

**THE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME CLUB - SUFFOLK CENTRE  
COMMITTEE MINUTES  
MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022  
HINTLESHAM VILLAGE HALL, IPSWICH**

Attending the meeting were:

Chairman	Ron King
Secretary	Janet Dobson
Treasurer	Will James
Vice Chairman / Publicity	Melody Gosling
Co-opted to Committee	Paul Wade
Rally Secretary	Alan Dobson
Webmaster	Julian Fincham-Jacques
Newsletter	Graham Gosling
Committee	Tina King
Regional Rep	Chris Stammers

At the start of the meeting, which commenced at 7.40 p.m., Ron King passed on a committee plaque and thank you gift to Julian Fincham-Jacques to thank him for his work over the past few years as Centre Vice Chairman.

**1. Apologies for Absence** - Alison Stammers sent in apologies, would not be able to get to meeting in time.

**2. Corrections to Previous Report** - Nothing noted.

**3. Signing of Previous Minutes:** The October meeting minutes were agreed and signed by Ron King (Chairman). Also agreed and signed were the minutes of the meeting following the AGM of the new committee, again by Ron King (Chairman).

**4. Matters Arising** - Nothing brought up.

**5. Issues following the AGM Meeting -**

a. Suggestion of specific email address for marshals to take rally bookings and enquiries. Alan has approached marshals for 2023 and addresses have been organised for those wanting them.

b. Meeting schedule for 2023. It was agreed to use on-line meetings more often next year. Dates were agreed as follows: February, March, May, July will be on-line and face-to-face booked at Hintlesham for April, June, September and October. Dates to remain 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month but the on-line ones will be more flexible in being able to be changed if too many can't make the date.

c. Rally Marshals Rally. To be put on a later agenda, too late for 2023. Marshal information to be updated where needed - Rally Marshal Pack.

d. Information for handbook - all or some of cost to be entered. After discussion agreed this is up to the marshals to put in their programme if they want to do so.

e. Valentine rally and N&C for 2023 and 2024

2024. As this would be published in the handbook put together next year, left to be advertised if someone would like to organise anything, perhaps another venue. Natter and Chatter for 2024 to be discussed on a future agenda.

2023. Marshals have indicated 2023 will be the last one they are organising. Concern over the hall and prices as although booking agreed they have been notified of a price

increase. Unable to get anything concrete from site at present. With 3 months before rally is due to run, agreed that Melody and Graham will advise committee when they get a reply and by mid-January on bookings. Suggested we organise flyers for not only this rally, Tina offered to look into this with Melody - marshals could also organise their own to be put up on website and Facebook.

f. Equipment Officer and Stocktake list. Ron provided list of all equipment held and highlighted items needing attention and what he thought could be disposed of. Julian to help go through list with Ron highlighting unneeded equipment to downsize what is in storage. For the book, agreed no specific Equipment Officer be listed but an email address for marshals to use. To follow this up at December meeting. Janet offered to put out a request via FB and email to members to see if anyone could help with storage (ideally within the Ipswich area). Janet proposed and Paul Wade seconded proposal all items in red could be disposed of now, along with 2 tea urns.

**6. Chairman's Report** - After our recent AGM and rally, we are going through a quiet spell, with only two invitation rallies in the programme until 2023.

I will be attending the Anglia Region AGM and rally from 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at Hallowtree, Ipswich. The Anglia Region committee is up for election as some of the existing members are standing down or applying to take up other positions within the committee.

Will James has become our new treasurer to the centre. Welcome on board Will. Paul Wade has stood down from the treasurer role, but has offered to see the year accounts out, so has been co-opted to the committee until the new year. Thanks, Paul for the last two years, when you came to our rescue, as the call went out for a treasurer.

As I said in other correspondence, prior to my report today, a big thank you to the new committee for giving your time for the betterment of our centre.

This also applies to people giving their time and getting involved in running rallies for us to participate in.

**7. Vice Chairman's Report** - Not having been in the role for a month yet I have very little to report, except to give a rally report on the Mid-Anglia rally that Graham and I attended, held at St. Ives over the bonfire weekend. This was well supported by a number of invited centres, a dozen or more from Bedford, a couple from Suffolk and one or two from other centres. The weather was mainly wet for most of the weekend with the exception of Friday, and then again just after 4pm on Saturday when the bonfire was lit. The firework display was spectacular and was set off against a backdrop of suitable music. A funfair, food stalls and beer tent completed the event. Mid-Anglia have confirmed the rally will be run again next year and will be by invitation to all centres.

Alan said in response to this that he had contacted all the Anglia Region Centres about invitations, several times, and to date only received one invitation from MA (fishing rally) and one 4B for Glemsford.

**8. Other Rally Reports** - Nothing to list.

**9. Treasurers Report** - Paul provided the latest figures for the Centres accounts. Since then a further deposit had been made for the Cliff Top bookings and Janet was able to inform him that there was also a surplus still on the Drop and Go postage account of £49.06. The accounts showed a good year so far for the Centre.

He also reported about a refund to a rallier that had gone adrift because the wrong information had been provided for the refund. There was some delay in sorting it out due to the telephone banking now being locked and this was being sorted out. Paul stated that as we had followed the instructions given, which were also in writing by email, that the Centre was not liable in the end, but would of course try to follow it up.

There had been a financial question over a proposed rally but it appeared this had been sorted out.

