

**THE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME CLUB - SUFFOLK CENTRE**  
**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024**  
**HINTLESHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Meeting opened at 7.33 p.m.

Those taking part were:

Chairman	Ron King
Vice-Chairman/Webmaster	Julian Fincham-Jacques
Treasurer	Will James
Newsletter	Diane Fitch
Equipment	Paul Fitch
Publicity	Trevor Smith

**Item 1. Apologies for Absence** - Chris Stammers. Alan Dobson. Janet Dobson.

**Item 2. Corrections to Previous Minutes** - None

**Item 3. Signing of Previous Minutes** - Ron King signed the minutes for the March meeting (Julian has hard copy)

**Item 4. Matters Arising on minutes from last Meeting** - None

**Item 5. Chairmans Report** - I start my report with the sad news that Mick Prentice died peacefully on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024.

As many people will know Mick, along with his wife, Eve were very active members of our club over many years. Not only supporting rallies, they organised and ran weekend and holiday rallies.

Over the Easter weekend myself and Denise were involved with the March Easter Bunny rally at Trinity Park, Ipswich.

Thank you to our Vice Chairman Julian Fincham-Jacques, along with Donna and Sarah for chairing the rally

It was an Invitation Rally to the other centres within the Anglia region and we had a full rally.

Over the weekend, fund raising took place in aid of East Anglian Air Ambulance, with a raffle and donations. Once again, the generosity of people amazes me in giving prizes and buying raffle tickets and donations. A total of £593.60 was donated to this worthy cause.

We did have a problem on Sunday night with the electric supply to the rally field and as a precaution, it was decided to terminate the supply, on the grounds of Health and Safety.

I had a meeting with Trinity Park and have agreed a compensated amount of money for the rally, for the loss of power and they have an investigation taking place.

Members who attended the rally have been notified of the compensation and given the option of a small refund.

Following on from Easter, Denise and I chaired and had a lovely weekend at the "Return to the Sea" rally at Peewit Caravan Park, Felixstowe. Another good turnout of units, enabling another full rally. The weather was windy, but we were all blessed with sun from the time we there.

**Item 6. Vice Chairman's Report** - Attended the Easter Bunny rally at Trinity Park. The rally was well attended with 37 vans from Suffolk, 10 from North Essex, 14 from South Essex, 1 from Mid Anglia and 1 from Berkshire.

Awards presented to Ron & Denise King and Andy & Sally Gaffer for 500 and 600 rallies attended.

The marshals treated everyone to a weekend of good food and entertainment, whilst a combination of donations, Race Night, Charity Raffle and Charity breakfast raised £593.60p for the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Unfortunately, the electrical supply feeding the vans had to be disconnected Sunday night due to a potential Health and Safety issue which the marshals have raised with the venue.

Also attended the Peewit Rally, which was well attended and enjoyed by everyone, with the sun making up for the wind.

#### **Item 7. Other Rally Reports - None**

**Item 8. Treasurers Report** - 2023 Accounts reviewed by Auditors, after answering various questions, they are 'happy'. Only outstanding point is they need a copy of the Minutes from all Committee Meetings (Janet has in hand). + Possible adjustments.

- a) We are holding a £50 prepayment relating to the aborted Rally during Covid at Church Field, Woolverstone (Ipswich School). I've asked them to see if it can be offset against the costs of this year's rally? School advises "Could you confirm all the details of the original booking, the name of the person who made the booking, the date of the booking and any reference number please as I can't find anything on our school hire system so will need to give the finance manager as much info as possible." Paul W advised that Paul F was responsible for the rally.
- b) We also have unpaid Rally Book Advertising from 2023 (£225 excluding discount and VAT). I chased 3 debtors by email 18/03/24 - only response was from one.

I'll circulate 2023 results once the above £50 + £225 has been decided.

Easter Bunny Ralliers mainly paid by BACS. Lists of attendees and money received exchanged with Janet almost daily, amounts due reconciled and 3 refunds sent.

