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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS
13th Oct 2020**

Held as Zoom virtual meeting – locations various

The meeting commenced at 20.25 hrs

Attendance

Members

22 were present representing 13 clubs as follows

Gary Nicholls	Chairman / CMC
Stanley Graham	Vice Chairman / Anglia Motorsport Club
Chris Musselle	Treasurer / CCC
Alan Barnard	West Essex MC
Paul Barrett	Rally Championship / CMC
Andrew Bisping	ACSMC / CMC
Mike Biss	Boundless
John Boot	West Suffolk MC
Tony Clements	Regional Committee Rep / CMC
Chris Deal	Green Belt MC
John Davie	Green Belt MC
Matt Endean	Motorsport UK Committees / CMC
Suze Endean	Chelmsford MC
Lucy Fryer	Chelmsford MC
Clive Grounds	Training / Cambridge CC
Liz Jordan	ASEMC / MMK MC
Andy Kilby	Bexley LCC /Sevenoaks&DMC
Tony Michael	Web / Comp Sec / CMC
Dan Pearson	Eastern Counties MC
Pete Walters	Speed Championship / Herts County A & AC
Dave Whyman	Sutton and Cheam MC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary / Anglia MSC
Guests	
Ian Berry	Motorsport UK

Welcome

The chairman welcomed everyone.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Mark Banham (Kings Lynn and DMC), Tony Burchnall (Eastern Counties MC), Barry Morris B19, Simon Taylor (Farnborough MC), Michael Weeks (Southern CC)

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 18th Aug.2020 were reviewed and unanimously agreed to be a true representation of the meeting. Adoption of the minutes was proposed by Cambridge CC (Clive Grounds) and seconded by Herts CAAC (Pete Walters)

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes

Reports

Chairman

The chairman indicated that he didn't have anything additional to report beyond that covered during the AGM other than to comment that the MotorSport Council was due to meet the following day. In response to a question from the floor as to whether the details of the role of the new "Council" was clarifying he indicated that he felt that it was still evolving but hoped to have a clearer view to report back to the next meeting.

The topic initiated a discussion on topics which delegates felt it was important that the council in its strategic role and motorsport UK should consider. The principal amongst these being:- Plans to encourage new participants, particularly in certain disciplines where entries have been dropping e.g Speed, Opportunities to encourage track day participants to get involved in "regulated" motorsport and the importance of having a progression path between disciplines/event types.

Treasurer

The value of the accounts was reported as being currently £11,300

The matter of bank signatories was raised. It was agreed that these be updated/changed to be Chris Musselle (Treasurer) , Stanley Graham (Vice Chairman) and Brian Hemmings (Secretary).

Secretary

Messages had been received from Motorsport UK and other associations but nothing that was association specific.

There had been no applications for membership.

Regional Committee

A report had been circulated following the last Regional Committee meeting.

Key points included the planned move of Motorsport UK to Bicester which is now scheduled for the end of 2020/early 2021, a presentation on the proposals for future sport development plans/initiatives and the potential for a Street Car series in 2021 (covered as a separate agenda item). There were no queries or other issues raised.

Championship Reports

Rally

5 rounds have been run this year.

3 before the “lockdown “ and the Flying Fortress and Abingdon since. Its planned that the Dukeries Donnington event will make this up to 6 for the year which will form the 2020 championship. Results from 4 rounds will count.

Plans are evolving for 2021 which currently are similar to the intended rounds for 2020.

Marsh Commercial have indicated that they will continue to support the championship in 2021 although the details are still to be finalised.

Event organisers were made aware of a possible issue concerning entries on events that are rounds of both AEMC and the Circuit championship. Registrations for the circuit championship are at a very high level which may result in significant demand for entries. It was suggested that events should have very clear and published set of criteria for entries allocation in order to be both fair and manage any issues.

Speed

The situation has improved from that feared earlier in the year and 8 events will have run by the end of the season.

These will form the basis of a 2020 championship which will not have any points carry over into 2021. There will not be a specific awards presentation event in early 2021 but will be covered as part of the 2021 championship approach.

AEMC have continued to work with ASEMC and ACSMC to align classes and regulations in order to provide a standard approach for competitors.

Club Reports

Experiences under Covid restrictions.

Various aspects of running events under the ever evolving Covid restrictions were discussed including:-

Availability of Covid Officer tabards from Motorsport UK was queried. This is being progressed.

The need for events to develop new working approaches for scrutineering (and with scrutineering teams) was highlighted as this is one of the areas that has seen the most significant change in style under the restrictions.

The meeting was updated that the requirement for “direct face to face” contact for PR work has been changed during the period of restrictions.

Other Matters

Evolving role of AEMC

It was reported that following the presentation of a draft proposal for an evolving structure/approach for the association at the previous meeting a number of clubs had responded in support of the plan. Work is continuing to develop the initiative.

A further meeting has been held with ASEMC and ACSMC to continue exploring opportunities to gain from cooperative working which highlighted a number of possibilities. Further exploratory conversations planned.

Training

As a consequence of the Covid related regulations detailed plans for training in 2021 are uncertain.

Current plans are based around the possibility of running some form of virtual marshals theory training supported by some level of practical session on incident and fire training if an acceptable format can be found which fits with the evolving pandemic constraints.

Its planned to complement these with sessions covering club level event organisation and scrutineering but these are subject to the same level of uncertainty.

Use of virtual technology has provided an opportunity to provide shorter more focused topic sessions and this is being considered.

Street Car Series

Regional associations had been approached by Motorsport UK to determine interest in supporting a series of events in 2021 aimed at encouraging new comers into the sport.

The events would be run by clubs within the regions and be based on an autosolo format.

The series would be similar to an initiative already piloted in Scotland and be known as Streetcar.

AEMC had indicated that it would be interested in supporting the initiative assuming that a format that was realistic to run in the region is developed.

Further discussions to be held between regions and Motorsport UK to develop the proposal.

AoB

RLO Cambs.

Clive Grounds updated the meeting that he has recently been appointed as RLO (Route Liaison Officer) for Cambridgeshire

(Note Following the meeting Clive has provided a note on what the role involves which accompanies these minutes)

Motorsport UK Webinars

Ian Berry updated the meeting that a new series of webinars has been launched. Content is aimed at many aspects of successfully running clubs including use of social media, planning and marketing related activities. The series starts in Nov. and then runs on approx. a monthly basis.

Attendees should register on the Motorsport UK Website (Clubs and Organisers / Webinars)

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on the 19th Jan. starting at 20.00 (Zoom)