

ANWCC Minutes of Meeting

held 10th February 2026

Mere and Tabley Community Club, Warrington
Rd, Mere, Knutsford WA16 0TD



Action Summary

The following actions are summarised from the meeting minutes:

Minute	Action	
2026.17 - Any Other Business	Investigate cost of awarding keepsake trophies.	Dave Thomas
2026.17 - Any Other Business	Contact MSUK to ascertain why the new official roles had not yet been added to Katy Mashiter's licence.	Tracey Smith

Present were:

Chris Winstanley (Longton DMC), Eric Cowcill (PaN), Oz Phillips (BMMC), Paul Goodman (MGCC NW), Roger Hopkins and Les Sharp (Knutsford DMC), Steven Kenyon (Garstang and Preston MC), Colin Lester-Jones (North Wales CC), Andy Rushton (Garstang and Preston MC/Pendle and District MC), Steve Johnson (U17MC(NW), Accrington MSC, CSMA, SD34 MSG), Paul Kelly and Ray Simpson (CSMA) and Jonathan Armishaw (AMRO).

Officials present were:

Mark Wilkinson (Chairman/Stockport 061/Motor Sport (North West)/2300 Club and GEM Radio), Dave V Thomas (Championships Manager and North Wales CC), John Harden (Vice-Chairman and Liverpool MC), Jack Mather (Vice-Chairman and BLMCC), Jim Spencer (Treasurer/BRCA and Hagley) Katy Mashiter (Training Officer and Kirkby Lonsdale MC/Morecambe CC), Maurice Ellison (Press Officer and Clitheroe DMC) and Tracey Smith (Secretary/BRMC).

Apologies for Absence:

Roy Bell (ANMMC), Derrick Wallbank (Owen MC), Martin Blackburn (Manx MSMA), John Cordery (BRMC), Tim Bendelow (ANCC), Stephen Kimber (Towmann Recovery), Gordon Pirie (RLO), David Gregory (Quinton Motor Club), Chris Johnes (South Oxon CC), Barry Wilkinson (PDMC), Nick Stafford (MLO), Gareth Roberts (Broughton-Bretton CC) and Kevin Witton (FLO).

2026.01 - Welcome

Mark Wilkinson welcomed delegates to the meeting.

2026.02 - Minutes of Previous Meeting

Point of accuracy - Martin Jelley represented Preston and District Vintage CC at the November meeting.

The minutes were proposed by Katy Mashiter and seconded by Dave Thomas.



Actions from the previous meeting:

2025.58 (Motorsport UK Reports Rallies Executive) - Mark Wilkinson to provide feedback to MSUK that clubs were dissatisfied with the short consultation period on the latest road rally licensing/technical regulations.

2025.59 (Discussion (f) Sprint/Hillclimb) - Mark Wilkinson to ask Andrew Bisping whether non-championship hill climb venue operators had been intentionally excluded from the Hill Climb Venue Operators' Working Group.

2025.60 (Regional Association Development Plan Recruitment Subgroup) - Tracey Smith to provide Jack Mather with contact details for the Recruitment subgroup. *Complete.*

2025.63 (Secretary's Report (a.) Correspondence) - Dave Thomas to remove the need to submit private addresses from the club registration form. *Superseded.*

2025.65 (Championships) - Dave Thomas and Jonathan Baines to consult clubs on the draft 2026 speed championship regulations. *Complete.*

2025.65 (Championships) - All member clubs to actively promote the ANWCC championships, including the marshal championship, at their events. *Ongoing.* Tracey Smith asked delegates to contact Dave Thomas for promotional materials, where needed, for use on social media and in event regulations.

2026.03 - Matters Arising

Jim Spencer reported on progress with MSUK regarding BRCA membership. BRCA delegates had met with Hugh Chambers and representatives from the Club and Community Development, Legal and Safeguarding teams to discuss liability issues relating to safeguarding.

The issue had arisen as the 'recognised group' category no longer existed within the Sport:80 registration system and the BRCA had been migrated to the 'motor club' category, which did not reflect the role of the Association. As the Association had previously been affiliated with Motorsport UK, work was underway to develop a new affiliation programme.

Jim further reported that BRCA representatives had also met with the Media and Marketing teams, resulting in an agreement that MSUK would make better use of the membership data shared with them by the BRCA.

It was recognised that this could have wider implications for other recognised groups, including SD34 Motor Sport Group. Steve Johnson stated that SD34 fell within the 'recognised club (non-permit)' category.

2026.04 - Motorsport UK Reports

Next Regional Committee meeting - 12 March 2026.

2026.05 – Discussion

a) Racing

Nothing to report.

b) Rallying

Katy Mashiter explained that the loss of the Malcolm Wilson event was due to the high cost of forest road regrading. The release of pine martens in the area and the perceived environmental impact of the rally event had presented further barriers. The cancellation represented a significant loss of income to local businesses.

c) Karting

Nothing to report.

d) Cross-Country

Nothing to report.

e) Autotest/Autosolo

Nothing to report.

f) Sprint/Hillclimb

John Harden reported that the Hillclimb Operators Working Group met before Christmas. The meeting was intended to bring together venue operators who MSUK believed held track licences; however, it was clarified that licences are held by clubs. The meeting was reported to be positive and provided an opportunity to share experiences and develop contacts.

John reported that MSUK was progressing plans for common electronic signalling to replace traditional flag signals; however, this did not apply to hillclimb events due to the lack of suitable power supplies on the hills. MSUK was therefore seeking a common supplier of battery-operated light signals to help minimise costs. It was acknowledged that demand was limited and that there was no intention to make light signals compulsory. The potential benefits included improved visibility and the ability to position signals in locations where it would be unsafe to station marshals. John also reiterated that the sprint and hillclimb discipline was experiencing a significant shortage of marshals.

Eric Cowcill stated that an extensive program of health and safety enhancement work was ongoing.

Paul Goodman has reached an agreement with the British Racing and Sports Car Club to run the championship for MG Car Club members. Paul expressed concern that the National Hillclimb Championship was becoming difficult to regulate, with cars becoming increasingly more powerful and safety provisions not keeping pace.

2026.06 Recruitment and the Regional Development Plan

The Recruitment Subgroup met before Christmas and had identified a number of events it wished to attend. It was noted that additional promotional items would be required and that an application to the Club Development Fund might be necessary.

Oz-Lloyd Phillips reported that, in his capacity as North West Chairman of the BMMC, he was running a "Try Something Different" campaign during the year to encourage marshals to attend a different type of motorsport event from their usual discipline.

Steve Johnson advised that he had a site meeting scheduled for the following day and was supporting the organising team of the Witton Park event on 11/12 July. Steve proposed a multi-discipline car village, demonstration/passenger rides, PCA event and a BRCA area for remote-control car demonstrations. Steve was seeking volunteers to lead the organisation of the car village. The event would also provide a training opportunity for stage set-up and a representative from Sapphire Solutions would be attending to deliver training on the Sapphire app.

John Harden asked Tracey Smith whether there had been any interest in the Bolesworth Castle Shedfest event on 2 May from clubs. Tracey advised that she was not aware of any interest.

2026.07 - Sustainability

Mark congratulated Knutsford and District Motor Club on their award for 2025 MSUK Sustainable Club of the Year and invited Les Sharp to present an overview of the club's success in achieving Sustainable Club status and Sustainable Rally Charter for the Plains Rally event.

Les outlined the application process. It was noted that applications should include a reference to the relevant legislation applicable to the discipline. During 2026, monitoring would be undertaken by the club to demonstrate any gains achieved through emissions reductions and other improvements. The club were also seeking ISO 14001 accreditation.

Les emphasised that sustainability measures should avoid placing a financial burden on competitors. It was also noted that electric vehicles were not considered a complete solution and that the impact of spectators was included in the carbon calculator tool.

Examples of potential gains included reducing emissions at source, such as minimising vehicle idling during events and mitigating the effects of adverse weather conditions, for example, controlling dirty water run-off following heavy rain.

Les stated that it was important to distinguish between 'net zero' and 'carbon neutral'. The Sustainable Club initiative aimed to achieve 'net zero' by 2050.

Steve Johnson reported that he had introduced reusable cable ties to minimise waste and plastic pollution and was also using reusable Correx signage at events. It was agreed that consistent branding was important in order to avoid the need to reproduce new signage for each event.

Les had produced a plain-English guidance document and had shared it with MSUK for distribution to clubs to assist with the sustainability application process; however, this had not yet been circulated. Les will also sit on the MSUK Sustainability Committee.

Mark Wilkinson presented the ADL Scroll Award to Les Sharp in recognition of his outstanding achievement in motorsport sustainability.

2026.08 – Safeguarding

Tracey Smith reported there had been a complaint about comments posted on social media that were not directly related to motorsport, but by association with other posts, the club member had been identified and reported. Delegates were reminded of the Race with Respect policy and the Code of Conduct.

2026.09 - Secretary's Report

a.) Correspondence

Minutes received from AEMC and ANEMMC.

b.) New Member Clubs

Applications to join ANWCC were received from Maesteg and District Motor Club and Llandysul Motor Club. No objections were received and the clubs were welcomed as full members of ANWCC, subject to receipt of any subscription fees due. Mark Wilkinson wished the clubs and their members every success.

c.) LARA

Eric Cowcill reported on the most recent LARA meeting. The Bamford Clough (Derbyshire) TRO, used by some clubs for trial events, was due to expire and had not yet been renewed. The Countryside Charter sought to raise awareness of speed and noise issues arising from events and required local authorities and landowners to consider these factors.

