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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS  
24th April 2018**

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

The meeting commenced at 20.44hrs

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

**Attendance**

Members

15 were present representing 10 clubs as follows

Gary Nichols	Chairman /Chelmsford MC
Stanley Graham	Vice Chairman / Wickford AC
Stuart Kingham	Treasurer / Wickford AC
Alan Barnard	West Essex MC
Mark Banham	Kings Lynn &DMC
Mike Biss	Boundless by CSMA
John Boot	West Suffolk MC
Tony Clements	MSA Reg.Cttee. Rep./Chelmsford MC
Chris Deal	Sprint Coordinator / Green Belt MC
Tony Michael	Comp Sec./Web Site /Chelmsford MC
Pete Richards	Peterborough MC
Pete Walters	Herts County A & AC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary /Anglia Motor Sport Club

Guests

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

**Apologies**

Apologies were received from Paul Barrett (Rally Chshp. and Chelmsford MC), Tony Burchnall (Eastern Counties MC), Clive Grounds (Training and Cambridge CC), Neil McDonald (BWW Car Club), Rod McKenna (Club Rally Sport West), Simon Taylor (Farnborough MC), Michael Weeks (Southern CC), Dave Whyman (Sutton and Cheam MC)

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 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018 were reviewed and unanimously agreed to be a true representation of the meeting. The adoption of the minutes was proposed by Wickford (Stuart Kingham) and seconded by HCAAC (Pete Walters)

**Matters arising**

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

**Chairman's Report**

The chairman referred to his report at the immediately preceding AGM indicating that he didn't have any additional points to highlight.

At this point the meeting offered congratulations to the chairman, the organising team and all involved in running the Closed road rally at Clacton the previous weekend. All reports indicate that this first rally using the new legislation was extremely successful being enjoyed by all involved in the rally and generally very well received in the area.

### **Treasurers Report**

The treasurer reported that the accounts currently stand at approx. £11,500 (Subsequent to the meeting this was confirmed as £11,911).

A very small number of clubs are still to renew and these are urged to do so as soon as possible. The treasurer is actively progressing these.

### **Secretary's report**

Applications.

No applications for membership had been received.

Correspondence received

Copies of minutes and notices from other associations and notices from the MSA have been received

A request for renewal of associate membership of LARA has been received.

A series of publications regarding the impact of the change to the data protection regulations have been received from the MSA as well as a copy of the data protection policy created for Sporting Car Club of Norfolk.

Following a brief discussion it was agreed that the associations approach to holding data should be reviewed to ensure compliance with the new legislation. Paul Barrett to be asked if he would create a data protection policy for the association.

### **Reports**

#### **RDO / Go Motorsport**

John updated the meeting that he had recently visited the motor vehicle department at Bury St Edmunds college supported by West Suffolk MC and had also been present at the Clacton rally.

He then updated the meeting that due to work pressures he had agreed with the MSA that he would take a 3 month sabbatical from his role as RDO, starting at the end of April. During this period anyone requiring to contact "Go motorsport" should contact Suze Endean . Suze will be picking up messages sent to [east@gomotorsport.net](mailto:east@gomotorsport.net) or can be reached on 07568 105887.

#### **Stage Rally Championship**

In his absence Paul had provided a report indicating that the 2018 championship is progressing well and currently has 40 contenders. This is an increase from the 36 in 2017.

Unfortunately the Dukeries round in March had to be cancelled due to the heavy snow. To replace this it is proposed to include the Dukeries event to be held at Donington on 19<sup>th</sup> August in the championship.

A question of principle was raised as to whether two events could be included as championship rounds if they were being held on the same day, this being a possible scenario when events had to be reorganised through cancelation or postponement. Following discussion the meeting agreed that this should not happen with only one event counting as a championship round on any date.

The next event at Abingdon includes the Inter Association competition. It is proposed that AEMC submits a team and that a £50 contribution be offered to each member/ entry.

#### **Sprint Championship**

The 2018 championship has had 4 rounds to date with 36 currently registered competitors.

Entries are estimated to be around 10% lower than previous years with the loss of single make entries and an overall difficulty for organisers to make events cost effective overall for competitors seen as being major contributors to the decline. It's believed that that the championship remains a significant element in encouraging competitors to enter the qualifying events .

The small working group looking at possible changes to classes, cost reduction opportunities and other aspects of the championship has had a first meeting. The target is to be in a position to propose any changes by mid / later this year that could initially be incorporated in the 2019 championship and if appropriate potentially considered for overall regulation changes in 2020.

#### **MSA / Regional Committee**

Please see appendix for regional committee report.

Matt Endean updated the meeting on a topic discussed at a recent Rallies Committee meeting regarding the running of Targa rallies. The committee following discussion had agreed that it was acceptable for “double” drives i.e where a driver and co driver swap roles and both compete on the event as a driver, in a targa rally where the overall format of the event makes this possible. Normally this will be where the event is being held on a single venue.

## **Other Matters**

### **Training**

The rally marshals training day in Feb. had been very successful with 96 trainees attending. A change in format and use of the venue had resulted in some minor issues. These will be addressed for next year when the event is planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb. 2019.

The meeting was updated that there is a meeting planned for late May where all associations will have the opportunity to discuss training within their regions. To facilitate AEMC participation all clubs have been asked to provide the secretary with information on any motor sport training they/their members have been involved of in the Eastern region or which has been undertaken by their members.

## **Any Other Business**

### **Fire training**

Tony Clements to speak to Essex Fire Brigade to explore any opportunities for fire training in conjunction with or utilising their facilities.

### **Discussion topic – Funds Usage**

The question of the potential usage of AEMC funds had been identified at the last meeting for discussion. A number of options and ideas were covered including the possibility of “doing nothing different” or “doing nothing different and making membership free”.

It was agreed that in principle a proactive approach should be taken to utilising funds to further appropriate genuine motor sport initiatives rather than the “do nothing” option. It was also recognised that the MSA already supports many development activities and any association activity would recognise and take this into account. It was further agreed that the purchase of tangible assets would be avoided to avoid any difficulties of storage, maintenance, logistics etc..

A specific area that was identified was that of training where it was agreed that contribution against costs including residual costs after other grants would be eligible for support.

The eventual agreement was that a procedure would be developed whereby association member clubs could apply for a support grant. The overall criteria would be that the grant is towards an initiative that “Further motor sport in the region”.

The final decision on whether to approve a grant would be taken at a general delegates meeting taking into consideration the validity of the case for and the funds availability at that time.

### **Venues**

The meeting was updated that as a consequence of the work done by the Clacton Rally team two farmers have been identified in the Tendring area who are willing to consider allowing motor sport on part of their land. Facilities would be suitable for a grass autotest or potentially a car trial. Any club interested should contact Tony Clements for details.

### **Clacton Rally**

The chairman thanked on behalf of the organising team all participants from the association clubs who had contributed to the success of the event, reiterating that all reports received including those from competitors, officials, marshals, spectators and the public had been extremely positive.

He indicated that it had underlined the importance of planning and running both the “competition” and the “event” which it is an integral part of.

## **Notice of next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Please note that Simon Blunt MSA General Secretary will be attending this meeting**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.25pm

