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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS
11th May. 2021
Held as Zoom virtual meeting – locations various
The meeting commenced at 20.00 hrs**

Attendance

Members

23 were present representing 13 clubs as follows

Gary Nicholls	Chairman / CMC
Stanley Graham	Vice Chairman / Anglia Motorsport Club
Chris Musselle	Treasurer / CCC (part)
Mark Banham	Kings Lynn and DMC
Alam Barnard	West Essex MC
Paul Barrett	Rally Championship / CMC
Mike Biss	Boundless
John Boot	West Suffolk MC
Tony Burchnall	Eastern Counties 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
Tony Michael	Web / Comp Sec / CMC
Barry Morris	Borough 19
Allan Smith	Wickford AC
Simon Tonks	Cambridge/ Street Car
Mark Wagstaff	Eastwood and DMC
Pete Walters	Speed Championship / Herts County A & AC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary / Anglia MSC

Welcome

The chairman welcomed everyone

Apologies

Apologies were received from Andrew Bisping –(ACSMC), Liz Jordan (ASEMC / MMK MC), Dan Pearson (Eastern Counties MC), Dave Whyman (Sutton and Cheam MC), Rod McKenna (CRSW), Andrew Williamson (MiddxCAC)

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 19th Jan. 2021 were reviewed and unanimously agreed to be a true representation.

Matters Arising not covered elsewhere

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes

Reports

Chairman

The chairman highlighted the recent invitation from Motorsport UK for those who take on the role of Club (changing to Event) Steward to register with them. This led to a discussion identifying the fact that the intention is to utilise this register for Motorsport UK to provide support by way of information and training/development opportunities to those registered. It was also covered that the role of Event Secretary is another important role on any event and registration for this role will be launched in the near future.

The chairman asked that those that had registered report back in order to assess the success of the scheme.

The question of the association managing a list of event stewards as a resource for clubs was raised. It was unanimously agreed that this should be progressed if a realistic process can be developed. The secretary to progress.

Treasurer

A report and draft 2020 accounts had been circulated prior to the meeting.

A significant item within the report was that the transfer of management signatories for the account had now been successfully completed. Outstanding invoices have now been paid.

The treasurer was thanked for his determination and patience in achieving this.

There were no questions for the treasurer by way of additional clarification

Secretary

Various messages had been received from Motorsport UK and other associations including information on club webinars and the invitation to register for club stewards.

There are currently 33 member clubs. No additional requests had been received

Training

It was reported that a successful “Return to Marshalling” presentation had been delivered which between the two dates had attracted some 90+ attendees. Feedback had been very positive. The presentation has been accepted by Motorsport UK as a qualifying module for marshals training.

Work is in progress to create an “Organisation for Grass Roots events” presentation for later this year with a date to be determined.

Consideration is being given in the light of the success of webinar presentations to develop the previously held annual Marshals training day into a series of shorter virtual presentations in 2022. Practical sessions for fire and stage set up/safety are also under consideration to complement these.

Regional Committee

During the recent Regional committee meeting Sue Sanders presented information on the Regional Development initiative. The slides from the presentation had been previously circulated to club delegates. The next major phase is to develop and agree a roles and responsibilities statement for the Regional structure with Motorsport UK working with the associations.

Also mentioned during the meeting was that the move to Bicester is now complete, the review of rallying is progressing, the importance of sustainability and that conversations with the MoD were ongoing with regard to providing access to more venues. A concern was expressed that if a “standard contract” with the MoD for all venues was implemented this may not be to the overall benefit. It was confirmed that the nature of the discussions centred on the potential for opening up additional sites and not on the arrangements.

Championship Reports

Rally

The 2021 championship has commenced with the Snetterton Stages. There are 43 registered competitors with hopefully 8 rounds to be run (5 to count) although some events have still to be confirmed due to venue uncertainties.

The demand for entries is currently very high. This has led to championship contenders not being able to get places which has resulted in a small number of cases in a withdrawal from the championship.

Marsh Commercial remains the series sponsor although with a lower contribution in 2021 as a consequence of the Covid situation.

Speed

The 2021 championship has commenced with 2 rounds having been held. There are 46 registered competitors currently with 19 planned rounds (best 10 to count).

Thanks were offered to Tony Michael for his support in establishing an on line registration process which is proving to be very successful.

Key Guru the championship sponsor is offering free of charge to all organising clubs web page functionality so that events can publish information regarding and from events.

The chairman and vice chairman will work with the Sprint Coordinator to determine how this can be optimally used by clubs and fit within the available solutions.

Other Matters

Sustainability

A discussion was held regarding the relevance and importance of clubs embracing the sustainability topic and initiatives. Two clubs in the region are already working on the topic. Tony Clements who is involved with the CMC project has taken on the role of sustainability lead/co-ordinator for the association and invited anyone./club to contact him for more information generally and on the approach taken to date by the CMC group. The meeting generally agreed that this is a topic that clubs need to consider, embrace and engage with.

Quiet Lanes

The chairman brought the meetings attention to the topic of roads being designated as “quiet lanes”. Quiet lanes are usually single track routes of less than 1000 vehicles / day usage which are designated by councils to promote walking, cycling riding etc. Motor vehicles are not banned but the intent is to curb their use.

What has brought this to attention is the increase in planned designations in the region with Suffolk alone planning an additional 500Km.

The precise impact is unknown at this time but it is an aspect which requires monitoring.

AoB

The Camb. RLO reported that he has been trying to establish a contact within the Camb police force but has not to date been successful.

Two items of interest were referred to in the ASEMC delegates meeting

- Motorsport UK recognising a future need are working on providing advice and guidance on the holding of “hybrid” meetings i.e. a face to face meeting that also offers virtual connectivity
- Motorsport UK are working on establishing a Recruitment Initiative for mid year which will support attracting people into motorsport.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on the 27th July starting at 20.00 (Zoom)