2026.10 - Treasurer's Report

Jim Spencer's report was received at the AGM preceding this meeting. Figures reflected a decline in subscriptions and registrations, but with very minimal expenses in running the Association, 2025 income met expenditure. Dave Thomas stated there were currently 138 member clubs with 12 clubs yet to pay their 2026 subscriptions.

2026.11 – Championships

Dave Thomas reported that the Championship application forms had been received late from MSUK and that he had also been required to complete the new style Speed Championship Permit Application, which resulted in a 12-page document because it contains a lot of irrelevant detail. This compares with just 2 or 3 pages currently. Dave Thomas and Paul Goodman both reported difficulties in completing the application.

Paul further noted that revisions to the Hillclimb regulations, including distinctions between 'recommended' and 'strongly recommended', made the regulations difficult to interpret, particularly for newcomers to the sport.

Dave Thomas reported that 186 registered competitors for 2026 had been received to date. The championship calendar had been finalised on 31 January (rather than 31 December). Dave reminded clubs to let him know when event regulations were published and entries open so that he can publicise the event on the ANWCC webpage.

Marshals Monthly £30 Prize Draw-the winners were:

- November - Sam Collinson (British Motorsport Marshals Club)
- December - Sasha Heriot (Matlock MC and BWRDC)
- January - Dylan Siôn Richards (Bala and District MC)

Mark Wilkinson congratulated the winners of the prize draw.

2026.12 - Press

Nothing to report.

2026.13 – Training

Katy Mashiter reported that the BMT funding bid applications for training funding had been successful.

2026.14 - Forestry Liaison Officer Report

Kevin Witton stated there was nothing to report.

2026.15 - Route Liaison Officer Report

Gordon Pirie provided a written report. The three areas covered (Cheshire, Merseyside and Greater Manchester) had been busy over the past year. Member clubs were commended for the high standard of PR work undertaken, which was recognised as essential despite being time-consuming and sometimes frustrating.

Gordon highlighted an issue that had become increasingly common nationally - some clubs had failed to notify the relevant Route Liaison Officer (RLO) of events, with some RLOs becoming aware only via social media. Gordon reminded clubs that for all events requiring a permit or certificate of exemption, the RLO must be contacted before any application was made or within 48 hours of submission. This requirement also applied to events held solely on private land, such as single-venue stage rallies, sprints and hill climbs.

Gordon reported that MSUK had indicated that wording on application forms would be amended for 2026 and that permits could be withdrawn where National Competition Rules timescales were not adhered to. This followed issues arising from poor communication between clubs and the governing body, event clashes and public complaints regarding events passing through sensitive areas without RLO awareness.

Gordon thanked clubs for their continued efforts and offered best wishes for a safe 2026.

2026.16 - Military Liaison Officer Report

Nick Stafford provided a written report. Access to military assets and infrastructure remains challenging. This was due to several overriding factors, including fast-changing domestic and global situations, reorganisation with the tri-services structure for better efficiency and 'mothballed' infrastructure being brought back into service, which has a knock-on effect on connected assets. A lot of sites, indirectly, have sensitive (or new) equipment located for evaluation and testing.

Although landholders were not opposed to motorsport (and in some cases were supportive), they were reluctant to grant access due to the significant cost and planning involved and the risk of needing to withdraw permission at short notice, which they believed would generate adverse publicity.

Nick stated that some discussions suggested that club motorsport, particularly rallying, could do more to support its own case. Widely publicised accidents, online videos and environmental perceptions were cited as areas that should be addressed.

In summary, the military is concerned about further adverse publicity. A serious or fatal incident would attract unwanted attention and while the services were under pressure to reduce their carbon footprint - with motorsport seen as unhelpful - other stakeholders were more supportive. Subject to operational requirements, smaller events such as Autosolos were viewed more favourably.

2026.17 - Any Other Business

Maurice Ellison stated that organisers can now promote an event before a permit is issued.

Jonathan Armishaw reported that the new 'Rescue and Recovery' sheet had altered training requirements, with training at 17 replaced by training at 18 without prior notification. A number of units had not yet received licences due to delays in DBS checks, with the potential to affect crew availability at events.

Maurice Ellison proposed that, where single-issue trophies were awarded, a keepsake should also be presented to the recipient. This was seconded by Steve Johnson. Dave Thomas to investigate additional awards.

Katy Mashiter advised that she had submitted a letter of recommendation for two roles before Christmas, which had not yet been processed. Tracey Smith to contact MSUK to ascertain why the Event Secretary and Competitor Liaison Officer roles had not yet been added to Katy's licence.

Eric Cowcill has a new email address: cowcilleric@gmail.com

2026.18 - Date of next meeting

Tuesday 12th May 2026 from 7.30 pm at Mere and Tabley Community Club, Warrington Rd, Mere, Knutsford WA16 0TD.

2026.19 - Meeting ended at 21:42 hours.
