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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS  
28<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Held at the Lion and Lamb, Little Canfield**

The meeting commenced at 20.46hrs

**Attendance**

**Members**

15 were present representing 11 clubs as follows

Gary Nichols	Chairman /Chelmsford MC
Stanley Graham	Vice Chairman / Wickford AC
Stuart Kingham	Treasurer / Wickford AC
Alan Barnard	West Essex MC
Mike Biss	Boundless by CSMA
Tony Clements	Reg.Cttee. Rep./Chelmsford MC
Chris Deal	Green Belt MC
Matt Endean	MSA Cttees / CMC
Clive Grounds	Training / Cambridge CC
Tony Michael	Comp Sec./Web Site /Chelmsford MC
Pete Richards	Peterborough MC
John Sharp	Borough 19
Allan Smith	Wickford AC
Pete Walters	Herts County A & AC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary /Anglia Motor Sport Club/ West Suffolk MC

**Welcome**

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

**Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mark Banham (Kings Lynn and DMC), Paul Barrett (Rally Chshp. and Chelmsford MC), John Boot (West Suffolk MC), Tony Burchnall (Eastern Counties MC), Neil McDonald (BWW Car Club), Rod McKenna (Club Rally Sport West), Simon Taylor (Farnborough MC)

**Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 15th Jan 2109 were reviewed and unanimously agreed to be a true representation of the meeting. The adoption of the minutes was proposed by Wickford AC (Stanley Graham) and seconded by Chelmsford MC (Matt Endean)

**Matters arising**

The request for grant support from Chelmsford MC, previously minuted as having been received at the last meeting, was discussed.

The review panel reported back that the claim for support in meeting the costs of essential road repairs at Wethersfield met the principal criteria of the scheme and was of benefit to a wide section of clubs in the region. It was therefore being recommended that a maximum payment should be granted.

The meeting unanimously agreed. A payment of £500 to be arranged

## **Chairman's Report**

The chairman indicated that he didn't have any additional topics to raise beyond the report to the AGM other than to comment that there is a potential change to the way that motor sport in the region will be represented with the governing body.

After general discussion it was unanimously agreed that the relationship between clubs (and therefore club members) and Motorsport UK is extremely important and therefore it was considered critical that clubs have clarity on proposals.

This was based on a view that the region generally needs to contribute to creating a process and governance model that will successfully support the evolution of motor sport within the clubs and the region. Failure to achieve this it was thought could result in clubs seeking alternative ways of operating.

## **Treasurers Report**

The treasurer reported that the account currently stands at £9350. (Note this is prior to the agreed grant payment).

The rally marshals training day expenses have been paid from the account whereas recovery through grant support is still in progress. This accounts for the reduction in the account since the last report.

Clubs that have not yet renewed membership for 2019 are urged to do so as soon as possible. Reminders are being issued.

There have been no notifications from clubs indicating that they do not wish to renew.

## **Secretary's Report**

### **Membership**

Applications for membership have been received from Eastwood and District Motor Club and Lotus Motor Club. Following consideration by the meeting it was unanimously agreed that both applications should be accepted. Both clubs to be notified accordingly.

### **Correspondence**

Copies of Motorsport UK messages and minutes and notices from other associations have been received.

Specifically invitations to enter teams in the inter association Car trial (23<sup>rd</sup> June) and Autosolo (8<sup>th</sup> June) have been received. These have been circulated to member clubs to determine interest in entering teams.

## **Reports**

### **Stage Rally Championship**

No specific report had been received for the meeting.

Update reports have been circulated following each round providing information

Indications are that the championship is progressing successfully.

### **Sprint Championship**

The championship has commenced with 2 rounds having been completed to date. There are 27 registered competitors at this time. It is planned that after the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> event a further circular will be sent out promoting the championship.

In response to a query it was stated that entry numbers at events are generally holding to similar levels to 2018 although it was too early to determine whether the change to the regulations is succeeding in attracting additional competitors

## **Regional Committee**

At the Feb. meeting the Chief Executive Hugh Chambers introduced himself and provided information on his background in motor sport and sport management in other areas. He outlined the current initiatives and imperatives for the organisation in moving forward. These include

Evolving from being a traditional organisation which has been very good at regulating the sport to one which can also market and grow the sport. Rebranding and governance changes which will bring the sport in line with Sport UK guide lines are part of the process.

Understanding why licence numbers which currently form the main part of income have declined (particularly in some disciplines like karting) and use this information to create a model which meets current and future needs

Sue Sanders explained the initiatives in the Training department where plans are being created to develop pathways for Competitors, Officials and Marshals  
Ian Berry outlined as head of Sport Promotion that plans are being evolved on how to best work with all parties involved in motor sport to move the sport forward.

Following on from the earlier discussion on the uncertainty as to how clubs, club members and regional motor sport will interact with and be represented with Motorsport UK the meeting unanimously agreed that a question from the association should be raised at the next Regional Committee meeting asking for clarification on how it is planned that this will work recognising that for a process to be successful it needs to be accepted by all parties.

## **Other Matters**

### **Training**

It was reported that two rally marshal training days had been held, the first concentrating on marshalling techniques and the second on practical aspects including first on scene and fire training.

Both had been very successful, well attended and extremely well received by attendees. Clive was thanked for organising these.

He indicated that the current plan will be to run similar events in 2020.

### **Discussion Topic**

There was a wide ranging discussion around ways and opportunities for growing and developing motor sport in the region.

The following are some of the key areas of discussion.

- Track days are popular – how do we emulate the attraction and/or encourage participants in to our activity areas.
- The potential to co use venues to make them economically viable for “club” level. e.g. A circuit event with a sprint /autotest or other on a different part of the circuit.
- The benefits of joint club event promotion.
- The need to be imaginative in creating events that appeal to competitors
- Ways of promoting the sport to interested parties and/or the general public

It was agreed that this topic would be continued at the next delegates meeting under a heading of

#### **Ways to promote Motor Sport in the region**

### **Any Other Business**

A query was raised as to whether there were plans to run any additional closed road events in the region as well as the Clacton based stage rally. It was indicated that preliminary planning is in progress for a stage rally in the west of the region but this is still in the early planning stages.

### **Next Meeting**

The next association delegates meeting will be the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019

The meeting closed at 22.35