

THE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME CLUB - SUFFOLK CENTRE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR MAY 2023

Due to various diary clashes it was agreed to record reports for May meeting which were to be circulated and any comments added.

Chairman	Ron King
Secretary	Janet Dobson
Treasurer	Will James
Vice-Chairman	Post Vacant
Rally Secretary	Alan Dobson
Regional Rep	Chris Stammers
Webmaster	Julian Fincham-Jacques
Newsletter	Graham Gosling
Committee	Alison Stammers
Committee	Tina King
Publicity	Post Vacant

- 1. Apologies for Absence** - Not applicable
- 2. Corrections to Previous Minutes** - None noted.
- 3. Signing of Previous Minutes** - Ron King, Chairman, agreed April minutes. Signed copy to go into records.
- 4. Matters Arising** - Noted within separate reports.
- 5. Chairman's Report** - There being no rallies since the last committee meeting, I have very little to report for the May meeting.

Sad to say that our Vice Chair, Melody Gosling has stood down from the role and resigned from the committee. Stating, "Work commitments do not and will not allow me time to fulfil the role to the extent I would wish". Sorry to see you go, but best wishes with your Business for the future.

The next time I will be involved with rallies, will be ClubFest at Kelmarsh Hall, Northamptonshire at the end of May, then join up with Suffolk Centre in June at King's Lynn.

- 6. Vice Chairman's Report** - Post vacant.
- 7. Other Rally Reports** - None.
- 8. Treasurers Report** - Will reported that all Rally returns and banking received.

HSBC initial contact details signed by Chairman and Secretary (needed 2 signatories on current mandate). Sent to HSBC Thurs 27 Apr 2023, acknowledged by Email Thurs 6th May 2023. This asked for the signed forms to be sent - they have been which resulted in their Email on 6th May.

A member has chased their £50 refund for the Thorpeness Cliff Top Rally in 2022 (paid to wrong account due to their daughter's error last year). This can't be progressed until HSBC have changed contact details (see above).

Direct debit has been set-up for website hosting (Hosting UK) - they didn't accept BACS and at the moment we don't have a Debit Card.

9. Secretary Report -

9.1. Membership - Janet reported that on Friday 5th May 2023 there were 1,283 members. Number of March members not renewing 56. There are currently 84 April members still to renew.

9.2. Correspondence as received:

a. Emails received from Melody Gosling (29th April/5th May) advising that she is resigning from the Centre committee, with immediate effect. In order to maintain contact from any member/organisation, both emails have been re-directed to Secretary for the time being.

b. **Email from Club 10th May.** Re members attending rallies. Rallies are for Club/Centre members only and information on checking if a member is with the Club has been given to Centres. If Club/other Centres members attending another way of being sure is to ask to see their Membership Card.

9.3. Attendance - Lists coming in.

10. Rally Secretary Report - Arrangements are in hand to book the Martlesham Community Hall on Sunday 17th March 2024. This avoids the Mother's Day weekend which is the week earlier. The total cost is £120 which is to be paid by 3rd March 2024. Agreement needed to sign and return the Application Form to secure the booking. **Accepted.**

At present we have 6 rallies in the programme plus one meeting.

One 4B request from East Kent Centre for Sports Ground at Thorpeness, 28 March to 2 April 2024 (Easter). Quotes £15 per unit per night, expected numbers 20. Unless any objections will email back to confirm. **Accepted.**

11. Publicity - Post vacant.

12. Rally Equipment - Report from Ron who currently holds equipment.

At the moment, we have a problem with one of the Centre Flags.

I have been in touch with our supplier, and he informs me that the company who makes the flags, do not make our size anymore. They are bigger. He suggests we go to Feather style. Plus, we are down to having only two serviceable metal stakes.

Therefore, I have made the decision to rejig the Rally Equipment Roster, down to two sets from three. It mainly effects Marshals that are on the committee. I have spoken with Carole Harbottle, as she is the odd one out.

Julian would you be so kind and replace old roster and put the amended roster on the web page please.

Janet could please add the 'Flag Situation' to the June Agenda, where we can have a proper debate, as to where we need to go as regards flags.

13. Webmaster - Nothing to report.

14. Newsletter - Nothing to report.

15. Regional Meeting - Ron King and Chris Stammers joined in with the Regional Committee meeting on the 10th of May 2023 via Zoom on behalf of Suffolk Centre. All the other centres in the Anglia Region had a representative along with the four Elected Members of the committee.

The Region are in the progress of organising a Forum and Question Time at Banham Zoo for next April. Weekend camping would be available. The meeting would take place in the morning, followed by a free pass to those who attended the meeting in the afternoon to the zoo.

Regional Treasurer reported that he was having trouble with the Regions Bank, as regards to change over from previous Treasurer. Problems with documentation, having to pay a personal visit to the bank to verify his identity. The latest balance for the Anglia Region stands at £10,048.14p.

ClubFest, the latest figures for units attending has risen to 296 for Anglia Region. Looks like a very busy day for the siting crew.

North Essex Chairman, said their Treasurer has stood down with immediate effect, but have been able find someone to take on the role. Norfolk Centre is also having a problem with the role of Treasurer. Their present one will be standing down at the AGM, due to work commitments. Although the Secretary has been trying to find a replacement, at this time, no interest being shown from anyone.

Most centres were in agreement, that they cannot get people to come forward to serve on committee and most rallies seem to be run by present committee members. In some cases, members are moaning about couples on committee, but when approached, they decline to serve.

South Essex and Mid Anglia centres have or have in the past used a voucher scheme to get more people to attend more than one rally. £10 or £15 given to the first time that they do a rally, redeemable next time out against the cost of the rally.

A lot of time was spent, debating the latest directive to come from Governance, as regarding to 'Checking Club Members at Rallies and Events'. Some people said it would deter rally marshals coming forward to run rallies and others thought it would be hard to police, with non centre members attending an organised event by the host Centre.

The Regional get together rally, hosted by South Essex in November, are still looking for support from the centres. The weekend will take in Dog Racing and a meal at Romford. The rally at the moment will be at Chelmer Valley High. Suffolk Centre have two members provisionally booked for the weekend.

The next Anglia Region meeting is to take place, via Zoom at 7.30pm 20th September 2023.

16. Other Committee / Any Other Business - Nothing reported.

Next meeting in person at Hintlesham Community Centre on Wednesday 14th June to commence at 7.30 p.m.

Apologies for not being able to attend given by Graham Gosling

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