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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS
14th Jan 2020**

Held at Barnston Village Hall Nr. Great Dunmow

The meeting commenced at 20.30hrs

Attendance

Members

13 were present representing 12 clubs as follows

Stanley Graham	Vice Chairman / Anglia Motorsport club
Stuart Kingham	Treasurer / WAC
Alan Barnard	West Essex MC
Mark Banham	Kings Lynn & DMC
Chris Deal	Green Belt MC
Matt Endean	Motorsport UK Cttees / CMC
Clive Grounds	Training / Cambridge CC
Liz Jordan	ASEMC / MMK MC
Dan Pearson	Eastern Counties MC
John Sharp	Herts CA & AC / Borough 19
Allan Smith	Wickford AC
Pete Walters	Herts County A & AC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary / West Suffolk MC

Welcome

The vice chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies

Mike Biss (Boundless by CSMA) John Boot (WSMC), Tony Burchnall (ECMC), Tony Clements (Reg.Cttee. Rep./CMC), Rob Cull (ECR), Gary Nicholls (Chairman / CMC), Pete Richards (PMC), Rod McKenna (CRSW), Mark Wagstaff (EDMC)

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 15th Oct 2019 were reviewed and unanimously agreed to be a true representation of the meeting. The adoption of the minutes was proposed by Wickford AC (Allan Smith) and seconded by Chelmsford MC (Matt Endean)

Matters arising

John Sharp commented that the action to create and establish a set of operating standards for sprints in the region is still ongoing. He will progress this with Gary.

Chairman's Report

In his absence there was no specific report.

However it was mentioned that it was understood that the chairman had attended the first meeting of the reformed Council as representative for motorsport in the East / South East. This led to a discussion regarding the importance of clarifying the structure and process whereby clubs will relate to and work with the governing body across a wide range of topics relating to evolution of the sport as well as sporting events themselves. Its

believed there are two routes now available. The original route through the regional council is still in place for specific topics while the council representative is now in place for more strategic topics. It was agreed that the association should be active in making Motorsport UK aware of where support is required by clubs and working with them on evolving solutions.

Treasurers Report

The treasurer reported that currently the association's accounts stand at approx.. £10,600 To date 8 member clubs have renewed membership for 2020. Invoices have been distributed to all. The RAFMSA has indicated that they would not be renewing having decided to rationalise their memberships across multiple associations.

A discussion followed in respect of confirming the point at which a club should be considered to no longer be a member. The practical difficulties that can be experienced in finding the correct / up to date contacts being taken into consideration the meeting unanimously agreed that an approach whereby a club that had not been in contact or renewed membership by the end of the calendar year would be deemed to no longer be a member was practical and appropriate. It was agreed that this would be raised at the next General Meeting as a motion to seek to get it included in the constitution.

Liz Jordan indicated that this approach would be suggested to ASEMC to see if a standard approach could be achieved.

Secretary's Report

Correspondence

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

Membership applications

There have been no applications for membership

Reports

Stage Rally Championship

In the Coordinators absence there was no specific report. However it was noted that the 2020 championship has been launched with the first round being at Brands Hatch on the 18th Jan. The event team indicated that following further discussion with the venue, the 24th Oct. 2020 is firming up as the date for the potential event at Honnington.

Sprint Championship

The 2020 championship is about to be launched.

It was confirmed that it will be a combined championship with ASEMC and that it will be run as a "speed" championship. The intent being to include a hillclimb in the qualifying events.

4 entries have been received even before the launch!!!!

2019 competitors and all clubs will be notified as part of the launch process.

It was noted that there have been relaxations in the requirements for clothing in the "standard" classes for 2020. A very useful table distributed in the recent technical bulletin will be made available to help understanding and promotion of the changes to safety clothing requirements in the "standard" classes.

Motorsport UK / Regional Committee

There was no specific Regional Committee report. However a discussion was held regarding the role of the regional committee in the evolving overall governance model for the sport.

It was agreed that it is a responsibility of the association and its member clubs to contribute to the change process by highlighting approaches, areas where support would be most useful and topics which would provide optimum benefit to members.

A report was provided on a presentation given by Hugh Chambers at a recent seminar outlining the direction that Motorsport UK is taking. He outlined the urgent need to evolve to meet the pressures on the sport including changes to the financial model and general approach to become a "customer" driven organisation.

It was indicated that 2020 is being seen as a year of consolidation following the significant number of changes executed in 2019. One specifically relevant item to the association was a reference to the fact that following the closure of the "RDO" process work would be undertaken this year to develop and implement a grass roots / club support process.

Other Matters

Training

It was confirmed that plans to run the Rally marshals training day on 1st Feb at Cambridge are well advanced with 51 currently registered to attend. At this time no one is registered for the new marshals element.

A further session which has a more practical bias is planned for the 23rd March.

The Training Officer asked that concern should be logged that a Motorsport UK training session (technical) had also been arranged to be held in Cambridge on the same day. The importance of avoiding clashes whenever possible was stressed. The association training officer requested that he be contacted by organisers planning courses to provide information on sessions being held in the region.

As the nearest Motorsport UK club officials / event seminar is being held at East Midlands it is proposed that the association organises a similar event within the region to reduce the distance attendees will have to travel.

The event will include the same content as the Motorsport UK sessions and has their support. This support includes financial support to a certain level.

This is planned to be held at the Holiday Inn at Cambridge on 8th March.

The meeting unanimously agreed to support the venture and agreed to cover any financial shortfall above the funding available from Motorsport UK.

Officials within the region.

A document highlighting a number of aspects concerning the availability, both now and in the future, development of skills and experience and optimal utilisation of event officials in the region had been submitted to the association as a basis for discussion.

In view of the wide ranging nature of the topic and its importance to motorsport in the region it was agreed that the meeting would discuss the topic generally and that it would be picked up again as the discussion topic at the next meeting after clubs had the opportunity to consider in order forward ideas. Aspects discussed included utilisation of available resource/experience / expertise, cross club/discipline usage of resource, continuity planning and awareness and image of motorsport by the general public.

Ongoing meeting venue

It was agreed that using Barnston village hall for meetings was working well and that this should be continued. However it was also agreed that if a similar venue could be arranged in the Cambridge area this could be established for alternate meetings.

Any Other Business

Awareness of Regional activities

A discussion was held around the importance of clubs being aware of any issues or things that have occurred in the region was held. It was agreed that clubs should be encouraged to share information using the association as a means of sharing the facts. Input from RLOs should also be encouraged.

Debden surface repairs.

The meeting was updated that there is some work being undertaken to improve the surface in certain areas by the MoD at Debden. This is being approached as training exercises for army personnel.

Tour Of Herts

The meeting was updated on progress on planning for the Tour of Herts stage rally. A permit has been issued and work is continuing on all the other tasks needed to successfully run a close road stage rally.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on the 28th April at Barnston Village Hall and will follow immediately after the AGM.