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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MOTOR CLUBS
10th May. 2022
Held as “Zoom” virtual meeting – locations various
The meeting commenced at 20.00 hrs**

Attendance

Members

26 were present representing 15 clubs as follows

Gary Nicholls	Chairman / CMC
Stanley Graham	Vice Chairman / WAC
Chris Musselle	Treasurer / CCC
Mark Banham	Kings Lynn & DMC
Paul Barrett	Rally Championship / CMC (Part)
Mike Biss	Boundless
John Boot	West Suffolk MC
Steve Casey	Middx CAC
Dave Clark	Weald MC
Tony Clements	Regional Committee Rep / CMC
John Davie	Green Belt MC
Chris Deal	Green Belt MC
Matt Endean	Motorsport UK Committees / CMC
Suze Endean	Chelmsford MC
Lucy Fryer	Chelmsford MC
Carol Glenn	Borough 19
Clive Grounds	Training / Cambridge CC
Liz Jordan	ASEMC / Maidstone MKMC
Stuart Kingham	Wickford AC
Claire Kirkpatrick	Motorsport UK
Tony Michael	Web / Comp Sec / CMC
Brian Millen	Blackpalfrey MC
Dan Pearson	Anglia MSC
Pete Walters	Speed Championship / Herts County A & A
Kathy Woodward	Eastwood & DMC
Dave Whyman	Sutton and Cheam MC
Brian Hemmings	Secretary / Anglia MSC

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting .

Apologies

Andrew Bisping (ACSMC), Mike Bishop (Club Triumph), Allan Smith (WAC)

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 18th Jan. 2022 were reviewed and unanimously agreed to be a true representation. Proposed Wickford AC (Stuart Kingham)
Seconded Anglia MSC (Dan Pearson)

Matters Arising not covered elsewhere

It was agreed that there were no items to be covered that wouldn't be covered by items elsewhere in the agenda

Reports

Chairman - The chairman thanked the team that had been involved in running Motorsport Month for the association. The month has been successful and will be reported on later in the meeting.

Treasurer - A financial report had been circulated to delegates prior to the meeting. There were no questions raised from the attendees. A financial forecast for the remainder of the year was included in the report. It was highlighted that plans for championship presentations were still not confirmed and could result in a change to the forecast. This topic to be discussed later in the meeting. A draft of the financial report for 2021 had also been distributed for information although this will not be formally presented until the AGM later in the year.

Secretary – Messages had been received from various clubs and organisations and forwarded where appropriate.

Renewal payments have been received from all clubs apart from one that had provided notification that they were winding up. There will be therefore no outstanding renewals when the payment currently in progress is received.

Training - The virtual training sessions for rally marshals are continuing in conjunction with BMMC. Plans for a potential “actual” training session later in the year need to be followed up.

Championships

Awards presentation – The current position was highlighted as being that at the time of the meeting the 2021 rally awards have been generally distributed at a recent event while a plan for the Speed awards has still to be confirmed.

An extensive discussion was held on the options, objectives and potential approaches to both the short and longer term for association championship presentations.

The discussion included consideration that in order to strengthen motorsport in the region there is additionally a case for the association holding or supporting socially focused events, especially during the post Covid period, that could also be used as an opportunity to present awards. A general view was expressed that a change in style from the simple award presentation of the past would be beneficial.

As the majority of championships are now shared between associations it was suggested that the discussion could be best addressed collectively by the associations (ASEMC, ACSMC and AEMC).

The conclusion was that during 2022 it wasn't now going to be realistic to stage a substantial event but that the three associations should as a matter of urgency consider options for 2023 onwards.

Rally – The first 4 events for 2022 have now been run with 53 competitors currently registered. The most recent, the “Corbeau” ran to a slightly different structure necessitating reworking of results for the championship. This has been completed and integrated.

The next two rounds (Abingdon and Flying Fortress) are being held on the same day . Only one can be entered and count.

