

MINUTES OF THE DELEGATES' MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH-WESTERN CAR CLUBS, HELD AT THE HOLIDAY INN, RUNCORN, ON TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2008

WELCOME

The Chairman, Bob Milloy, welcomed delegates to the meeting.

ATTENDANCE

22 member clubs were represented by 24 delegates as follows:

Accrington MSC (Eve Fisher, Steve Johnson), BRCA (Jim Spencer), BRSCC (Mike Harris), Bury AC (Richard Murtha), Caernarfon & Anglesey MC (Jim Jones), Clwyd Vale MC (Brian Howatson), CSMA (Eve Fisher, Steve Johnson), Cumbrian Rover Owners Club (Katy Mashiter), Garstang & Preston MC (Steve Kenyon, Terry May), Glossop & DCC (John Buckley, G Lloyd), HRCR (Stan Appleton), Ilkley & DMC (Stan Appleton), Kirkby Lonsdale MC (Katy Mashiter, Bob Milloy), Knutsford & DMC (Steve Skepper), Lancs & Ches CC (Martin Nield), Liverpool MC (John Harden, Ron Hunt, Peter Riley), Longton & DMC (Mike Ashcroft, Peter Riley), Motor Sport NW (Martin Nield, Mark Wilkinson), North Wales CC (Dave Thomas), Stockport 061 MC (Bob Milloy, Mark Wilkinson). Wallasey MC (Mike Harris, Bill Turner), Wigan MC (Helen Fox, Martin Fox).

Officers present were: Bob Milloy (Chairman), Ron Hunt (Vice-Chairman), Dave Thomas (Championships Coordinator), Katy Mashiter (Press Officer), John Harden (Aintree LO), Stan Appleton (General Secretary).

APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded from Eric Cowcill (Treasurer), Ann McCormack (Warrington/Motorsport NW), Rosemary Wilkinson (Slaithwaite), Graeme Forrester (Wigton), Sue Rowland (Amman), Nick Venables (Chester), Nigel Bayley (ERO), Steve Cawley (Bolton), Gordon Warrington (Lindholme), Mike Farnworth (Training Officer), David Bailey (Lancs & Ches), Tom Dooley (BRSCC).

MINUTES

After amendment of 'Stockport MC' to 'Stockport 061 MC' and correctly attributing the Rallitrak discussion to Jim Jones, not Jim Spencer, the minutes of the November 2007 Delegates' Meeting were agreed as a true record on a proposal from Lancs & Ches CC, seconded by BRCA.

MATTERS ARISING

None

MSA MATTERS

Council had not met since the previous Delegates' Meeting.

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Bob Milloy reported on the meeting of 27 February. The inter-association autotest would be held in Northern Ireland on 15 May; Duncan Wild would act as captain of an ANWCC team. The i-a stage rally would return south of the border but had not been finally agreed. The East of Scotland Association would host the i-a road rally. An i-a sprint was expected to be run by EMAMC at Curborough which though not a popular venue with competitors would nevertheless be supported by ANWCC.

SPEED COMMITTEE

Peter Riley reported that Jane Harrop (who runs Gurston) had taken over the Chair. Phil Short and Jim Thompson had joined the committee but current vacancies remained and new blood was sought. John Harden asked why revised rules on towing points hadn't appeared in the Blue Book. Peter reported that the Speed Committee had approved the changes and Mike Harris confirmed that the new text would be going to Council. Peter Riley would miss the April meeting but would be happy to support a deputy.

RALLIES COMMITTEE

No report.

CORRESPONDENCE & SECRETARY'S REPORT

'Wheels' magazine would in future be issued only electronically. Revised forestry charges were received, broadly increased by RPI.

The Lombard Revival Rally would pass through the area in November, starting in Harrogate and finishing in Blackpool with halts in Carlisle.

A proposal from Lindholme MC had been issued with the agenda for the meeting. Lindholme wished to increase the number of associations which could be invited to an event from 4 to 6. There was general sympathy with the problem they were trying to address particularly as Lindholme were based in the centre of the country but also some doubts whether this was the right solution. There was some concern on the impact on competitors who might feel obliged to travel to 'remote' rounds of championships that were otherwise geographically compact and confined to the home patch of the coordinating association. The proposal had already been discussed in other associations and it was agreed that Bob Milloy would go to Regional Committee with an open mind to see if other persuasive arguments were made.

