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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS
16th Jan 2018**

Held at the Lion and Lamb, Little Canfield

The meeting commenced at 20.30hrs

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

Attendance

Members

12 were present representing 9 clubs as follows

Gary Nichols	Chairman /Chelmsford MC
Stanley Graham	Vice Chairman /Wickford AC
Alan Barnard	West Essex MC
Paul Barrett	Rally Co-ord / Chelmsford MC,
Mike Biss	Boundless by CSMA (NL)
Tony Clements	Reg. Cttee. Delegate / Chelmsford
Chris Deal	Sprint Co-ord Greenbelt MC,
Clive Grounds	Training / Cambridge CC
Tony Michael	Comp Sec / Chelmsford MC
Pete Richards	Peterborough MC
Pete Walters	Herts County AAC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary /Anglia Motor Sport Club

Guests

John Conboy	Go Motorsport / Chelmsford MC
Matt Endean	MSA - Rallies /Speed / Autocross Committees

Apologies

Apologies were received from Mark Banham (Kings Lynn DMC), Tony Burchnall (Eastern Counties MC), Rod McKenna (Club Rally Sport West), Simon Taylor (Farnborough MC), Stuart Kingham (Treasurer / Wickford AC), Alan Smith (Wickford AC), John Sharp (Borough 19)

Welcome

The chairman welcomed John Conboy (RDO) and Matt Endean (MSA Committees) to the meeting.

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 17th Oct 2017 were reviewed and unanimously agreed to be a true representation of the meeting. The adoption of the minutes was proposed by Chelmsford MC (Paul Barrett), and seconded by Boundless by CSMA (Mike Biss)

Matters arising

There were no matters arising that would not be covered by agenda items.

Chairman's Report

The chairman indicated that the topics that he would wish to cover were all covered elsewhere in the agenda and therefore didn't have any specific items to raise.

Treasurers Report

In his absence the treasurer had provided a report which was submitted to the meeting. The accounts currently stand at £10,750 with a total of £100 in issued cheques that have not yet been submitted for payment. Income from the two 2017 association championships is included although the costs for the presentation evening have not yet occurred. To date 18 clubs have renewed membership for 2018. Clubs that have not yet are urged to do so as soon as practical.

Secretary's report

Applications.

No applications for membership had been received.

Correspondence received

Copies of minutes and notices from the MSA and other associations have been received. In particular the membership certificate for 2018 and annual report for 2017 have been received from the MSA

A notice had been received from Rochester MC indicating that they wished to resign from the association. Lack of activity within the club was cited as the reason.

Reports

Stage Rally Championship

The 2017 championship was completed successfully although the final round at Rockingham was reduced to one day as a result of heavy overnight snowfall. The championship awards evening will be held on the 15th Feb. at the Brands Hatch hotel and will be co-hosted with ASEMC. It is anticipated that after all expenses for trophies and the awards evening have been taken into account the championship will at least break even.

The 2018 championship is planned with the first round to be held at Brands on the 20th Jan.. Registrations to date have been encouraging including a number of new entries. Based on the position this far it is forecast that there will be an increase in contenders in 2018

Sprint Championship

The 2017 championship was also concluded successfully. Awards will be presented at the same event as the rally championship on the 15th Feb. Regulations for the 2018 championship have been released. This will be contested over 17 events.

A proposal was put to the meeting that a small group should review the classes and format of the championship for future years with a view to ensuring that it provides a fair basis that is in line with competitor's requirements. It was agreed that the suggestion should be supported with a small group from both associations (AEMC and ASEMC) meeting to create a proposal. When available this proposal will be circulated to clubs for consideration before being adopted.

MSA / Regional Committee

There had been no regional meetings since the last association meeting and so there were no specific updates. The next regional meeting is in Feb. and clubs were requested to raise any items they wanted to be considered for submission to that meeting.

The timeliness of appointments of MSA stewards, an item at the previous meeting, was raised as being a continuing area of concern.

RDO / Go Motorsport

John updated the meeting that as a result of availability issues following an accident progress over recent weeks had been less than planned. However prior to the accident a SCCoN / AMSC event at Snetterton had been supported. Some 175 autosolo passenger rides had been provided by a team of 22 "competitors" with a sum of £400 being raised from donations for the events charity. An initiative in conjunction with the Kings Lynn club is planned targeting 14 to 16 year olds.

Other Matters

Training

It was recorded that feedback on the training discussion held at the previous meeting was very positive and the plan to make this an annual agenda item was reaffirmed. A number of follow up queries from the discussion are to be progressed.

The Rally marshals training day is planned for the 3rd Feb. Although there had been some changes in presenters, plans seem to have now firmed up. The format has been changed this year with a general presentation to all attendees in the morning prior to a split into specific topics in the afternoon.

80 marshals have registered to attend to date.

AMSC reported that creation of the training sessions for club level organisers continues to progress although there has been some delay due to non-availability within the team. Two training sessions in the first half of 2018 are being planned.

MSA Plans

A constructive discussion was held considering the MSA's plans for the future as indicated in the message on strategic direction circulated in Nov. and the recent messages distributed highlighting David Richards's thoughts and ideas in his new role as chairman.

Many ideas and views were covered with the following being amongst the conclusions.

As the MSA reviews its role, approach and direction it is important that the association and clubs are able to contribute, providing an opportunity for members (licence and non licence holders) to participate in the process of developing the future direction.

The association is a valuable way of achieving a connection between the MSA, clubs and their members but would be most effective with clarity on how it would best contribute and information on the overall time scales envisaged.

It was also agreed that there is a significant amount gained from the periodic visits to association meetings by MSA personnel. A query is to be made as to who and when the next visit will be to an AEMC meeting.

Future Meetings

Following the success of the training topic at the previous meeting a query was raised as to whether this theme of having a discussion topic at each meeting should be continued at future meetings.

Following discussion it was agreed that the topic of "Finance" would be included at the next meeting. The specific context being how the association's assets could be best used to support "MSA" motorsport in the region. A short preliminary discussion identified training as a prime candidate with the AMSC initiative being raised and agreed as an example where a contribution could be made to augment the MSA grant.

Autocross Web site

Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that the subscription to maintain the Autocross Championship website should not be renewed.

Any Other Business

Fire Training

The question of finding a venue where practical fire training can be held was raised. It was agreed that Essex Fire Brigade should be approached to see if they can provide any guidance. If not successful then other brigades and manufacturers will be contacted.

RDO Cover

Herts Aero raised a query as to whether it would be more logical for them to come under the umbrella of the East's RDO. The club is based in Hertford. However they organise their events at Debden in Essex and have close ties with other Eastern Clubs being a member of AMSC. It was agreed that a query would be raised with the MSA.

Notice of next Meeting

The next meeting will be on 24th April 2018 and will be preceded by the AGM

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.25pm