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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS
17th Oct. 2023
Held as “Zoom” virtual meeting – locations various
The meeting commenced at 20.00 hrs**

Attendance

Members

21 were present representing 16 clubs as follows

Stanley Graham	Chairman / Wickford AC
Chris Musselle	Treasurer / CCC
Mark Banham	Kings Lynn &DMC
Chris Barningham	BRSCC East Anglia
Paul Barrett	Rally Chshp./ CMC
Mike Biss	Boundless (by CSMA) N London
Mike Bishop	Club Triumph
John Boot	West Suffolk MC
Steve Casey	Middx. CAC
Dave Calrk	WealdMC
Tony Clements	Regional Committee Rep / CMC
Rob Davies	MogFriends
Matt Endean	Motorsport UK Committees / CMC
Martin Freeman	Eastwood DMC
Carol Glenn	Borough 19
Tony Michael	Web / Comp Sec / CMC
Stuart Kingham	WAC
Claire Kirkpatrick	MotorsportUK
Dan Pearson	Eastern Counties MC
Pete Walters	Speed Chshp./Herts County AAC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary/MLO/ / Anglia MSC

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies

Clive Grounds – Training/ CCC, Dave Whyman -Sutton and Cheam, ,Rod McKenna Club Rally Sport West,
Duncan Russell – KLDMDC, Peter Boyce and Brian Millen – Blackpalfrey MC, Suze Endean -CMC, Chris Deal
– GreenbeltMC, Liz Jordan Maidstone MMKMC, Mark Wagstaff - Eastwood MC.

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 11th Oct. 2022 were reviewed and unanimously agreed to be a true representation. Proposed Cambridge Car Club (Chris Musselle), seconded Borough 19 (Carol Glenn)

Matters Arising not covered elsewhere

Appointment of a Vice Chair for the association had been held over from the AGM to allow clubs to consider potential candidates. A nomination had been received from Kings Lynn & DMC for Tony Hewitt for the role. After consideration the meeting agreed unanimously to approve this.

MiddxCAC reported that there is no news regarding the potential use of the old Rockingham circuit but this shouldn't be considered as negative. Mike Biss agreed to provide information on past use of the circuit.

Reports

Chairman

The chairman indicated that in order to continue to make the association more effective a change in approach is being considered/planned.

A key part of this is to form a number of groups to work on various relevant topics that have been/will be identified as priorities. These will form the basis for planning ongoing development and effective operation into the future.

The initial identified topics are those previously defined and published as the development activities (generally known as the "Daisy" diagram)

In order to coordinate the activities of these groups and to ensure there is an appropriate strategic plan a central group has been formed. Initially this is made up of the Chairman (Stanley), Treasurer (Chris), Regional Delegate (Tony) and Secretary (Brian). Each group will be work on defined topics, developing proposals and bringing them to the clubs/delegates meetings for consideration and adoption.

The topic of training, which has previously been identified by the association as an area it should continue to be involved in, has been selected as a start point and initial considerations have commenced.

The objective is to develop plans for meeting development needs throughout association club activities, widening coverage from the more traditional rallying focus. The need for support in all roles, areas, activities and disciplines across the clubs and club sport is recognised as basis for defining scope .

A consequence of an increase in activity in any area may entail additional costs leading to requirement to review of the associations funding model. This would be included in the overall planning for the association.

Proposals will be submitted to the clubs for consideration and be subject to general agreement.

The chairman concluded by highlighting that there is a significant amount of work to be undertaken which will need to be prioritised to be realistic. Even with prioritising additional

contributors will be required to progress successfully and clubs were asked to canvas their members for anyone willing/interested in helping move motor sport forward in the region.

Treasurer

A report on the current financial position and forecast had been circulated prior to the meeting. No direct queries were raised from the meeting.

The treasurer highlighted that the approach going forward is to use the budget/forecasting process to provide more visibility of the associations financial position going forward in order to provide a form of active financial management and support any expenditure decisions. In adopting this approach it was highlighted that the forecast will never be correct as circumstances will always change but it should represent the best information available in order to provide the best support.

Considering the training grants approved for the association in 2023. The support model from the training trust has changed slightly with only 75% of forecast cost now being covered by grant. This could result in an overspend to previous forecast but would become more apparent when detailed session plans are finalised.