A letter had been received on the evening of the meeting from Rhyl & DMC, proposing that events that placed additional restrictions on vehicle eligibility beyond the Blue Book should not be accepted as ANWCC championship rounds. It had arisen because Telford AC's Moonbeam Rally had (as usual) put in its regs a bar on 'four-wheel drive turbo' cars. Although turbo cars were barred from events with a Road Rally permit by MSA regs, there was no MSA restriction on atmospheric four-wheel drives. Dave Thomas had specifically clarified the position with Telford AC at the start of the championship year but it seemed that the club had just carried forward the text from previous regs even though it was now confusing.

Delegates were divided on the rights of clubs to add further restrictions but recognised that (for example) relations with landowners might justify them on occasion. Meanwhile the event would remain in the 2008 Road Rally Championship but it was suggested that the driver of the normally-aspirated Impreza concerned should approach the organising club to negotiate clarification and acceptance of his entry.

The principle of the issue would be discussed later in the year when plans for the 2009 championships were being drawn up; this could apply to other disciplines too.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In Eric Cowcill's absence there was no formal report however a list of clubs whose fees were overdue was read out.

Outstanding fees are due from:

BARC British Rally Marshals Club

Keighley & DMC Longton & DMC

Tregaron & DMC

CHAMPIONSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dave Thomas reported a steady flow of registrations which were expected to grow with the North-West Stages and a rash of March events. The Trawsfynydd Challenge would now have sponsored awards. The 'Rally of the Year' had raised a question about abuse of the voting system; the intention is to avoid people voting for their own club but this is proving hard to police now that the vote is open to marshals as well.

The marshals' fund was looking healthy already and it was suggested that clubs as well as competitors might add to the fund.

FOREST LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

No report.

AINTREE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

John Harden reported that a formal hire agreement may be introduced for the first time. Relations are very good and John is able to deal directly with the relevant staff. A round of the Greenpower Trial is to be held there on Wednesday 10 September.

OTHER VENUES

The first rally at the relaunched Anglesey Circuit had worked well and there was scope for three or perhaps four events there each year, although it's not a cheap venue.

PRESS OFFICER'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

TRAINING OFFICER'S REPORT

Katy Mashiter deputised by saying that training numbers were down at the January events. Mike Farnworth was willing to run speed event training if clubs could coordinate to make it worthwhile. Bob Milloy reported that Oulton Park had recruited 60 new marshals; they had deliberately not been given first aid training.

Steve Johnson would be running two training events, specifically on first aid and on fire. Martin Nield reported that L&C require their competitors to do a day's marshalling.

RALLY LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

No report.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jim Jones reported that at the WAMC Northern Centre's forestry liaison meeting there had been discussion about letters requiring events to "slow down for footpaths" on routes. In discussion it was found that each local authority took a different line and that it was important to read the small print.

Steve Johnson had been seconded to Lancashire County Council's Casualty Reduction Partnership and expected this to lead to opportunities for showing young people the range of motorsport.

Jim Spencer spoke about a Sport England/MSA discussion on defining just what motorsport comprised. This had implications for business rates payments and it was suggested that if a club pays business rates they should speak to Jim for more information.

The meeting ended at 10.05pm.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 13 May 2008, 8pm, at the Holiday Inn, Runcorn.

AGENDA OF DELEGATES' MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH-WESTERN CAR CLUBS, TO BE HELD AT THE HOLIDAY INN, RUNCORN, ON TUESDAY 13 MAY 2008 AT 8pm.

- 1. Apologies for absence
- 2. Minutes of meeting held on 12 February 2008
- 3. Matters arising
- 4. MSA reports
- 5. Correspondence
- 6. Reports
 - a. General Secretary
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Championships Coordinator
 - d. Forestry Liaison Officer
 - e. Aintree Liaison Officer
 - f. Other Venue Liaison
 - g. Press Officer
 - h. Training Officer
 - i. MSA CTRLO
- 7. Any other business
- 8. Date and place of next meeting

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