

**THE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME CLUB - SUFFOLK CENTRE
COMMITTEE MINUTES
MEETING HELD AT HINTLESHAM 9TH MARCH 2022**

Attending were:

Chairman & Regional Rep (1).	Ron King
Treasurer	Paul Wade
Secretary & Attendance	Janet Dobson
Rally Secretary & Advertising	Alan Dobson
Regional Representative (2)	Chris Stammers
Publicity	Melody Gosling
Newsletter	Graham Gosling
Competitions	Alison Stammers
Juniors	Sarah Aldis

Meeting opened by Ron King - Chairman - at 7.40 p.m. Ron made a statement to the committee on ways forward that he wanted to see.

1. Apologies for Absence - Julian Fincham-Jacques (Vice-Chairman and Webmaster). Tina King (Equipment).

Karl Moles did not attend meeting, reason unknown, Ron to follow up.

2. Corrections to Previous Report - None given.

3. Signing of December minutes: These were agreed and signed by Ron King.

4. Matters Arising (other than Committee get-together). - None to record.

5. Chairman's Report - Ron gave the following report: Chaired the Valentine Rally at Hallotree 11th - 13th February 2022. Numbers are still low, but saying that the marshals put on a full programme, with bingo on Friday night, with some proceeds going to the Chairman's Charity. Saturday night we all treated to a three-course meal prepared by the marshals. After Flagpole the night was danced away to A1 Disco.

Natter & Chatter took place on the 13th February 2022. A good turnout of members attended the informal day, with two guest speakers attending. John Kent, Anglia Region chairman gave a short speech about the Region and their involvement with the centres. Greg Potter, who is on the Club Executive Council gave an update on ClubFest, indicating that two hundred extra pitches were made available from a waiting list of six hundred.

The Fellowship plaque for rallies attended was reduced to six, because many rallies were lost to covid. Two families achieved thirteen rallies. As Garry and Connie Pyett were not eligible for the Don Alcock Trophy as Chairman and Lady, the honours went to Tony and Karen Reed. Congratulations Tony and Karen. The Dave Totman Trophy for Juniors attending rallies went to Sarah Fincham-Jacques who achieved ten rallies. Well done, Sarah. Chris Stammers, with his daughter Lily and Chris's mother Leslie supplied bacon rolls at a very good price. I would like to thank John Taylor for his help in the hall with me, setting the tables up for the meeting. At the end of the meeting, Lily Stammers presented me with a donation from the sale of bacon roles in aid of the East Anglian Air Ambulance. Thank you, Lily. With money raised at the Valentine Rally and Natter and Chatter, a total of £48.00p was achieved for the Chairman's Charity.

5a. Committee Get-Together Report. - UPDATE

- Sports Officer - not discussed as Karl not at meeting. Hold over to next month.
- Centre leaflet (updating) - Melody is working on this and will report back when done.
- Committee meetings - Janet enquired with hall. Need full information of when as obviously lost revenue and finding another hirer for the dates we don't want if we use "Zoom" and face to face meetings. Agreed that Zoom style will be offered at future meetings, bookings to remain for rest of the year.
- New members - this hadn't been discussed. Janet provided information on how and when new (and old) members are contacted. Janet suggested a "leaflet" style to incorporate items such as the security of rallies, insurance, safety etc., for members attending - suggestion by Alison.
- Treasurer and Secretary - cover and hand overs. Need for Treasurer role to be covered discussed. Email drop to be done to members where possible to advertise the role and its importance for the Centre to continue. Janet to deal with this. To also go in newsletter and on Facebook.
- On-line booking for rallies.

UPDATE FROM JULIAN. With reference to online booking, there are two options on the table, however these options would require the co-operation and agreement of rally marshals:

Online Rally Booking (estimated cost £300 - £500)

An online booking module will allow users to book spaces/tickets for rallies or other events. Bookings can either be taken on a simple 'promise' basis.

ITEM

Provision of Online Booking

- Allows users to book places on rallies or other events.
- The number of spaces available can be pre-determined.
- Email notification of bookings made
- Bookings can be enabled/disabled at any time, in case of time-sensitive situations.

Or can be combined with a payment gateway to allow for actual payment of reservations. A payment gateway such as PayPal, Stripe or Amazon Payments can be easily setup to take online payments as an option (ideasBarn can help advise on the process of obtaining merchant accounts or the setting up of PayPal accounts if required).

Online Purchasing

- Allows for online payment of bookings (and other items, see below)
- Integrates with either an Amazon Payments, PayPal or Stripe account to take payments for that account.
- Payments are made securely on the respective payment gateway.
- Payments can be refunded at any time.

The site builders are happy to provide further information regarding how the options would work and confirmation of current costs, once the committee is in a position to confirm how they wish to proceed.

OUTCOME: It was discussed and agreed that Julian be asked to contact the website and ask for the option of online booking - no payment - and members be still given the option to book

online, via email, through the post or by hand to the marshals. Costs needed and a plan of how this would work and the timescale.