A request had been received from Anglia MotorSport that consideration should be given to transferring the money received by AEMC from MSUK regarding motor sport month to them to offset the costs incurred in running the 2022 event on behalf of the association. This was discussed and agreed. AMSC were asked to submit an invoice accordingly.

Secretary

General correspondence had been received and circulated where appropriate.

MSUK had provided information that for some activities it appeared that messages passed through associations were more successful in reaching club members than those sent direct. On this basis it was agreed that the association would continue to forward appropriate messages.

Requests to join AEMC had been received from 3 clubs.

Worksop and District

A club with a bias towards rally involvement organising events with a good number of active competitors

Lincoln Motor Cycle and Car Club

A club with a significant history both in 2 and 4 wheel motorsport involved in organising events including stage rallies

BRSCC East Anglia Centre

A division of the national club predominantly involved in supporting racing at Snetterton. Their reasoning for requesting membership is to develop greater awareness and involvement between themselves and other clubs involved in other disciplines.

It was agreed by the meeting that all applications should be accepted and the secretary should inform each club.

The secretary reported that 34 clubs had renewed for 2023. The secretary to contact those clubs that haven't renewed by way of a reminder to determine whether they intend to.

Training

In the absence of the training coordinator, who was involved in a meeting with BRMC meeting developing plans for the year, a general update was provided.

As mentioned in the treasurers report grant funding has been gained for two sessions during the year. Details of these are being planned currently with an intent of providing a face to face training session for rally marshals in the first half of the year with a follow on session. Practical fire training is intended to be included at least one session.

Note – Subsequent to the closure of the meeting an update was provided by the training coordinator that in addition to any "face to face" there will be a series of 20 Zoom based training sessions provided in conjunction with the BRMC team covering rally marshalling topics. Notice of these will be circulated to clubs when available.

Clubs were reminded that the remaining sessions in the first round of event secretary and stewards workshops are being held in early 2023. The session local to the region is at Cambridge on the 18th March,. Clubs were urged to encourage their appropriate members to register.

Championship Reports

Awards presentations

A report was provided on the joint awards presentation event that had been held at Brooklands. The event had been held jointly by AEMC, ASEMC and ACSMC with awards from all three being presented. The format of the event was to augment the awards presentation itself with an opportunity to socialise and visit the museum. The report indicated that the event had been very successful and well received despite the extremely wet conditions. It was accepted that location resulted in some attendees needing to undertake a relatively long journey but the overall advantages of this style outweighed that. The three associations plan to hold a joint debrief session to identify any areas where improvement could be made and to recommend a plan for 2023 championships.

Rally Championship

The 2022 championship had been completed at Bovingdon in December with final results declared and published. The series eventually had 50 registered competitors which represents a welcome increase in participants. Unfortunately trophies were not available in time for the collective awards event and so will be distributed at the first events of the 2023 season.

Marsh Insurance who have sponsored the championship for a number of years (under a number of company titles) have dropped out of sponsoring for 2023. Their contribution over recent years was recognised and thanks were expressed. A potential sponsor for 2023 has been identified and it is hoped an announcement can be made soon..

The 2023 championship regulations are issued and it is due to commence at Brands with a further 9 rounds planned. 19 competitors have registered at this point but that is expected to increase as events are held.

Three events are scheduled to run in a short time span which is recognised as not being ideal but is being driven by the availability of venues and organising teams. An adjustment to the number of events to count has been made to recognise this.

Speed Championship

The 2022 championship was successfully concluded with awards from this and earlier years being presented at the Brooklands event. Experience was gained from the presentation which will be factored into future events to make them even more effective.

A survey of competitors had been held with one key finding being that competitors would accept a higher registration fee if they considered it to be still good value because the championship was able to “raise” its image as a consequence.

Championship merchandising is being considered with the availability of a limited number of clothing items being planned.

Sponsorship for the 2023 championship has been agreed with Key Guru again and an application for the permit will be submitted .

18 rounds are currently being planned

Regional Committee

A summary of topics from the Oct Regional Committee was provided, the main topics identified were.

- It is hoped that the long running discussion on D11.2 (Changes to championships) will finally be concluded for 2024 following consultation with the relevant committees
- The review of rules for Targa rallies will be presented to Rallies committee at their next meeting
- The MoD Liaison initiative is progressing well.
- The consultation process for regulation changes continues to be reviewed with an objective of reducing the period while ensuring everyone has an opportunity contribute.
- It was confirmed that damage to road surfaces on closed road events is not currently covered by the insurance master policy. To be reviewed with Blue Fin.
- Officials licences/driving disqualification. It was confirmed that this has been implemented with no significant issues
- 2022 licence/permit numbers have held up well although there is concern that there may be some reduction in 2023 driven by the economic situation.
- Vision 2030 which is the Motorsport UK strategic planning process is progressing well.
- Updates on the Street Car, Regional development, Officials recruitment initiatives were provided.
- Inter association events for AutoSolo and Autotests were considered to be still relevant with the possibility of a Targa event being included as a possibility.
- The role of associations continues to be significant within motorsport and the process of reviewing terms of reference is a priority.

- Claire Kirkpatrick has taken over responsibility for Regional and regional associations.

Regional Development - AEMC

Progress on this topic was agreed as being key and should continue in line with the chairman's earlier comments

It was indicated that while direction and strategy is being considered the main focus is the forming of the working groups structure and continuing to progress those areas identified as priorities.

The meeting was informed that a workshop/meeting was to be held with MotorsportUK on the 18th Jan reviewing the role and objectives of regional associations. All associations had been invited to attend.

Sustainability

Because of the significance of this topic it will be included within the associations development initiative

EDI

As with "sustainability" this will form part the overall development initiative

The meeting was reminded that MotorsportUK have now issued their EDI strategy.

Other Items

Venues

An update was provide by the MLO indicating that the initiative generally is progressing and proving successful. Access to other MLOs has proved very useful in understanding the workings of out of region Landmarc offices and how best to work with them. Within the region one new venue has been opened up for usage with events agreed and a second has agreed in principle to motorsport being held there. Investigation is ongoing with two other possibilities.

Motorsport Month

Following on from the success of Motorsport Month 2022 a recommendation to run a similar initiative in 2023 was made by a team from AMSC who have already met and agreed willingness to plan and deliver the programme on behalf of the association. It was confirmed that the association clubs agreed with this and would support AMSC practically and financially as appropriate and agreed.

Any other Business

Award

The meeting was informed that the Anglia Motor Sport Club had been elected as Club of the Year by Motorsport UK.

Insurance Cover /Process

It was highlighted that clubs had been experiencing significant problems in obtaining details and documents for “rally” insurance from Blue Fin. Claire agreed to follow this up to determine what help might be possible to improve this and to assist this it was requested that clubs share experiences in order to provide a fuller picture.

Opportunity

Mog Friends indicated that they are planning to attend at the Sandringham Pageant of Motoring (May) and indicated that this could be an opportunity for other clubs to also be there in order to “showcase” themselves. Further details of opportunities to be provided.

Promotion

A club commented that a recent interview by representatives of an association club on local radio discussing club activities and opportunities had been very successful in getting an awareness out to the general public and suggested that more clubs could consider this up.

Next Meeting

The next delegates meeting will be on the 9th May 2023 (Please note this is a correction from the date indicated at the meeting)

Actions taken forward

TOPIC	ACTION	BY
Rockingham	Information on past usage to be provided	Mike Biss
Association Operations	Consideration of ongoing strategy and development of working groups to be progressed.	Chairman
Association development	Clubs to share opportunities to canvas for members willing to contribute to ongoing development	Club Delegates
Association financial management	The financial forecast to be maintained and shared when relevant	Asscn. treasurer
Joining clubs	New clubs to be notified	Secretary
Training	Plans for ongoing training to be developed	Training Officer

Awards ceremony	Options for future events to be considered with ASEMC /ACSMC	Chairman
Rally Chshp. sponsorship	Potential sponsor to be progressed	Rally Chshp. Coord
2022 rally awards	Awards for the 2022 rally championship to be distributed	Rally Corodinator
Speed Championship	Regulations for 2023 to be completed and released	Speed Coordinator
Venues	Opportunities to be progressed	MLO
Motorsport Month	Plans for 2023 to be developed	AMSC
2022 Motorsport month	AMSC to invoice AEMC for cost incurred	AMSC
Rally Insurance	Performance issues with provider to be investigated	Claire Kirkpatrick
Sandringham Pageant	Details of event/opportunity to be provided	MogFriends