have sadly dropped off a little, whilst shows, 4x4 response and TYRO trialling continues to prove popular with regular attendees.
- As Secretary, I receive and respond to all (genuine) enquiries that come through the website, general enquiries, motoring issues, new member enquiries and questions from the members. There have been a couple of instances where an enquiry has led to new membership; likewise similar occurrences at shows or 4x4 members becoming ELRC members.
- As Secretary (and Treasurer) I continue to carry out secretary functions in running ELRC Ltd, with Insurance / registrations / confirmations / annual accounts, etc. I also attend the odd ALRC and MSUK meetings, on behalf of the club; our webmaster Ralph is also on the ALRC committee as webmaster having updated their website first.
- Ralph and I continue to share the role as Treasurer, managing the club's finances via the ZOHO accounting package. We met earlier in the year to review the accounts, ready to present to HMRC. ELRC Accounts now run smoothly via ZOHO, a few of the committee met a couple of times to review and will be checked before presenting to HMRC. I continue to manage the two company Bank Accounts, whilst Ralph manages the PayPal Accounts.
- The Accounts remain fairly steady now, with a slight downward trend; through frugal accounting by past Committees, we continue to maintain a reserve that we occasionally dip into for the sole use of its members. Our aim as always, has been to support the clubs' members in the activities we as a club do, and where possible, those activities being self-

supporting financially. Of course, more members regularly taking part in the various events, ensures we cover our cost; unfortunately, we have had to cancel some events due to a poor take up, this is really a last resort decision.

- At the AGM where I will be happy to answer any related Club or financial issues that you may have. I will be happy to continue as Secretary (and joint Treasurer) for our Club if the members will allow, working with all Committee members who work tirelessly behind the scenes for you its members, and have fun driving (and repairing) our Land Rovers. *John Musham*

c) **Treasurer [JM / RC]**

- The 2025 Annual Accounts are finalised and available to view at the AGM.
- At the last AGM, the fees for trialling were increased. We previously made a loss of just under £1,000 for the previous couple of years and this has now shown signs of improving. Cancelling trials at the last minute due to low numbers has not helped our cashflow. (We still have land fees to pay).
- This last 12 months, we have continued to make a loss, with several RTV events being cancelled. This means that at the present time we are running at a £400 loss. Hopefully, numbers will pick up, and with the 2 driving days, (which usually make a very small profit), we can improve the outlook.
- We will continue to keep a close watch on this, but it is the recommendation of the joint Treasurers that trialling fees remain at the present rate. If we can encourage more members to participate then we can get closer to breaking even, which is our goal.
- Membership Fees are not required to increase this year as we are covering the costs of all associated expenses, including Exploits. Even with the slight dip in Membership this is not seen as a major concern at this stage.

Next Year

I am happy to stand in all of the roles I hold, should the Membership allow.

(Vice-Chairman, Membership Secretary, Webmaster and Joint Treasurer.

Ralph Coulson 25th June 2026

d) **Membership Secretary [Ralph]**

- Membership figures as of 25th June 2026 are as follows: -.

<i>Member Type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Last AGM</i>
INDIVIDUAL	85	77
FAMILY	170	190
Lead	62	68
Partner/Spouse	62	65
Additional	14	13
Junior	32	44
FOC	6	7
4x4 RESPONSE	17	19
	278	293
GRACE	3	2
QUERY	0	0

- The Membership numbers have reduced a little more this year. There has been an increase in individual members, partially due to some members changing from Family to

Individual Membership. Other members have not renewed due to moving away from Essex or no longer having a Land Rover.

- There have been several renewal notices which have not had a reply, so no reason is known for not renewing. Each membership gets 2 email notifications a month apart, and often this is followed up with a text message reminding them to check their email for renewal instructions. If all of these are ignored, the Member is deleted to comply with GDPR.
- Almost half of the membership are due to renew their membership at the end of July. Through the new website, they should all receive notices that their membership is expiring and an invite to renew.
- Whilst any reduction in membership numbers is a concern, it would appear that we are not losing members at the same rate as many Land Rover clubs.