6. Vice Chairman's Report - Attended Natter & Chatter where I presented our Chairman with his Fellowship Plaque.

7. Other Rally Reports - None to report.

8. Treasurers Report - Paul reported: A couple of items to draw to the committee's attention. Our bank account with HSBC is a charitable account, which probably goes back some years, but however the HSBC has stopped being charitable, and they have started to make a monthly charge of around £8.50 per month.

Would like to know exactly what we are paying for from the website, as we are getting a few invoices coming through. For some reason Hosting UK has added other fees onto the invoice which were not there before and there has been no indication given this would happen. Agreed that Paul to contact them, and to also enquire as we are now paying for the Centre email addresses as to why they cannot be physically used to send and receive messages. This would enable the email account to be kept and switched when the job role changes hands.

A few years back we paid a deposit to Woolverstone of £50, however as we have no rally there this year would like to chase this to get it back.

Will supply to all members the figures for the flagpole notes.

Believe that Thorpeness rally may be getting close to full.

9. Secretary Report

9.1. Membership - Janet reported that Friday 4th March membership was 1,530 and January members that went void 53. Members with February renewals still to renew is 84. All new members over the last weeks have provided email addresses so a PDF copy, along with a welcome email, have been sent out.

9.2. Correspondence as received:

a. Email from Club 2 March - Advice to Rally Secretaries with a chance to include new rallies in the Clubs Supplement on website and with magazine app. Passed to Alan, nothing for Suffolk to change. Normal procedure for updating on information or cancelled events.

9.4. Attendance - No attendance lists for rallies run received as yet.

Janet advised committee that both her and Alan would be unlikely to attend the April meeting and would not be attending the May meeting. Melody to cover minutes in April. Committee to be asked if May date should be moved as Ron will not be attending and senior committee should be in attendance.

10. Rally Secretary Report - Alan reported that the list of dates for 2023 was available on the website. It was discussed about putting together a Rally Marshals Rally in 2023. Alan asked to enquire at venues - Sutton Village Hall a suggestion.

11. Publicity - Melody reported: Following the suggestion of updating our leaflet to show more family photographs to encourage for families to join rallies, I am currently reviewing previous newsletters covering popular family rallies and once I have collated a number of photographs

will bring to the committee for discussion. Once the selection has been made will then approach parents for permission.

Can confirm having been in touch with the Club magazine and submitted an article, hopefully for inclusion in a future issue, of Tony and Karen Reed receiving the Don Alcock trophy from Ron King at February's Natter and Chatter. I wish to thank Janet for supplying the back story to the trophy as, I am sure, this added interest to the article. I also included that Tony and Karen will be receiving their 700th rally plaque in 2022.

12. Rally Equipment - No report.

13. Competitions - Alison is still working on several ideas.

14. Junior Liaison - Chris to talk with Sarah on this role. Junior craft box may need further items, to look at further ways to get the youngsters involved. Possibly work alongside Alison with competitions.

15. Webmaster - Julian reported: Website contact us page updated following complaint made Chairman prior to last meeting. Also contacted and asked to delete previous entries on website relating to the list of rallies that was agreed at the AGM. Responded advising did not feel it was appropriate to delete historical information on the website. Advised we would look at trying to put an edited version of the rally book on the website in the future as the most up to date source of reference to current rallies. However, the events pages are the most up to date point of reference and do include all rallies. Have also marked on the post that seems to be the cause of concern, that members should be referring to their rally book for the most up to date rally information as rallies were added after the list was agreed at the AGM.

16. Newsletter - Graham reported: I have received some contributions from committee members but still welcome more. There have only been two rallies to report on this year, plus Natter & Chatter, so I am left looking for alternative material to put in the next edition. As a result, it will not be ready until later in March.

17. Sports - No report.

18. Regional Meeting - Chris asked that the meeting at Duxford be advertised. Janet to include in email drop over the Treasurer role, link to Centre website for information.

19. Any Other Business -

- a. Discussion over minutes of Regional meeting and committee access to them.
- b. Discussion over Past Chairman badges. Still unable to obtain, company does not follow up with replies to messages. Chris showed a possibility that he could make going forward.
- c. Air Ambulance had contacted Ron re fundraising. Requested if possible, could we send any money raised on a monthly rather than annual basis. Committee agreed we stay as we are as the months vary on what we collect. Proposed by Ron King and seconded by Paul Wade.
- d. Brought up one of our members is doing a charity walk - to go on Facebook to advertise to members. Small one-off donation to be offered.
- e. Ron brought up about banners for the Centre to replace the ones in use. This had been discussed before the pandemic hit and had not been agreed by the committee at the time. Prices given and requested this be looked at again - consideration of size and weight against current banner. Vote taken and agreed by majority vote, reasons against were given.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Date of next meeting -

Next meeting booked Wednesday 13th April at Hintlesham starting at 7.30 p.m.

Possible move of May date - committee to be consulted.

DISCLAIMER: All those mentioned in this report have given their permission for their data to be used.