

THE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME CLUB - SUFFOLK CENTRE
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE 2024
BY TEAMS

Meeting scheduled 12th June was moved to 19th June by Teams

Meeting opened at 7.35 p.m.

Those taking part were:

Chairman	Ron King
Vice-Chairman/Webmaster	Julian Fincham-Jacques
Secretary	Janet Dobson
Rally Secretary	Alan Dobson
Treasurer	Will James
Newsletter	Diane Fitch
Equipment	Paul Fitch

Item 1. Apologies for Absence - Trevor Smith (due to Wi-Fi). Chris Stammers sent apologies.

Item 2. Corrections to Previous Minutes - None.

Item 3. Signing of Previous Minutes - May 2024 minutes were agreed and signed by Ron King, Chairman.

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

Item 5. Chairmans Report -

I attended ClubFest 2024 at Weston Park, Staffordshire, arriving on Wednesday 22nd May to take on the role of "Lead Camp Site Crew" for Anglia Region. Friday 24th May 2024 at 08.00hrs the gates opened up to let all the people in, who were attending ClubFest.

The Anglia Region consisted of a team of seven couples. The ladies did the greeting and admin, whilst the men were split into two groups. Three on one team and three on the other team. Close to 500 units were sited over two areas on Friday. The reason we had two siting crews, was because we went there on the understanding we were only going to be looking after Anglia Region Lines consisting of approximately 150 units. Little did we know that the powers to be decided we could look after another 350 spaces as the "Super Pitches" shared the same track on the adjacent field.

We worked nonstop from 08-00-22.00, grabbing a snack and drink whenever we could, without stopping the siting of the ClubFest visitors. By 22.00, my team sited close to that 500 figure. My team was made up of four couples from Suffolk Centre, two couples from South Essex Centre and one couple from Mid Anglia Centre. They all did a brilliant job, and I would like to give them my personal thanks, especially as they gave their time as volunteers and also paid to be at ClubFest 2024.

The Suffolk Centre members who gave their time to be part of my team were Andy and Sally Gaffer, Malcolm and Sue Hall, David and Janice Kent and also my wife Denise. Mark and Debra Terry were at Weston Park from about 6th May until everybody had gone, setting the whole site up for everyone, then dismantling it all again, as if 3100 units had never been in the grounds. Next year, Club Fest 2025 will be at Bolesworth Castle, