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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS
13th Aug. 2024
Held as “Zoom” virtual meeting – locations various
The meeting commenced at 20.00 hrs**

26 were present representing 21 organisations as follows

Stanley Graham	Chairman / Wickford AC
Chris Musselle	Treasurer / CCC
Mark Banham	Kings Lynn and DMC
Chris Barningham	BRSCC East Anglia
Paul Barrett	Chelmsford MC /Rally Championship
Simone Birch	ALRC/Leics. Rutland. Land Rover Club
John Boot	West Suffolk MC
Steve Casey	Middx. CAC
Anthony Chamberlain	Suffolk Land Rover Club
John Davie	Green Belt MC
Rob Davies	Mogfriends
Chris Deal	Anglia Motor Sport Club
Matt Endean	CMC / MSUK Committees
Martin Freeman	Eastwood and DMC
Phil Foster	Lincoln Motor Cycle and Car Club
Jon Fry	Lotus MC / Sporting Car Club of Norfolk
Clive Grounds	Cambridge CC
Chris Gwilliam	RSR Motorsport Safety
Stuart Kingham	Wickford AC / Safeguarding
Tony Michael	Web / Comp Sec / CMC
Stephen Laing	Borough 19
Kevin Peake	Asscn.. Land Rover Clubs
Clive Taylor	Naylor Car Club
Pete Walters	Speed Championship/ HCAAC
Dave Whyman	Sutton and Cheam MC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary / Anglia MSC

Welcome and Introduction

All were welcomed to the meeting

Apologies

Mike Biss – Boundless with CSMA, Andrew Bisping - ASCMC, Suze Rogers – CMC, Jeremy Carr – Suffolk Land Rover Club, Kevin Dyras - Midland Off Road Club, Liz Jordan – Maidstone and Mid Kent / ASEMC, Claire Kirkpatrick – Motorsport UK, Tracy Hill – Breckland Land Rover Club, Dan Pearson – Anglia Motor Sport Club, Dave Clark – Weald Motor Club

The chairman noted the sad passing of two motorsport colleagues in Pete Raynor and John Hickling who will be sadly missed both as individuals and for their involvement in the local regions.

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 11th June 2024 were reviewed and unanimously agreed to be a true representation. Proposed West Suffolk MC (John Boot), seconded Middx CAC (Steve Casey)

Matters Arising

Any matters arising are covered within the agenda items following

Note: - Subsequent to the meeting additional information became available relevant to the item minuted under HS and E in AoB..(11th June minutes)

Following distribution of the previous minutes it had been raised that the wording could have been misleading in that HSE regulations do apply across all activities including Voluntary organisations.

In response to an approach to Motorsport UK it has been confirmed that MSUK are aware of a requirement to ensure clarity on club responsibilities and a working party is being put together to provide this.

Summary Reports

Chairman

The chairman outlined that amongst the primary focuses for the association currently is to engage with member clubs in order to understand how they operate and what their challenges are in order that the association can best provide support to them. To facilitate this the association officials are working to connect with as many clubs as realistic and to attend events wherever possible.

Particular note had been taken of the recent annual ALRC weekend which provided a blend of competition and social activities which widens the scope for their members to engage with the club. The ALRC chair commented that a trial event is being planned as part of an initiative to widen interest to include more younger people. The event to be held later this year is a Junior Comp Safari to be run in the Norwich area.

The chairman reminded clubs that AEMC branded clothing is now available to all and can be ordered from the following site

<https://logothatpolo.co.uk/store/aemc/>

A joint association (AEMC, ACSMC, ASEM) presentation for the 2024 championships is being planned for the 5th Jan. 2025 and will be held at Brooklands as for the previous year's championships.

Treasurer

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The treasurer highlighted that the LARA subscription for 2024 has been paid and the money due to ASEM as part of the 2023 championship account had been transferred.

No specific questions were raised

Since the report had been created an update regarding the MSUK contribution to the Safeguarding course had been received and it is now anticipated that this will be closed in the near future.

Secretary

General correspondence has been received and circulated where appropriate.

A request for membership had been received from the Naylor Car Club. This was unanimously agreed. Proposed Cambridge CC (Clive Grounds), Seconded West Suffolk Motor Club (John Boot).

Championship Updates

Speed

The overall event list has been reduced to 22 following the cancellation of two events.

Otherwise the championship is progressing well with 47 registered competitors.

Plans for 2025 are now being considered.

In particular the inclusion of hill climbs would be seen as a development towards a true speed championship. Clubs or anyone with knowledge of South East venues, where the terrain offers more potential, are requested to consider and recommend any possibilities that could be followed up.

A new sponsor is also required. Ideas to the championship Coordinator.

A rally sprint event is proposed to be run at Lydden which would provide an opportunity for rally cars to compete in a "sprint like" format.

This acted as a reminder that rally cars can be competed in speed events.

Rally

6 rounds have been completed to date, including a new event at Blyton with 3 events still to be run, Bovington, South Downs and Rixy. There are currently 21 drivers and co drivers registered.

Initial planning for 2025 is in progress with a format and events similar to 2024 anticipated.

It has been recognised that this will need to be run under the reformatted NCR and therefore regulations will require rewriting to include this change.

For information it was mentioned that the 2024 rounds of the Circuit Rally Championship will be run to the 2024 yearbook rather than as trial events.

Cross Country

A general query was raised as to whether as a consequence of the number of CC clubs that are now part of the association there could be an opportunity to include some form of championship. This to be held as an option to be considered in the future.

Regional Committee Update

The chair had attended the July 23rd meeting where a number of key items had been covered. These were reported as follows.

- The Regional chair is forming a small working group with the objective of assessing how best to involve cross country focused clubs within the associations to be most effective overall.
- A revised Learning Hub has been implemented by Motorsport UK and can be found through the MSUK website.
- Sport 80 is planned to be implemented by Motorsport UK as the management and support system for clubs and club members including the management of licenses and permits. Roll out will commence in August with clubs being progressed first followed by licence renewals for 2025. Full implementation of all functionality is anticipated to be a 2 to 3 year project. A general concern was registered that it seemed that the involvement of actual users had been minimal. Clive indicated that some issues had been identified within the RLO process
- 133 clubs had responded to the club survey. Amongst the key issues that had been highlighted were the challenge in attracting new volunteers and practical difficulties in attending meetings.
- The venues project is progressing with one of the planned focus groups having been held. This session had been very successful with a lot of valuable information collected. Somewhat disappointing was the fact that other sessions had been cancelled due to lack of take up from the community. Late notice was highlighted as one potential reason. As a “go forward” plan it was agreed that regions would recommend representatives to attend future sessions. Once these names have been received a number of suitable sessions will be organised in conjunction with the nominees.

Next steps are to develop the engagement with clubs and develop toolkit documents while continuing the information gathering process.

- The first Street Car Festival is planned to be held at Bicester in mid Sept.
- Further training sessions for club safeguarding officers are being held later in the year. Dates and venues have been published and associations are urged to contact their clubs to ensure they are aware.
- A discussion had been held regarding Reg D 4.3.1 which defines the number of clubs/associations that can be invited to an event

Existing Reg. *Organising Clubs may invite: 45 Clubs provided that the names of those Clubs are published in the SRs or any number of Registered Championships and 4 Regional Associations and/or Recognised Groups.*

The question was raised whether this wording was currently most appropriate. MSUK will arrange a consultation to revise the wording based on Members input.

- An update on the position with regard to insurance on road rallies was provided which indicates that competitors are taking out their own top up policies and hence there is no appetite for a club based policy option.
The need for appropriate cover for safety cars on events was highlighted.
A check list has been created to assist organisers in ensuring correct insurance coverage is in place.
- An update on the NCR trial events was provided indicating that progress seems to be very positive. Associations were urged to ensure clubs were aware and prepared for implementation in Jan 2025
- A question was raised regarding training requirements for Club Safeguarding Officers specifically when an individual has an external “certification”. It was explained that currently the safeguarding course is not mandatory although feedback from all attendees to date, including very experienced individuals, has been very positive in that it provides an opportunity to network with others in the sport and discuss safeguarding in the motorsport context. The overall position is to be reviewed.

Open Forum /Discussions

- Clubs Concerns/Issues
No specific issues or topics were raised by clubs.
- National Competition Rules
A discussion was held on how to effectively prepare for the implementation of the NCR. The general feeling was that while an understanding can be achieved from studying them and this will be supported by MSUK webinars etc. later in the year, a better understanding of using them requires practice with interactive sessions being an effective approach. The association to review options to support clubs
- Sustainability
Recognising the significance of the topic for motorsport the association is planning to gain Sustainability Accreditation. Recognising that the role of an association differs from the activities of a club, advice is being sought from MSUK on how best to achieve this. During the discussion it was highlighted that any club organising either a closed road or forestry event now has to sign up to the sustainability charter.
- AEMC Branded Clothing
Clubs were reminded that AEMC branded clothing, which provides an opportunity to generate awareness of the association, is available for purchase through
<https://logothatpolo.co.uk/store/aemc/>

Any Other Business

- Taster Day
It was explained that a taster day was being organised for late August which would provide an opportunity for attendees to experience competing at an Autosolo as well as marshalling and other activities. The event is specifically

focused on females as part of an initiative to encourage involvement. Take up has been extremely good with a maximum of 41 registered covering a wide age range. The organisers were asked to provide feedback at the next meeting

- **EV Vehicles**

A request for additional guidance on how clubs can practically include EVs in events was raised. Following discussion a number of points /actions were determined.

- MSUK Guidance provides a basis
- Events need to consider how to incorporate them into classes. General opinion is that they need to be in a class of their own.
- Type of EV needs considering for suitability for the particular event and defined.
- Information on EV entries should be provided before the day to any Rescue or Recovery organisations involved.
- Information to be gathered from clubs already running events

Date of next meeting

The AGM and Delegates meeting will be on 26th Nov.

TOPIC	ACTION	BY
Hsand E	Follow up with MSUK on clarification	Core Team
Financial	Reach closure on CSO training course costs	Treasurer/ Training Co-Ord
Association	Create and manage a plan of “familiarisation” contacts to association clubs	Core team
Association	Welcome Naylor CC as a member	Secretary
Speed	Identify any venues potentially suitable for Hill climb events (or current non chshp. events)	Clubs
Speed	Forward any ideas on potential 2025 championship sponsors	Clubs
Safeguarding	Check CSOs area ware of training opportunities	Clubs
NCR	Review ways of supporting clubs with the implementation of NCR in 2025	Core Team

Sustainability	Progress plans for AEMC to obtain a sustainability accreditation	Core Team
Taster Day	Feedback to be provided at the next meeting on the taster day	Lotus MC /SCCoN
EV Vehicles	Information to be collected/forwarded on clubs / events already running including EV's	Various