

THE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME CLUB - SUFFOLK CENTRE
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 13TH MARCH 2024
HINTLESHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Meeting opened at 19.47 p.m.

Those taking part were:

Chairman	Ron King
Secretary	Janet Dobson
Rally Secretary	Alan Dobson
Regional Representative	Chris Stammers
Newsletter	Diane Fitch
Equipment	Paul Fitch
Publicity	Trevor Smith

Item 1. Apologies for Absence - Julian Fincham-Jacques and Will James.

Item 2. Corrections to Previous Minutes - One item wording changed.

Item 3. Signing of Previous Minutes - Minutes for February meeting then agreed and signed by Ron King, Chairman.

Item 4. Matters Arising on minutes from last Meeting - Two items raised. Use of rally marshal envelopes - Will was not at meeting so to hold over until next meeting. Other discussion over the Seasonal Launch due Sunday 17th March, programme, arrival times, hall requirements. Ron requested all committee members attending to please wear their badges as hopeful some new members may attend. Tea/coffee/biscuits to be supplied.

Item 5. Chairmans Report - Since the last committee meeting things have been quiet as regards to rallies organised by Suffolk Centre

Denise and I, however, did attend 'Let's Do it again at the Barn Dance Hop' rally over the weekend 23rd-25th March 2024, an invitation rally from South Essex Centre held at Chelmer Valley High School. We were joined by fellow Suffolk Centre members Ben and Carol Cook, who have recently joined the centre in the last year. We were made most welcome by our hosts and we enjoyed the weekend.

I have been in touch with East Anglian Air Ambulance, and they have confirmed that two of their representatives will be attending the Seasonal Launch at Martlesham Community Hall on Sunday 17th March 2024 to accept our fund-raising cheque and give a small presentation about the work EAAA do.

On Monday 11th March 2024, Denise and I met up with Janet and Alan Dobson (Centre secretary and Rally Secretary) at Martlesham Community Hall, to run through what ideas we need to take forward to the revamped Natter and Chatter. We were quite impressed with what we saw. Ideal for a meeting like the Seasonal Launch.

Next rally I am involved in, is the Easter Rally at Trinity Park, Ipswich, which will be the start of many rallies that Denise and I will be attending in the Suffolk Centre rally programme this year.

Ron told committee about an indoor game he had encountered at another Centre rally. Would need a suitable hall though.

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

Item 7. Other Rally Reports - None.

Item 8. Treasurers Report - Will had sent in a report of where the accounts were now at. Finalised paperwork should be with committee shortly and he can then process to get to Auditors. There was a concern over some unpaid invoices - Will to be asked to follow up. Alan was asked to send list of Advertisers and amounts - this has been done.

Item 9. Secretary Report:

9.1. Membership - Janet reported that on Friday 8th March 2024, there were 1,170 members. Report was a week late in advising of the monthly non renewals. Members going void from end January renewals were 60. Those to renew for February are 71. Members are emailed towards mid/end of month they renew in - some reply, most don't. They are then emailed when the report of non-renewal comes in, some reply, most don't. For information, the Club does not expect Centres to "chase up" members which is why the last email has to be sent when the report is received, with explanation.

For interest comparison figures done: At 23.12.22 there were 1,312 members - at 22.12.23 there were 1,217. Over that period of time we had 638 new members, 705 left of which 95 subsequently renewed = 610 left. From those leaving, who replied to any emails, 55 resigned Centre membership, 10 transferred to other Centres, others unknown. At 23.2.24 we had 1,204 members. It would seem there are still a lot of members ticking the Centre box when they join the Club thinking it is a necessary part of their Club membership.

9.2. Correspondence received:

- a. Message giving details of the Welsh National Rally. Request we show on our FB and/or website. Rally is August bank holiday. ***Committee agreement***
- b. Message from North London Centre. Are there any rallies we would like to put in their programme for 2025. ***Can look into this. Send a copy of our handbook.***
- c. Message from Club with guidance on branding, Centre hibernation.
- d. Message from South East Region. Would like their Region Event advertised on our FB and website if possible. Rally is in June at Penshurst Place, Kent. ***Forward details to Chris to go on the Regional Website***
- e. Message from North London Centre. Invite to a weekend in May - 10 to 12 - in Wyboston where they are trying to show what rallies are to those who may not rally that much.

9.3. Attendance - Nothing to report. It was brought up about the members that cancel less than 14 days before/do not arrive - Centre Rule 4. This is still in Centre rules but had not been adhered to during the pandemic and since. Now rallies are back to normal this needs to be followed through - raised as marshal concern. Janet offered to take this on - to request to Will to forward any Non-Attendance forms. This will be announced at the Natter & Chatter, advised to members by email and via Facebook.

Item 10. Rally Secretary Report: Only item Alan had was a possible holiday rally for 2025. Still to be confirmed.

Item 11. Publicity - Trevor brought a copy of the tri-fold leaflet - all agreed very good. Couple of tweaks to make, Janet to approach Avis Printer on costs, so we can get these out for the ClubFest and into dealers. He also showed an A5 poster he had put together for his rally - this could be created for any of the Centre events. Also the Region has asked for an entry into the leaflet they were producing - Trevor also had something we could send to them - A5 flyer.

Item 12. Rally Equipment - Paul confirmed all equipment now stored. Nothing further to report.

Item 13. Webmaster - Nothing to report.

Item 14. Newsletter - Diane is looking at another edition for perhaps April. Request for items.

Item 15. Regional Meeting - Next meeting is at the Banham Zoo weekend. Chris asked that items for Facebook on Centre information can be forwarded to him to go up on the Region Facebook page to get a wider audience.

Item 16. Other Committee / Any Other Business - Nothing raised.

Next meeting Wednesday 10th April at Hintlesham Community Centre. Meeting to start at 7.30 p.m.

Meeting closed at 21.55 p.m.

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