

MINUTES OF THE DELEGATES' MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH-WESTERN CAR CLUBS, HELD AT THE HOLIDAY INN, RUNCORN, ON TUESDAY 14 AUGUST 2007.

WELCOME

The Chairman, Bob Milloy, welcomed delegates to the meeting with a particular welcome to the ANWCC President, Allan Dean-Lewis, MSA External Affairs Executive.

ATTENDANCE

21 member clubs were represented by 26 delegates as follows: Bolton-le-Moors CC (Steve Cawley), BRCA (Jim Spencer), BRMC (Mike Farnworth), BRSCC(NW) (Mike Harris), Caernarvon & Anglesey MC (Jim Jones), Clwyd Vale MC (Peter White), Garstang & Preston MC (Steve Kenyon, Terry May), HRCR (Stan Appleton), Ilkley & DMC (Clive Baty, Stan Appleton), Kirkby Lonsdale MC (Katy Mashiter, Bob Milloy), Lancs & Ches CC (Martin Nield), Lindholme MSC (Gordon Waddington), Liverpool MC (Ron Hunt, John Harden), Longton & DMC (Peter Riley, Mike Ashcroft), Motor Sport (NW)(Mark Wilkinson, Martin Nield), North Wales CC (Dave Thomas), Potteries & Newcastle MC(Sue Sanders-Peppitt, Eric Cowcill), Stockport 061 MC (Ken Wilkinson, Mark Wilkinson, Bob Milloy), Wallasey MC (Mike Harris), Warrington & DMC (Ann McCormack), Wigan MC (Martin Fox, Helen Fox).

Officials present were Allan Dean-Lewis (President), Bob Milloy (Chairman), Ron Hunt (Vice-Chairman), Eric Cowcill (Treasurer), Dave Thomas (Championship Coordinator), Mike Farnworth (Training Officer), Katy Mashiter (Press Officer), John Harden (Aintree LO), Stan Appleton (General Secretary).

APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded from Mike Yates and Frazer Metcalfe (Slaithwaite MC), Tim Hobbs (Telford AC), Steve Johnson (CSMA, Accrington MSC), Nigel Bayley (ERO), Kevin Witton (FLO, Wolverhampton & SSCC), Steve Skepper (Knutsford MC), David Bayley (Lancs & Ches CC), Tom Dooley (BRSCC).

MINUTES

The minutes of the May 2007 Delegates' Meeting were agreed as a true record on a proposal from Ilkley & DMC, seconded by Kirkby Lonsdale MC.

MATTERS ARISING

The General Secretary apologised for failing to refer to the correct title of the recently merged Stockport 061 Motor Club.

Plans for the ANWCC 50th Anniversary were progressing well and would be based around the Oulton Park Gold Cup meeting at August Bank Holiday. The organisers of the meeting had offered free admission to the *driver* of any suitable classic vehicle on Sunday or Monday and were arranging a 'quiet parade' during the Sunday morning curfew period. However it was proposed that ANWCC should focus on a static display of say 10-12 varied cars on Monday 27 August. Several cars had been offered from a range of disciplines and periods and tickets would be sent directly to the drivers. Thanks were given to Jim Spencer for providing four new ANWCC banners which would be used at the display and would subsequently be available for loan to clubs. Liverpool MC would be there in their own right and other clubs were invited to staff their 'Volunteers in Motorsport' stand.

MSA MATTERS

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS EXECUTIVE

Allan Dean-Lewis reminded delegates that funds were still available in both the Club Development Fund (providing 50% of matching funding) and the Rescue Development Fund (providing up to 70% of costs), subject to individual ceilings. Clubs should speak to AD-L beforehand to ensure that their proposal is presented in a way that complies with the criteria.

Nominations for Club of the Year and Marshal of the Year must be made by October 2008.

A 'Next Generation' working group had been set up to consider the development needs of under-25's, which category surprisingly includes 167 licensed officials. The 'Women in Motorsport' group was also being refreshed under the leadership of a female MSA executive. There were clear signs of a 'Hamilton effect' drawing youngsters towards kart racing.

Proof copies of sections of the rewritten Blue Book were being circulated for quality assurance within MSA. The 2008 Blue Book would be accompanied by a DVD.

MSA's insurance brokerage would move from Locktons to JLT from 1.1.08. JLT have already taken over existing claims. Details of transitional arrangements would be sent to clubs.

The dates and locations of 2008 Club Officials Seminars would soon be confirmed but were expected to include Llandrindod Wells on 17.2.08, Brighouse on 23.2.08 and Birmingham on 24.2.08.

140 clubs have so far nominated Child Protection Officers and 30 more have had MSA agreement not to appoint because of their specific circumstances. CPO's needed to study the Sports UK website for information on training courses.

Licensed officials would be required to have CPB clearance if they had any contact with juveniles or other vulnerable groups but would not need further training.

Delegates asked whether the incentives promised under the Marshals' Registration Scheme would ever materialise. Allan explained that there had been a massively bigger take-up than had been envisaged (8000 vs 100's) and that MSA was grateful to associations and clubs filling the recognition gap, with marshals' funds, draws, etc. The MSA marshals database was being refined and better targeted and would become accessible to each club's nominated Chief Marshal.

COUNCIL

Eric Cowcill reported on the 4.6.08 meeting of Council, now one of four per annum, previously three. Council would become more active and would break into sub-group discussions for better progress of some issues.

BMW are pressing for under-16's to have a means of getting international racing licences and a response is being considered. Catalytic converters are to be mandatory for saloon, touring and sports cars of the appropriate age. The prescribed medical equipment for rescue units is being updated.

PCT's were to become 'Car Trials' with new definitions in order to 'widen participation'! Transitional regulations had been agreed for K37 special stage cars. Rally cars would be required to have an internal cut-off switch, accessible to both crew members; this applied to historics too.

Clubs would only be able to have Cadet Marshals on duty if they had appointed a Child Protection Officer, although the CPO was not required to attend each event.

Pump fuel was to be mandatory, unless either MSA or the particular championship had given a dispensation. Under-16's would have their first competition licence issued free of charge. MSA fully acknowledges the 2007 licence debacle and has put measures in place to ensure 2008 renewals are handled properly.

The Rally Elite scheme had been extended to Race Elite and a Kart scheme is under development.

The Club Manual is being revised by Stuart Turner.

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Bob Milloy reported on the meeting of 30 May. Richard Nunn had been appointed to help AD-L on Volunteers in Motorsport, whilst Joe Hickerton had joined the Technical Department supporting John Symes.

Scottish representatives had been pressing the argument for the potential of closed road rallying but accepted that at present neither Scotland nor Wales had delegated powers to enable this; Westminster legislation was still needed.

The Midlands-based regional associations had agreed to pilot MSA's proposed Regional Liaison Officers, for Volunteers in Motorsport. Gerry Blythe (ANEMMC) who also sits on the Safety Committee had enquired into the adequacy of Rescue Units and found that whilst there were enough vehicles available for current events there was a real shortage of crew members.

ANWCC had no team at the inter-association PCT nor the inter-association autocross but would definitely have a team at the inter-association road rally, hosted by Clitheroe/CSMA on behalf of ANWCC. The Tour of Mull would again be the inter-association stage rally, hopefully with improved results that could assign crews to their appropriate team. The 2008 inter-association autotest will be in Ulster; it was hoped to negotiate reduced ferry rates. Consideration is being given to extending the inter-association events to include a sporting car trial and a speed event.

ANECCC brought a proposal for road rallies to have the level of their permit determined by the mileage involved. Their target is long-distance events run under a 'closed to club' permit; some of these aren't run under road rally permits though.

RALLIES COMMITTEE

Sue Sanders-Peppitt reported on the meeting of 18 July. A scheme for upgrading road rally licences to International level had been discussed to meet the needs of those competing abroad.

The consultation on K37 proposals had drawn a very big response, much of it well-reasoned and demonstrating a wealth of engineering knowledge. Two active observers had joined Rallies Committee for this discussion. Original proposals had been moderated to provide a more realistic and pragmatic outcome. Category 3 cars would remain eligible until 31.12.11; they would have to comply with the new version of K37 from 1.1.12. There were thought to be around 20 Category 3 cars at present. The drafting had been much improved around the definitions for 'modified cars'. Earlier proposals for wheel widths and vehicle weights were simply wrong, having been drawn from the wrong FIA specification.

Changes are to be made to harness regulations so that four-point harnesses can't be arranged to use just three mounting points. Standards for protective overalls are to be tightened, advisory for 2008, mandatory for 2009.

SPEED COMMITTEE

Peter Riley reported that much of Section L was now being updated. He was concerned at how mandatory catalytic converters could be policed but was advised by Mike Harris that this is currently done in racing by use of a thermal gun, measuring the temperature before, in the centre of, and after the catalytic converter. Clarification was needed about definitions of 'production-based' vehicles given the number of kitcars on speed events.

The principle of having front and rear towing eyes had been agreed but there seemed to be problems in specification; perhaps a towing *point* would be easier to define, permitting the use of the rollcage.

Incidents were related of scrutineers repeatedly allowing cars to run without logbooks. This was quite unacceptable.

Mike Ashcroft asked for clarification about 'pump fuel' now that 104 Octane fuel was available at certain outlets. Mike Harris confirmed that Technical Committee would be looking again at this later in the year, conscious of evolving products in both biofuels and petroleum based fuel.

The List 1a of acceptable tyres was in need of major revision. No race series was thought to comply.

SECRETARY'S REPORT, INCLUDING CORRESPONDENCE

Stan Appleton reported that the latest edition of Wheels magazine reiterated the need for clubs to be careful over access to their websites and other electronic media to avoid inappropriate comments on a public medium and subsequent liability.

The 2008 forestry allocations letter had just been received although it seemed we had received that for AWMMC!