All sponsorship monies have been received

Speed - 38 competitors have registered to date although it is anticipated that this number will continue to increase. 7 rounds from the planned 22 have been successfully run at this time. For the first time, in 2022 the first event of the season was held at Cadwell Park and was very well received.

Regional Committee - The following points were discussed /agreed at the recent meeting

Inter Association Events – Feedback from associations had been that generally there isn't support for continuing with Inter Association events with the exception of Autosolo. Therefore it was decided that the only interassociation event to be run in 2022 will be an Autosolo. (Information/Regs. for this event have been circulated)

Club and Association Development – The two development streams have now been aligned with Claire Kirkpatrick leading on both. Claire had provided a presentation of plans and timings at the Regional meeting (timeline accompanying)

Street Car - The presentation on Street Car, which is now positioned as an Awareness Campaign for opportunities to become involved with motorsport using “standard” cars, has been circulated to clubs. Two clubs within AEMC have put themselves forward for consideration as Street Car Clubs with 3 individuals proposed as “contacts”.

MoD Liaison - The process for appointing MoD Liaison Officers in each region has progressed and is anticipated to be implemented very shortly. The process going forward will be that MLOs will take the lead on coordinating relationships and arrangements with MoD venues within their areas. Clubs wishing to use MoD venues will need to contact the appropriate MLO prior to approaching the venue although ongoing arrangements will remain between clubs/events and venues. Brian H has been proposed as the initial incumbent for the association.

AEMC Development - It was confirmed that the development work commenced within AEMC is aligned/complementary to the initiatives being progressed by MSUK and therefore needs to be progressed.

Sustainability – 2 Clubs have progressed through the MSUK accreditation process to date.

A review is being held within MSUK to determine the most effective way of addressing the issue of sustainability with clubs and ensuring that clubs can embrace the concept without feeling “intimidated” by the apparent scale and scope .

It was reiterated within the meeting that the various aspects of sustainability are becoming an expectation with many of the organisations that motor sport interacts with and are therefore embracing them is progressively becoming an essential part of club activities.

For clubs starting to embrace this topic an offer of support from the Chelmsford team was repeated and it was highlighted that support is also available from MSUK.

Maidstone MC have produced a very helpful summary sheet which is attached. (Thanks and credit to Emma Olsen for creating this)

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion – The “Better Together “ initiative created by Anglia Motor Sport continues to gather support from within the region and nationally with a growing number of clubs indicating they are adopting the approach. The awareness video is available on You Tube and the Code of Conduct is also available for clubs that want to use it as a basis for their own approach.

Other Items

Motorsport Month – It was reported by the organising team that the month had been successful. Equally important as this years initiative was positioned as a pilot a significant number of lessons had been learned on how to improve a similar event in the future. A key approach that was confirmed is that using social media is critical to reaching and engaging with the public. A “Get into Motorsport” session was held early in the month which proved extremely successful. An invitation to an open meeting was circulated through social media. During the meeting a short presentation was given on opportunities available in club level motorsport supported by presentations by two local club competitors on their experiences.

Following the presentation there was an opportunity to talk to local club members about the opportunities and upcoming events. Take up by attendees, all of whom had no previous motorsport connection or knowledge, was incredibly high with 11 attendees having been involved in competing, marshalling or attending within 2 weeks of the event. Material used at the session can be made available to clubs if requested.

Any other Business

Event dates Management – An observation was raised by a member club that there seems to be a growing problem with date clashes impacting events and a query raised as to whether the association could take a more active role in helping to coordinate the overall calendar to help avoid this.

In discussion it was recognised that the post Covid lockdown period had been particularly problematic in fixing dates as situations changed but it seems that it is getting harder to manage the calendar, optimally, regionally for all clubs. It was noted that historically this was a principle activity for associations. Because of the overlap between events in adjoining associations (joint championships being one consideration) it was suggested and agreed that the discussion should be commenced at the joint association meeting.

Association championship finances – Following the earlier discussions the treasurer asked for and received approval to complete the 2021 championship finances within the association and with ASEMC.

Next Meeting - The next meeting will be held on 26th July 2022