2023 VAT Returns sent to CAMC, Q1 2024 will be done shortly.

Ron advised he had been to Farnham Leisure who thought they had paid the advertising, this will be followed up further.

Paul Fitch advised the £50 rolls over from many years ago and Jan Fitch used to handle this, Paul gave Will the name of one person he believes may have been involved.

Will also advised the Centre is still holding £120 allocated for Past Chairman badges. Ron advised he is going to be presented with a badge that was previously held by another past chair and that he thinks Garry Pyett had received a badge from Graham Noye who found he had two.

Ron advised it had been difficult to make contact with the badge supplier but will continue making enquiries.

A discussion followed regarding whether the centre should continue ordering Past Chairman badges. It was decided to release £120 being held to offset the advertisers who have not paid and leave next years committee to decide on future badges.

#### **Item 9. Secretary Report:**

**9.1. Membership** - Janet reported that on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024, there were 1,152 members. Members going void from end February renewals were 64. Those to renew for March are 97.

Reminders have been sent - quite a few coming back as not renewing either membership or sold up.

**9.2. Correspondence received:**

a. **18<sup>th</sup> March.** Information for any rallies for 2025 being organised in a National Park.

**9.3. Attendance** - Two late cancellations for Peewit Rally. No cost to rally, and due to circumstances noted, would like no charge to either family.

**Item 10. Rally Secretary Report:** Peewit Rally next year dates to be confirmed. Due to late Easter/school holidays may change to before Easter instead of weekend after. Provisional discussion for Easter rally next year - still to confirm.

Diane Fitch raised whether the centre should start looking at booking rally sites and then looking for Marshals to run the rallies in an attempt to increase the number of rallies in the book.

Ask Alan to try posting on facebook encouraging potential marshals to start booking rally dates in for next year and also include in next newsletter.

**Item 11. Publicity** - Trevor was asked if had sent final copy of leaflet to Janet for printing, which he thought he had. Ron asked for a slight amendment to be made regarding mention of Junior Crew. Trevor agreed to amend and re-circulate - **This was completed same evening after meeting.**

**Item 12. Rally Equipment** - Nothing to report

**Item 13. Webmaster** - Julian advised there a couple of updates waiting to be made in the next few days.

**Item 14. Newsletter** - Diane advised is hoping to have next edition out by the end of May and will use the opportunity to plug forthcoming rallies. Still waiting on some committee photos. If anyone has any items for the newsletter then please forward as soon as possible

**Item 15. Regional Meeting** - Ron advised next meeting is Banham Zoo Forum but he may not be attending as dogs cannot be left alone in caravans whilst on site.

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

- 1) Trevor asked if Risk Assessments still need to be done for rallies - It was confirmed they do.
- 2) Diane asked if anything further done about potential trial of a card reader. Julian advised he had made some enquiries and options are to use:
  - Stripe online which charges 1.5% + 20p per payment with no monthly charge.
  - Sumup for in person payments at 1.69% charge.
  - Continue with Bacs

Ron advised Norfolk have gone completely cashless, Diane suggested speaking to some one from there to learn what if any issues they have had.

- 3) It was advised not all marshals are confirming receipt of rally slips and it would be nice if they could be encouraged to do so.

- 4) Concern was raised regarding the quality of rally plaques and it was felt that the consistency and quality was slipping, especially with some pictures looking stretched, colour of the writing better on some than others and centre logo not always showing correct proportions. This then generated a conversation regarding the future needs and wants of club members going forward and whether there should be some a vote, either on the official Facebook group or at the AGM regarding whether they should be phased out to contribute towards keeping centre costs down.

Next meeting Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May - by Zoom style. Meeting to start at 7.30 p.m.

*It is noted that to be sure of meetings the following are booked at Hintlesham - 11<sup>th</sup> September and 2<sup>nd</sup> October.*

*Meetings for May, June, July to be arranged via Zoom style.*

*It was also noted that there had been question raised over volunteers for both committee and marshals which was not minuted. This to be put on Agenda for the May meeting.*

Meeting closed at 21:28

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