

THE CARAVAN CLUB – SUFFOLK CENTRE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT HINTLESHAM

WEDNESDAY 14th Jun 2017 at 7.30pm

The Meeting was opened at 19:35 with Janice Kent (Lady Chairman) in the Chair.

Present:

Lady Chairman	Janice Kent	JK
Vice Chairman	Trevor Smith	TS
Treasurer	Mark Gowers	MG
Secretary	Diane Preston	DP
Rally Secretary	Alan Dobson	AD
Equipment Officer	Chris Stammers	CS
Publicity	Bill Mitchell	BM
Newsletter	Peter Wilson	PW
Attendance Officer	Carol Harbottle	CH

1.0 Apologies for Absence

Junior Liaison	Rachel Gowers	RG
Support	Mark Terry	MT

2.0 Corrections to the Previous Minutes

None

3.0 Signing of Previous Minutes

Proposed	MG
Seconded	CS

4.0 Matters Arising

None

5.0 Lady Chairman's Report by JK

- 5.1** JK attended National, a busy time with plenty for everyone to do. Suffolk had some success with competitions. CS will talk about this later. There were some first time ralliers and one of them is coming to Newmarket in August. With the numbers we had it was difficult to catch all of them. Great time had by all.
- 5.2** JK attended Bredfield. A good relaxing rally in a great location. A visit to the village fete and bowls evening that went well. With everyone taking part. A good rally – Thanks to the marshals.
- 5.3** JK Clare another good weekend. Lovely location. A trip around the historic priory with father David gave us all an insight to the history and workings of the Priory over the years. Tea and cakes plus cheese and wine evening helped make this another good rally.

6.0 Vice Chairman's Report

Nothing to report.

7.0 Other rally reports

7.1 PW Rede Hall - Nigel Oakley gave an informative talk about the Suffolk Punch horse. Had cream tea and quits. Everyone enjoyed themselves. Another well attended rally.

7.2 MG Tattingstone Hike and Bike. Well attended. People enjoyed the walking and cycling. No first ralliers although some returning ralliers from last year.

7.3 AD Chaired Thorpeness, well attended. Good to see people of all ages enjoying themselves. New location but very well received. Enjoyed the quiz, BBQ, and bingo. Juniors enjoyed volleyball, and crafts.

8.0 Treasurer's Report by MG

8.1 Funds – end of May

Bank Account	5,406.64
Un-presented Cheques	(0.00)
True Balance	5,406.64
Caravan Club	5,500.00
Cash With Treasurer	20.01
Total	10,926.65

8.2 Fund Balances

Charity Fund of £519.25
Junior Crew £580.60
Special Fund £657.39

8.3 Income since May – Rally income (Bredfield) £99.34, Meare Weekend in Thorpeness £207.10, Thorpeness Holiday Deposits £5,195.00. Club Rally book Competition Prize £300.00

8.4 Expenditure since May – Panda Plaques for May £146.84

8.5 Rally Accounts - Easter at Sutton, Meare Weekend in Thorpeness and Bredfield accounts passed over at meeting. No other accounts outstanding.

8.6 Defaulters – No new defaulters.

8.7 Advertising Income – Outstanding from 3 advertisers; Caravan Club, JPH Storage services and Holbrook Leisure.

9.0 Secretary's Report by DP

9.1 Membership: As of Friday 09th June 2017, Membership of Suffolk Centre stood at 1048.

9.2 Correspondence:

- 9.2.1** A letter was sent to Derek Pannell (03061188) responding to his queries.
- 9.2.2** Received notification from Executive Secretary that Suffolk Centre won the rally book competition this year and was presented with a £300 prize at the National. Many thanks to AD and the printers.
- 9.2.3** **AD** was asked by Bill & Wendy Ferguson (03679548) why the Chairman's newsletter is dated April 2017. Should there be a more recent one as we are now in June. Also the National Rally and winning prize for rally book not on the web and not everyone uses Facebook. It would be helpful to have news on the main website and asked if this could be raised at the committee meeting. – **DP** will email **AD** this response to send back to Bill and Wendy Ferguson. In response to this query the Chairman's newsletter (blog) happens infrequently and does not occur necessarily at regular intervals. The website is maintained regularly however some news will naturally reach the Facebook group quicker than the website can be updated. Every effort is made to keep the website as up to date as is feasible but again please remember all roles are voluntary and performed in and around our normal work/life commitments and committee are also out rallying in their spare time too. Also the Facebook group is run by members and not the committee.
- 9.2.4** **DP** was unable to attend the National but discussions took place including the weekly production of Centre Reports that are sent to secretaries, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which is a new data protection law taking effect on 25 May 2018 and how this will impact handling of members details, and "Digital First" where the club are encouraging centres whenever possible to use digital media rather than printing and posting. This includes emailing rather than writing correspondence to members and the production of rally books in PDF form and then allow the members to print these themselves. I am not sure this will be a popular move for many members which is why we have not adopted this in the past. Maybe this should be raised again at the AGM as a voting point? Other topics included Rally Books and Websites, and Rallies (search function not ideal at present on website).
- 9.2.5** **DP** Information was emailed from head office reminding the committee members what information they need to know about in relation to National Park Rallies, Rallies over 5 days, 4b Clearances, and rebranding. This was reiterating the information in the General Letters to centres with the exception of the rebranding section where the following information was received:

