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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS

20th Jan 2015

Held at the Lion and Lamb, Great Canfield

The meeting commenced at 20.25

Attendance

Members

18 were present representing 13 clubs as follows

Stanley Graham	Vice Chairman /Wickford AC
Stuart Kingham	Treasurer / Blue Light ORC
John White	Autocross Coordinator/ Green Belt MC
Paul Barrett	Rallies Coordinator / Chelmsford MC
Chris Deal	Comps Sec/ Green Belt MC
Tony Clements	MSA Reg.Cttee. Rep.
Sarah White	HCAC Co-ordinator/ Green Belt MC
Alan Barnard	West Essex MC
Melanie Camp	Green Belt MC
Keith Pettitt	West Suffolk MC
Tony Burchnall	Eastern Counties Motor Club
Mark Banham	Kings Lynn & DMC
Christine Sharp	Borough19
John Sharp	Borough 19
Mike Biss	CSMA
Tony Michael	Chelmsford MC
Pete Walters	Herts County &AC
Graham Scarborough	Herts County &AC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary

Guests

Suze Endean	RDO - Go Motorsport South East
Matt Endean	MSA Rallies/ Auto-Rally Cross Committee

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Apologies

Apologies were received from Gary Nicholls (Chairman) , Clive Grounds (Training - CambridgeCC), Loyd Gerken (Technical), Noreen Ward (BARC – Midlands), Tony Hewitt (Rally Championship - Kings Lynn & District MC), Martin Newson (SCCoN), Geoff Hodge (Anglia Motor Sport Club)

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 20th Oct 2014 were reviewed and unanimously agreed having been proposed by Chelmsford MC (Paul Barrett) and seconded by Green Belt (John White). There were no matters directly arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

Chairman's Report

There was no additional Chairman's report further to that provided at the AGM held immediately prior to this meeting

Treasurers Report

As previously reported at the AGM Association funds currently stand at £9031. 20 clubs had renewed membership for 2015 at this time although it is expected that all 2014 clubs wish to remain members and will do so. Those clubs that had not as yet renewed for 2015 were requested to do so as soon as practical..

Secretary's report

The Certificate of Registration for 2015 had been received from the MSA along with a number of items of general correspondence. Minutes of their meetings have been received from the following associations WAMC, ASWMC, ANICC and ASEMC.

Membership applications

Applications to join were presented on behalf of Falcon MC and Farnborough and District MC. It was unanimously agreed that they would be both be accepted and they should be notified accordingly.

General correspondence

The monthly newsletter and fixtures list from the Eastern Centre ACU had been received.

2015 Meetings

The draft calendar of delegates meetings previously circulated has been adopted with one change. The Exec meeting previously planned for the 7th April has been moved to the 14th April in order to avoid the week immediately after Easter Monday.

Autocross Report

It was reported that the application for the 2105 Championship Permit is in progress. 8 rounds are included although confirmation of a venue for two of the rounds is urgently required. As in previous years the championship is expected to be self-funding

Stage Rally Championship

The 2014 series was reported as having been completed successfully with Robert Dillon and Peter Weston taking the overall titles for Driver and Co driver.

35 competitors had been registered for the championship
The presentation of awards is planned for the 19th Feb. along with the AMSC and CMC awards at the Chelmsford MC awards night at the General's Arms, Little Baddow.
A joint championship with the ASEMC is being run in 2015 with the first round having already been held on the 18th Jan at Wethersfield. Sponsorship is being provided by Jelf Motorsport.com.
There are 9 scheduled rounds with 24 competitors having already registered.
Kings Lynn and DMC confirmed that as a consequence of a date clash with another event the Lynn Stages date has now been moved to the 1st Nov.

MSA Rallies Committee

Matt Endean provided an overview of a number of current topics.
The recommendations from the review in Scotland, published in Jan. are being considered by the MSA. As the governing body for the UK the MSA has to consider these in the wider context of motor sport throughout the UK.
A concept for a Lo Cost Motor sport "formula" is being worked on with an objective of containing costs while improving the progression path for competitors.

In answer to a query on the status of the review on competition vehicle "tracking" it was indicated that there were a small number of submissions that still needed to be considered. The need to focus on the work required to progress the Closed Roads initiative had resulted in some changes in short term priorities impacting this topic.