A letter had been received from a lady who was clearing her late father's estate and offered to pass on a number of trophies from the 1950's, from events run by L&C, MGCC, Mid-Cheshire, BRSCC, and Bolton-I-M. If those clubs are interested they should contact the General Secretary for details.

John Symes had reported back following his attendance at the last meeting; the point about consistency of approach to single-venue stages was taken on board by Ian Davis, Rallies Executive.

A nomination for appointment to Rallies Committee (or possibly Autotest Committee) had been endorsed for Steve Johnson. Applications for membership had been received from Alwoodley MC and from Trackrod MC and were approved by the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Eric Cowcill expressed concern at the ever-rising cost of the meeting at the Holiday Inn. It was however considered to be well-located for the association and to be able to meet requests for food and drink without prior booking, albeit at a high price. Oulton Park now has suitable facilities, including a bar, at a lower cost. There were also possibilities at Three Sisters but this may not be so accessible for some; Mike Ashcroft agreed to enquire what was available. This broadened into a discussion on the value that clubs got from the association and the delegates' meeting in particular. It was agreed that it was a most invaluable forum and that whilst numbers of attendees might appear low, we were probably better supported that most other associations.

CHAMPIONSHIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Dave Thomas reported that 42 of the 86 clubs have already paid their subscriptions for next year. A very small number are still outstanding for this year. Competitors' registrations are 20% down on last year. It was repeated that for the championship tables to be responsive, clubs must get accurate results to the coordinator as soon as possible. Thoughts for 2008 included a possible autosolo championship; there would not be an endurance road rally championship as only two clubs were now running them.

The 1400 Rally Club would be joining with Formula 1000 Rally Club to run a forest rally championship based on the BTRDA calendar.

Dave Thomas confirmed that he is generally able to reconstruct sets of results where necessary to enable points to be awarded on the ANWCC class structures even where the event ran under different definitions. PCT's may be a case in point.

The Marshals' Draw was held with prizes going to Ed Johnson, Kath Simpson and Steve Johnson.

The 2008 awards presentation is likely to be on either 2.2.08 or 9.2.08 and the use of gold etching on the glassware is being investigated, for our Jubilee year. How could more people be encouraged to attend? Reasons for non-attendance were various. Again, other venues were proposed and Mike Ashcroft would investigate.

FORESTRY LIAISON OFFICER

No report from Kevin Witton

AINTREE LIAISON OFFICER

John Harden reported that three-quarters of the season was now successfully over. He was due to meet the new Managing Director of Aintree Racecourse next week but day to day operational relations had been good. The golf course extension is likely to need part of the paddock during the construction phase.

OTHER VENUES

Unusually, Clitheroe were denied the use of Weeton Camp due to 'other activities' which is always a risk with MOD venues.

The new Ty Croes circuit looks extremely good. Caemarvon & Anglesey MC have agreed plans for their rally there on 17/18 November.

PRESS OFFICER

Katy Mashiter had nothing to report.

TRAINING OFFICER'S REPORT

The 2008 budget has been sent to MSA. Attendance numbers need to be sustained to justify this level of investment. Events are planned for Stockport on 26.1.08 and for Askham Bryan on 27.1.08. Several new instructors have been appointed allowing a greater number and spread of clubnight visits.

Sue Sanders-Peppitt added that the Buddies scheme was proving successful. In rallying it was often recognising current good practice.

C&T RALLIES LIAISON OFFICER

No report from Gordon Pirie

OTHER BUSINESS

John Harden (Liverpool MC) is involved with a Jaguar/Landrover family day at their Speke plant where there may be an opportunity for a display of 'Ford group' vehicles. He will send Dave Thomas suitable text for a website newsflash.

Jim Spencer (BRCA) asked why MSA were very quiet and missing opportunities about Green Issues and in particular the carbon-offset potential in motorsport. Stan Appleton explained the way that carbon-offsetting was linked with Ilkley & DMC's Yorkshire Revival Rally; a small number of other clubs had taken similar initiatives. A proposal was made by BRCA, seconded by Liverpool MC, that Regional Committee should consider a formal proposal to link all motorsport activity with carbon-offsetting, perhaps via a levy on permits or on licence fees.

Martin Nield (Lancs & Ches CC) told delegates of an inter-club quiz to be held between Stockport 061, Wallasey, Warrington, Knutsford and Lancs & Ches, on 1.11.08 at Worsley Old Hall.

Finally it was agreed that ANWCC would if necessary pay to enable the Championship Coordinator to have an upgrade to Broadband – to speed up every club's communications with him!!

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 13 November 2007

AGENDA

For the Delegates' Meeting of the Association of North Western Car Clubs,

To be held at Holiday Inn, Runcom, on Tuesday 13 November 2007.

Apologies for absence Minutes of last meeting (August 2007) Matters arising **MSA Matters** Reports

General Secretary, including correspondence

Treasurer Championship Coordinator Forestry Liaison Officer Aintree Liaison Officer Other venues Press Officer Training Officer

C&T Rallies Liaison Officer

Any other business

Date and place of next meeting

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