"We received replies from approximately a third of Centres about replacing equipment and material branded with The Caravan Club. There some very large variances on costs quoted from a few hundred to many thousands of pounds. There were some common themes for replacement items, such as rally flags, lapel badges and caravan window plaques. We must stress that the re-brand is not intended to eradicate any of the history surrounding Centres. There was an overwhelming response at the meeting for a new rally flag in a 'feather style' that incorporates both the Caravan and Motorhome logo and the Centre logo. It is lightweight and easy for Rally Officers to carry and erect. Final decisions on the best way forward will be made in the next month or so."

10.0 Rally Secretary's Report

10.1 Rallies for 2018

Rallies in book so far 18. Fair number not going into the book next year at the moment. There are not enough rallies for one per week at this time.

10.2 Rally Cancellation

AD The Framlingham rally has had to be cancelled due to lack of support.

10.3 France Rally

Sheena McCartney approached the committee to ask that an exception be made to allow the confirmation of bookings for the France rally earlier than the AGM. The reason for this is that in this case, it is being booked through a third party and the booking needs to be progressed earlier than the AGM. Committee agreed on condition all ralliers wishing to attend have equal opportunity to book onto the rally and the early booking will be advertised on the website and through the newsletter.

10.4 Rally Handbook - 50th Anniversary

AD Are we having a flyer in the 2018 Rally Handbook – Yes. Working party will decide on wording. 2 page spread.

11.0 50th Anniversary Plans

11.1 Update from third meeting – Confirmed the band. Discussions held around catering.

11.2 Forth meeting to be held at **MG** house 26/07/2017. Information from this will be reported in Sep meeting.

12.0 Publicity

12.1 **BM** has contacted 2 outstanding advertisers for payment (JPH), and Caravan Club. Holbrook Leisure have been written off.

12.2 **BM** may not be available in autumn for gathering the publicity for the handbook. May need committee assistance. Will start gathering details now.

12.3 Going to ask members if there are any companies they use that are caravan/motorhome related that may want to advertise.

13.0 Rally Equipment

- 13.1** CS Gathered costs for re-branding. Would need to decide what items would need replacing and which items can hold off on for a while. CAMC will let centres know shortly how much they may contribute towards the re-brand.
- 13.2** DP reported the Thorpeness bag was missing several signs such as Elsan, Drinking Water, and Dogs on Leads, also the bag for the flagpole is coming unstitched so we may need to repair or purchase an alternative bag. Also the cone markers faded considerably only being out in the sun for 1 day. Suggest wing nuts on notice board may be easier on the fingers and CS will attempt to source a more sturdy bag/tube for the flagpole to be stored in.
- 13.3** DP suggested it may be nice to have a couple of spare green tablecloths for flagpoles for when these are being conducted by people other than the Chair and Vice Chair. CS to try and source some for rally bags.

14.0 Sports & National Liaison

- 14.1** CS Really good National. Quiz, Crib, Crafts and loads of sports were amongst the items members entered. We had winners in Photography, Darts, Walking Football and Volleyball. 2 wins in the childrens sports . Netball (shared win), crib received Bronze and also Craft wins. Thanks to all those who took part or supported the members taking part.
- 14.2** Next years National is at Sledmere House, East Yorkshire 25-30 May 2018.

15.0 Attendance

- 15.1** CH Up to date
- 15.2** John and Nina Taylor believe they will be reaching their 500th soon – DP to check with them as attendance records do not reflect the same amount as they have. Need to cross check the rallies attended and ensure nothing has been missed over the years of the attendance lists.
- 15.3** Tony and Karen Reed will reach their 650th rally and will be presented their plaque at Newmarket rally.

16.0 Webmaster

- 16.1** TS – Usual updates. Compiled a list of items to update on the website.

17.0 Newsletter

- 17.1 Get copy to **PW** by 10th July for Newsletter 4
Copy to **PW** by 11th Sept for Newsletter 5
- 17.2 **PW stated that** rally reports are welcome to be put in the newsletter. Send report and photos.
PW will resize as required.
- 17.3 **BM** Commented that newsletter much improved.

18.0 Junior Crew Liaison (by MG for RG)

- 18.1 **RG** Short on numbers for the Geo cache rally
- 18.2 **RG** Thorpeness was a good rally for the children. Volleyball, crafts and face painting.

19.0 Regional Meeting

- 19.1 None. Next meeting Saturday, 22nd July 2017 at Ipswich Hotel, Copdock (formerly Cameo hotel)

20.0 Any Other Business

- 20.1 **RG** – Consider possible printing of raffle tickets and sell to members throughout the year in anticipation of the 50th Anniversary rally. £60 license and a further £40 setup and then printing costs which could be around £150. Will be discussed at next 50th meeting and bring detail back to committee.
- 21.0 Date of Next Meeting - 12th July 2017 at 19:30pm
Venue of Next Meeting – Hintlesham Community Centre
Meeting Closed at 21:45pm