A discussion was held as a result of a query from the meeting in respect of a concern that the popularity of Targa rallies may lead to more expensive vehicles progressively becoming the norm for these events and impacting the attraction to competitors as a lower cost form of motor sport. It was agreed that the approach which allows vehicles to compete successfully without expensive modifications should be maintained.

Sprint Championship

The Sprint Championship Permit application has been submitted to the MSA. The championship will consist of 20 rounds, with the best 10 results to count.

Bill Mc Kenna – Essex Extreme Ltd. has agreed to sponsor the Championship for 2015 /16 and 17 enabling it to be forecast to remain self-funding.

Sprint Venues

Updates were provided with regard to the work that has been done by clubs to safeguard availability of certain venues.

North Weald and Debden are specific examples where Association clubs talking to and working with land owners and local residents have been successful in defusing risks to availability to the point that ongoing availability is now anticipated for a number of years. Borough 19 , Herts Aero and all those involved were thanked for their efforts.

The surface at some venues is starting to become worn and repairs required in selected areas. The possibility of funding support was discussed and is to be investigated.

Regional Committee

As there has been no Regional Committee meeting since the last AEMC meeting there was no new items to report.

An enquiry was raised as to whether any clubs had issues that they would like to have taken forward to the next Regional meeting. No points were highlighted at the time.

RDO / Go Motorsport

A general update on Go Motorsport activity was provided by Suze Endean including specific reference to the following items:-

MSA Company Report 2014

The GML!E event is featured in two places within the report by the use of photographs taken at the event underlining the significance and success of the event.

Young drivers.

An approach has been made to Go Motorsport by authorities in Essex to help with an initiative to work with young drivers in order to channel their energy and enthusiasm into safe, responsible but still enjoyable activities. The discussion is at early stages but looking very promising. Support from Association clubs is likely to be required

Association Visibility/Image

The need to continue the evolution of the association's media links and approach still exists. This to be a topic at the next Exec. meeting.

It was also indicated that the question of the role and activities of regional associations within the structure of motor sport is an ongoing discussion. Associations are seen as having a key opportunity to influence direction and progress going forward but it is important that they align and integrate with other activities and initiatives.

Training

Clive Grounds had provided a report indicating that all arrangements for the Training Day on the 7th Feb at Cambridge are in place.

There are 65 registered applicants and the venue and all presenters are confirmed.

Joining instructions will be circulated within the next few days.

“Most importantly the fish and chips lunch is confirmed”.

Go Motorsport Live! East

The account for the event has now been finalised which shows a nett cost to the association of £311.14.

An application for development support was made to the MSA and a grant was authorised, enabling the very low overall cost to the association.

Thanks were offered to the MSA for this support.

The team has held a debrief meeting and a statement of findings has been created.

A future event is being considered for 2016. General reaction from contributors in 2014 has been very positive

It has been identified that planning for such an event would need to be commenced mid 2015 .

This will be brought to the next delegates meeting for consideration.

Association Website

A new website has been launched for the association which expands the previous functionality including the use of forum(s) . Initial reaction has been very positive and a vote of thanks was recorded to Tony Michael for the significant work he has put in to develop it.

Clubs are urged to encourage their members to look at the site, register and start to use the facilities available.

Association Rally time keepers Register

The register is being refreshed to ensure that it is current. If any clubs wish to propose any of their members for inclusion they should contact the secretary with a brief CV of the candidate.

2015 Events

The calendar of events for 2015 has been collated and published. Clubs are urged to inform the secretary of any changes when known so that it can be maintained as an accurate source of information on forthcoming events throughout the year.

Any Other Business

Following on from the contact made by the GMLIE team an approach has been received from the Competition Chairman of the ACU Eastern Centre. The suggestion is to hold exploratory discussions with the association to determine if there are any areas of joint interest where collective actions, alignment of activities or any other initiatives would be beneficial.

It was unanimously agreed that this was a positive opportunity and should be pursued as there are potentially a number of areas where cooperation could result in significant benefits.

Close and Next Meeting

The Chairman thanked the attendees and informed the meeting as follows.

The next Delegates meeting will be on the **28th April 2015 at the Lion and Lamb,**
Great Canfield, CM6 1SR

The meeting closed at 21.35