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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS
15th Jan 2019**

Held at the Lion and Lamb, Little Canfield

The meeting commenced at 20.30hrs

Attendance

Members

11 were present representing 9 clubs as follows

Stanley Graham	Vice Chairman / Wickford AC
Stuart Kingham	Treasurer / Wickford AC
Alan Barnard	West Essex MC
Chris Deal	Sprint Co-ordinator / Green Belt MC
Matt Endean	MSA Committees /Chelmsford MC
Tony Michael	Comp Sec./Web Site /Chelmsford MC
Keith Pettitt	West Suffolk MC
Pete Richards	Peterborough MC
John Sharp	Borough 19
Pete Walters	Sprint Coordinator 2019 / Herts County A & AC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary /Anglia Motor Sport Club

Welcome

In the absence of the chairman the Vice Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

Apologies

Apologies were received from Mark Banham (Kings Lynn &DMC), Paul Barrett (Rally Co-Ord / Chelmsford MC), Mike Biss (Boundless), John Boot (West Suffolk MC), Tony Clements (Regional Committee delegate / Chelmsford MC), Clive Grounds (Cambridge CC), Gary Nicholls (Chairman / Chelmsford MC), Neil McDonald (BMW Car Club), Simon Taylor (Farnborough DMC)

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 16th Oct 2018 were reviewed and unanimously agreed to be a true representation of the meeting. The adoption of the minutes was proposed by Peterboro MC (Pete Richards) and seconded by Green Belt MC (Chris Deal)

Matters arising

No matters were identified that would not be covered elsewhere in the agenda.

Chairman's Report

In his absence it was reported that he had indicated that there were no pressing issues he wished to raise.

Treasurers Report

The treasurer reported that the account currently stands at just over £12,000. There is an outstanding liability of approximately £400 to pay the agreed support to the teams that represented the association in the 2018 Inter association rally competition. This is being progressed.

19 Clubs have renewed membership to date for 2019. There have been no notifications from clubs indicating that they do not wish to.

It was reported that the anticipated sponsorship payment for the 2018 Association Sprint Championship had not been received and is unlikely to be forthcoming. It was agreed by the meeting that with some understanding of the situation this position would be accepted as it stands.

Secretary's Report

Membership

There have been no applications for membership since the last meeting

Correspondence

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

Confirmation of association registration for 2019 has been received from Motorsport UK.

A request for association grant support has been received. This had been received shortly before the meeting and will be progressed as agreed at the last meeting and will be presented to the next delegates meeting for consideration.

Reports

Stage Rally Championship

A report had been received from the Coordinator as follows.

The 2018 championship was successfully completed with the father and son team of Dale and Andrew Lawson as the overall winners. Trophies are on order to be presented at the joint AEMC/ASEMC awards evening which will be held at the Brands Hatch Place Hotel on the 21st Feb. Final accounts are being prepared which will show approximately a £400 profit prior to payment of any contribution costs towards the awards event. Any final profits will then be divided equally between the two associations.

The 2019 championship has opened with the first event being run at Brands Hatch later in the month. 5 registrations had been received at the time of reporting. It is expected that this will increase significantly at the first event. The sponsorship payment from Jelf for 2019 has been received.

Sprint Championship

The 2018 championship was completed with Tim Cole confirmed as taking overall honours.

Awards will be presented at the same event as the rally championship at the Brands Hatch Place Hotel on the 21st Feb.

As indicated in the treasurers report the financial position on the championship has been impacted by the non-payment of the sponsorship funds. Final position to be calculated and reported at the next meeting.

It was also reported that difficulty is being experienced in location and recovery of the overall trophy.

Following discussion it was agreed that the treasurer's generous offer to make an alternative trophy available to be presented at the awards event would be gratefully accepted. It was agreed that the association would cover the engraving costs involved in preparing the trophy.

The process for recording the issue of permanent trophies to be reviewed prior to the awards evening.

The meeting expressed sincere thanks and appreciation to Chris Deal for all his hard work in running the championship over recent years.

Preparation for the 2019 championship is progressing. The permit has been applied for.

"Key Guru" has been obtained as a new sponsor for the year.

Motorsport UK Update

It was noted that late in 2018 the MSA had rebranded itself and is now known as motorsport UK.

Communications on the change had been sent to all clubs and registered members directly by the governing body.

A number of senior staff have recently left Motorsport UK. They are Simon Blunt, Kate Adamson, Alan Page and Ben Taylor.

Matt Endean commented that a number of new regulations affecting rallies had been released including clarification / changes to tyres and engine configurations.

Regional Committee

There was no specific report as there has been no regional committee meeting since the last association meeting. It was noted however that the proposed change to the rule regarding association championships, reported at the last association meeting, allowing competitors to compete without a competition licence has been adopted

Other Matters

Training

It was confirmed that plans for the Rally marshals training day to be held on the 26th January at Cambridge Regional college are progressing well. A further training event which will include practical fire training as one of its elements is being planned for March 2019. The meeting asked for further information to be circulated as to what the content of this second session would include.

It was confirmed that grant support from BMSTT had been agreed for the January and March event although the percentage support is reduced for the second event.

It was reported that the Introduction to Coaching in Motor Sport course had been organised by the association and run by the MSA in Nov. at Cambridge. Attendees had come from association clubs and senior marshals from Snetterton circuit. The event had been very successful with both groups agreeing that the opportunity for both groups to work together had been extremely valuable.

Anglia Motor sport club had recently put on a training day for officials starting or wanting to refresh knowledge of event organisation at club level. The presentation materials used are available for any club that may wish to arrange something similar.

Future Topic

It was agreed that for the next meeting topics discussed at previous meetings would be revisited to determine what progress or changes had been made or occurred and to review possible further actions. A document reviewing these discussions to be created to facilitate the conversation.

Discussion Topic

The topic for the discussion was "Potential impact of the changes being made within Motorsport UK on clubs" A wide ranging discussion was held the following being amongst the key observations from members.

From a competitors perspective the changes as evidenced to this point hadn't been seen positively. The launch of the discount scheme where it seems that the retailers involved haven't yet communicated with all their outlets was cited as one factor.

It was thought that motorsport UK was not very successful at providing the reasoning and rationale for a number of the changes being made which was detracting from the understanding of the changes by clubs.

In order to gain support going forward and participation from clubs/club members it was thought that input from club level should be sought as part of any restructuring process.

Any Other Business

There was no additional business

Next Meeting

The next association delegates meeting will be the 30th April 2019 and will be preceded by the AGM

The meeting closed at 22.35

