

# THE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME CLUB - SUFFOLK CENTRE

## COMMITTEE MINUTES

### MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023

Meeting organised by Alison Stammers via Microsoft Teams. Thanks to Alison.  
Minutes taken by Janet Dobson and started at 7.19 p.m.

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Chairman     | Ron King        |
| Secretary    | Janet Dobson    |
| Treasurer    | Will James      |
| Committee    | Tina King       |
| Regional Rep | Chris Stammers  |
| Committee    | Alison Stammers |

**1. Apologies for Absence** - Alan Dobson, Julian Fincham-Jacques, Paul Wade.  
Melody and Graham Gosling experienced difficulties in logging into meeting, apologies given to Ron.

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

**3. Signing of Previous Minutes:** The January report was agreed and will be signed by Ron King, Chairman. Signed copies to be passed to Janet (Secretary) for filing.

**4. Matters Arising** - Equipment items and stocktake. To be held over until later in the year.

**5. Chairman's Report** - In my last Chairman's Report for January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, I stated that the next time I would be out on a rally would be Valentines at Hallowtree. It was a hectic time for me, with wider family issues, when putting my report together.

I completely forgot about Burns Night at Hallowtree Scout Camp, Nacton. I did attend and it was a successful weekend, with all the traditions of a Burns Evening and off course the Haggis.

A week later myself and Denise ventured across the Suffolk border into Cambridgeshire, where we joined some other Suffolk Centre members on the Mid Anglia Pre Season Black Tie Dinner Dance at Peterborough. We were one of 49 units at Ferry Meadows for the weekend.

It was nice to get dressed up for a change, in what turned out to a great weekend.

It would be nice to see something like that in our rally programme, as we used to have years ago.

I can confidently state that all is going well, and I will be at the Valentines gathering at Hallowtree, followed by our Natter & Chatter on the Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

**6. Vice Chairman's Report** - Nothing to report.

**7. Other Rally Reports** - Nothing to report.

**8. Treasurers Report - Report in from Paul Wade/Will James.**

Paul has done a great job completing the 2022 accounts. Audit is nearly complete (Financial Statements drafted by Griffin Chapman, next step signatures from Chairman and Treasurer).

Due to the change from Paul to myself, we need to change the bank mandate. Many banks are charging more for charity/club accounts, including HSBC. Detail from Paul.

"Would suggest that as the mandate will be changed, that the banking be reviewed. HSBC last year started to charge the centre with Bank Charges, this is around £100 p.a., this is of course part of the costs met by the Centre Grant from CAMC. Changing banks is not that easy.

I suspect that nobody knows who is on the list of Bank Signatories, so as part of the process of mandate updates, a list is obtained of current signatories is obtained. Mail currently goes to one of my

predecessors, which Mark it is I don't know could be Gower or Terry, but to be honest as all we use is electronic, no problem really.

Whilst the process of change is going on I would suggest that a Direct Debit is created for one of our suppliers who charges £25 admin fee for every payment that we make (Web Related)

If you would like me to start the process, I will go the bank next week."

Can we discuss banking arrangements: either to carry on with HSBC or review alternatives ([https://www.charityexcellence.co.uk/Home/BlogDetail?Link=Open\\_Charity\\_Bank\\_Account](https://www.charityexcellence.co.uk/Home/BlogDetail?Link=Open_Charity_Bank_Account)).

There was also a discussion between Ron and Paul following the Burns Night Rally. There are some grey areas in Marshall responsibilities, which we can discuss on Wednesday.

Some items to be settled pending changing bank access:

- Ideasbarn Ltd invoice (web)
- Two refunds requested by Rally Marshal.

Will thanked Paul for all the work as Treasurer and the audit of accounts is nearly done. Will to email copies to committee for their agreement when they can then be signed off and passed onto the Club.

The bank mandate with HSBC will need to be changed this to be done after payments above have been done. A lot of banks do not want accounts such as ours so agreed to remain with HSBC.

## 9. Secretary Report -

**9.1. Membership** - Janet reported that on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023 there were 1,291 members. Members with December renewals who went void were 56 of which there were 4 queries. Members with January renewal outstanding are 66. With conclusion of the December members report from the Club, all books have been sent out to members. The postage was an unknown due to renewals and there is a balance of £159.66 in our Drop and Go account with the Post Office. Overall, looking at membership numbers, since March 2022 when the highest membership in the past years was recorded, there has been a slow and steady drop in membership.

### 9.2. Correspondence as received:

- 13.1.23 Natter & Chatter meeting. Email from Ron King that a representative from EAAA has been asked to come along so our donation can be presented.
- 14.1.23. Email from Ron King with quotation from Flyer Press to make caravan committee signs. Quote is for £8 each.
- 16.1.23. Email from Paul Wade that Centre accounts have been submitted to Griffin Chapman for examination.
- 26.1.23 Email from Club offices of a change of booking terms and conditions for rallies on Club sites.
- 01.02.23. Email from Club advising Club Rally Supplement is now online. A PDF copy was put into our Facebook Groups for members.

**9.3. Other:** Nothing to add.

**9.4. Attendance** - List for Natter & Chatter given to Ron King for trophy presentations.

**10. Rally Secretary Report** - I have had an email in from Mike Threadgold for North Essex Centre. He is a co-ordinator for their events and has offered two of their events as an invitation for 2024.

8-day rally over Easter at St Ives, Cambridge on a commercial site  
Museum of Power (Maldon) for their Chairmans Charity Rally over the August bank holiday.

As more get agreed he will let me know to see if anything else takes our interest, with the possibility of a catch up between us to exchange notes.

I would think additions to the programme will be a good thing as I can see the programme being even thinner than this year. We are not the only Club I would add in this position. At present Tangham is out of the running as it has now been advertised that Tilly has retired and it will be down to the Forest Commission what, if anything, happens to the site.

There being no objection to the offer of invitation rallies, Alan to contact Mike to get further details.

**11. Publicity** - Having been provided with photographs from Henham Steam 2022 I am busy putting together some info on the event itself together with details of the rally that runs alongside the event, as previously requested by the magazine, hopefully it will be featured well in advance of the event and 'drum up' some trade for the rally.

So far for 2023 there have only been 2 Suffolk Centre rallies and I am waiting on photographs and reports on both Saxted and Burns to submit to the magazine.

Ron said that he has sent reports etc., on both these rallies to Melody and Graham for the newsletter.

**12. Rally Equipment** - to be held over to another meeting.

**13. Webmaster** - No report received but Janet said she understood the website was up to date.

**14. Newsletter** - Graham is hoping that the next edition will be published in March.

**15. Regional Meeting** - Next meeting by Zoom due in May 2023.

**16. Other Committee / Any Other Business**

Ron asked about the email sent round with window plaque details available from Flyerpress at £8 each. Agreement to purchase 10 for Officers and committee members.

Chris, as plaque supplier, advised that with cost increases he is having to now charge 60p small plaque and 90p large plaque. This was accepted by committee. The Fellowship plaques have been done (old costs).

Janet advised that the Tangham website is now showing a statement from Tilly Lummis that she has retired and left the site.

Meeting closed at 19.50 p.m. Next meeting in person at Hintlesham Village Hall on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

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