At this point Chris Stammers left the meeting.

**10. Secretary Report** -

**10.1. Membership** - Janet reported that on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November there were 1307 members. Members with September renewals who went void were 59. Members for October still to renew are 53.

## 10.2. Correspondence as received:

a. **14<sup>th</sup> October 2022.** Email on various information from the Club giving details of Club insurance advert, Centre Guidance, contacting Governance, Insurance (Personal Accident Cover), End of year labels, Rally Input for Club Supplement, Public Liability Insurance Letter (renews end of October), AGM returns. Janet was disappointed that the Club was now stopping supply of printed address labels for the handbooks. The Club is very electronic orientated, but we still supply a small quantity to members. This will now mean writing out the labels nearer the time.

## 10.3. Other:

Janet requested agreement to purchase the necessary envelopes and labels for books being posted. There is a credit balance of £49.06 on our Drop and Go Account. Paul Wade agreed to this.

**10.4. Attendance** - Still some to come through and be updated.

## 11. Rally Secretary Report -

- a. Details of programme for 23 shown to committee.
- b. Still outstanding for details are copy for one advertiser, Tangham, action on Thorpeness Meare rally, Trinity Park New Year, Valentine/Natter and Chatter for 2024. Also possible invite to Sizewell if NE get marshals.
- c. Front cover has been done by the printer; copy was sent round. Alan felt layout and presentation was good. . Number of books to be printed. From figures given there are 221 requesting a book. Of these 3 are October renewals, 7 and November renewals and 54 December. Normal practice is to hold back Nov/Dec until renewal, unless known otherwise they are renewing. Agreement requested to order number of books needed plus some extras.
- e. Advertiser list with agreed 10% discount if paid by end January totals £1170.

After discussion it was agreed that the Thorpeness Meare rally is not viable, issues with site with contact and refusal to move on prices asked for which is a large increase on this year, plus views of members at the recent AGM. Pricing on rallies is something we are up against due to VAT having to be added. Proposed by Paul Wade and seconded by Julian.

Alan was asked to contact about a proposed rally with some questions to the marshals which need to be resolved before this rally is accepted by the committee. We don't want to be seen putting anyone off, but there is information we do need. No other queries raised on any other rally in the programme.

Paul asked if anyone had thought of putting the Henham Rally through as a Special Event to the Club because of the Steam Fair for advertising in the Club magazine.

**12. Publicity** - Melody had nothing to report.

**13. Rally Equipment** - Discussion over equipment had taken place earlier in the meeting.

**14. Webmaster** - Julian said he was updating the site as and when information came through. Rally reports being sent to him were minimal and asked marshals send them, Graham for Newsletter agreed. Out of date items were taken off where needed but the Treasurers information needs to be updated asap. It is not as easy as take it down and other pages give the link to this. Marshals information needs to be looked at and updated asap also.

Janet suggested instead of marshals' involvement could we not advertise for members to help out - a Rally Mole was suggested - where they would be sent to the Webmaster only and published under "Rally Mole" where only the webmaster knows identity of sender. Item to be put into rally book and see if we get responses.

At this point Will apologised and left the meeting as he had an early start the next morning. Ron thanked him for coming to the meeting.

**15. Newsletter** - The latest newsletter should be finished by the end of next week and should include:  
Rally reports  
Future Rallies

“Cartoons”

Hints and tips

A technical article on solar panels

Recipes relevant to caravanning at this time of year

Rally book front cover

Chairman’s report to AGM

2023 committee

Quiz

My thanks to Janet for providing a list of current centre members and their email addresses for distribution of the newsletter. The list is an extract from an Excel spreadsheet so I will need to check compatibility with any email distribution software before being able to send to members. In the meantime, the newsletter will be uploaded to the website and Facebook page.

Just a point on rally reports for inclusion in the newsletter; since the last edition in August the centre has run thirteen rallies, yet I have only received three reports from the rally chairs, for inclusion in the newsletter. If anybody has any reports to send me, I’ll put them in the next edition but would appreciate reports as soon after a rally as possible.

During discussion Janet offered to help get the next edition out via email to get things started and to add in a copy to new members joining the Centre. Any more articles still welcome.

**16. Regional Meeting** - Ron advised the Regional AGM is due this coming Sunday - 13<sup>th</sup> November - and there is a change of committee as John Kent is standing down as Chairman. It was asked if Ron could get more precise details on the AGM for 2023 for the book for Alan.

**17. Other Committee / Any Other Business -**

a. Paul asked if anyone knew of any other income outstanding that would need to be in this year’s accounts. Answer was no.

b. Ron brought up about the Chairmans Charity - something he had not announced at the AGM. He was undecided whether to continue. After discussion it was agreed to notify marshals that: Any charity fundraising must be brought to committee and sanctioned before the event. The Rally Marshal information sheet is to be updated to indicate this. Ron will still continue with “Chairmans Charity” which will remain at the EAAA.

c. Ron asked Janet to please order 30 x year pointers for 2023.

d. Julian suggested we also look at what equipment we have left for sale and look at being more pro-active at selling it during 2023.

Date of next meeting: The booking at Hintlesham for December has been cancelled.

December meeting will be by Google Meet (or similar), as already trialled, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December to start at 7 p.m.

Janet to ask Alison if she would be prepared to organise and facilitate this.

The meeting ended at 10.15 p.m.

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