e) **Webmaster [Ralph]**

- The website has had a complete re-vamp in the last month. Now that members and committee have used it for a while, a few teething issues are being ironed out. Overall, the feedback has been very positive. We need all members to login and set up their profiles so that they can enter events easily.
- The MailPoet Newsletters have now been split into 3 groups. These are General News posts to the public and subscribers, Member News which goes to ELRC Individual and Family Lead Members, and 4x4 Response posts going to all those with an ES number, both 4x4 Response Only members and ELRC Members who have signed up for 4x4 Response.
- The reading rate for these newsletters is very good across the range, with at least 50% being opened across the 3 groups. (Higher for 4x4 Response).
- Behind the scenes, the Committee have logins to a closed area of the website which contains forms and other essential information. This allows them to add content to the site in a simplified manner, and I am pleased to say that several of the committee are now interacting with and using the site on a regular basis. However, we do need all Committee members to embrace this system if Members are to be kept informed and encouraged to participate.

f) **Exploits Editor [Sue]**

- Here are some interesting facts from the past 3 years.
- As ever, Exploits is only as good as the content I get; so, if you have any images, a funny story about your Land Rover or anything else that would work well in the magazine, please do send it in.
- Advertising – Please support our advertising as they are sponsoring the club. We have been pleased to welcome Mansfield 4x4 as a new sponsor this year.

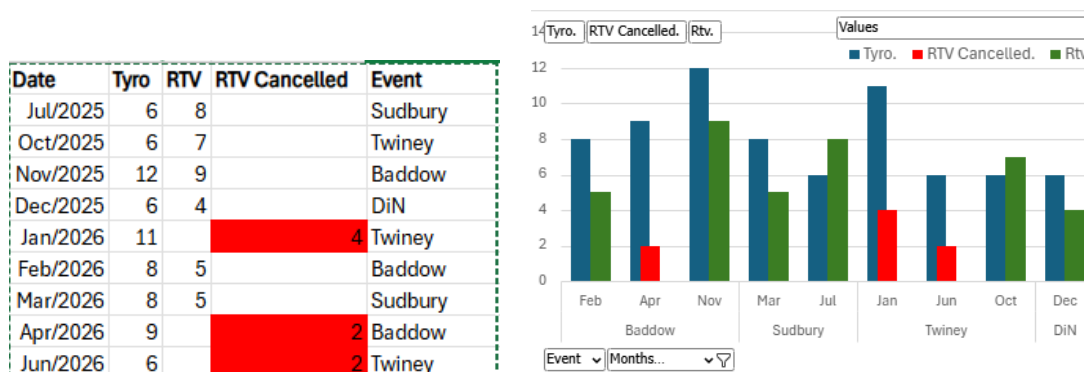
	2023/24		2024/25		2025/26	
Edition	Copies posted	No of pages	Copies posted	No of pages	Copies posted	No of pages
Aug/Sept	164	40	165	24	167	36
Oct/Nov	157	24	156	32	168	20
Dec/Jan	159	24	158	44	162	32
Feb/Mar	162	24	158	24	177	20
Apr/May	168	28	159	32	156	28
Jun/July	167	28	161	32	160	32
Total	977	168	957	188	990	168

g) **Social [Vacant – Sue has reported]**

- The Road Runs are as much about a social event as they are about driving. Ralph and I are happy to continue arranging these as long as there is a demand.
- I am happy to stand again [Editor].

h) **Comp Sec report [Ian]**

- Ian has included the following for his report:



i) **.4x4 Response & Charity Support [Steve / George]**

- Well, it's been a year since myself and George took over from Nigel and a busy year it's been! We made a number of changes to organisational processes; this includes our messaging system we use to text out to Responders as the previous one had been discontinued. This has been used a number of times since we set it up and works efficiently at a reasonable cost. We also changed the control mobile phone to a dedicated VoIP phone number which will divert between controllers to support us in responding to requests from partner agencies much more quickly.
- The team have attended a number of events over the last year including our usual Cancer Research Race for Life events, charity cycle rides, Chelmsford Marathon, Colchester Half Marathon providing support and marshallng; we also provided traction assist over a number of weekends at Meadowcroft Garden Centre and at Braxted Park for a Christmas Fayre. This kept the team busy as although we didn't have any call outs over the winter period, we did have a few periods where the team went to 'Standby' due to adverse weather.
- We have been working closely with the Emergency Planning team at Essex County Council over the last few months to support a review of their 4x4 Capability document

which is designed to provide agencies with access to 4x4 support should it be needed. We were heavily involved in the review of this, and we are hoping it will improve access to us by these agencies when our support is needed. Looking forward - we also have a meeting planned with the NHS and the local Integrated Care Board to see how we can assist them.

- Also keeping the team busy has been a number of training sessions - we held an evening earlier in the year where we covered topics such as water safety awareness and fire safety. We then had a session on Electric Vehicle awareness run by a qualified trainer, giving the team awareness around EVs and safety when working with them.
- I've attended a number of meetings throughout the year with the National 4x4 Response team; one of which was very worthwhile as it allowed us to sign up to a DBS provider allowing us an easy way of providing our team with Enhanced DBS checks at minimal cost.
- As you may be aware already, following a proposal by ourselves to the committee, we are in the process of repurposing one of the club's trailers. The 'competition trailer' as it's commonly known has been unused for a number of years, so we plan to refit and rebrand it into an 'Operational Support Unit' for 4x4 Response. This will allow it to be used to carry equipment, be used as a command unit and for welfare purposes for the team. We've slowly been clearing out some old equipment that is no longer of any use to the club; the next steps will be to fully service the trailer and affect any repairs, get it wrapped and rebranded, then fit it out internally with appropriate desk and storage space along with lighting and electrics.
- I am happy to stand again for 4x4 Response.

j) Shows & Displays [Ethan]

- We have had a great year for the club, all shows have been well attended by both 4x4 Response and ELRC. I have tried to get to new shows in order to diversify the public engagement of the clubs and this has proven to be very successful with new members joining after the shows.
- Countess of Warwick show was a great success, my first time at the show but it was a great weekend. Supported massively by club members, it turned out to be an enormous success. I need to have some more notes ready for the arena talk, which in my defense I didn't know about, but all in all a great country show. The organisers were very happy for us to go again, and I can confirm that is happening.
- Stonham Barns: a fantastic Land Rover meet, not particularly a show but still a great turnout of so many cars. Supported very well by club members and if it does go ahead again then I will be shire to get the club to go again. Suffolk 4x4 is very keen for us to have a live display so I will look at getting a plan together for this to happen.
- The Manor Classic Car meet was a breakfast/lunch meet of all different types of cars. This is what I quite like doing not just with big blue but it's a fantastic way to show off your own pride and joy and get talking with like-minded enthusiasts. A good way to start shows season. 5 cars from the club turned up including a member who saw us at Countess of Warwick who even bought a car and is now part of the club.

- The Lawn Classic Car Show was a new one for the club but a show to go back to. It was absolutely packed with every single different car make and model. It was a very busy show with a lot of footfalls even though the sun was beating down on us. Unfortunately, Motorfest in Chelmsford is no more but this is without a doubt a better alternative. 10 cars from the clubs came and there was a brilliant show spot.
- Looking forward I have now confirmed spaces at 5 Parishes County Show and Countess of Warwick. Both are country shows which the club was invited to by the organisers. I have requested that we are well within the show grounds on 5 Parishes as I know from previous years this has not been the case. In September I would like to go to Amberley Motor Museum to see that they are Land Rover Day. The museum is a massive outdoor museum with trams, buses, trains, and a whole host of other vintage exhibits. This is not a show, nor do I think the club will have a stand but I'm hoping that if we all go as one convoy, we will all be together. If Stonham Barns take place then I will certainly get a spot in the show but, they have gone into liquidation? I would love to go to the more national shows with the club but certainly my timings have not been there, but I am more than happy to organise the likes of Billing or New Hampton if people would like to go. Any other suggestions will be more than welcome.
- I am happy to stand again.

k) Safeguarding Officer [Steve]

- No incidents to report within the club. All policies have been updated, and I have now written a separate policy for 4x4 Response which is more specific to those activities.
- I continue to attend Motorsport UK meetings with other Club Safeguarding Officers. I am happy to remain as the club's Safeguarding Officer.

l) Laning & Rights of Way [Alistair]

- *Report received after the AGM, and therefore not discussed at the meeting:*
- Over the last year we have continued to run laning events for members, and these remain popular when they are put on.
- The main challenge continues to be finding enough leaders to run groups. This limits the number of places we can offer on each event and also makes it harder to increase the frequency of trips.
- Anyone who is interested in helping lead runs, or even learning what is involved, would be very welcome to get in touch.
- We will continue to organise laning events where possible and try to offer a good mix of routes for members.
- Alistair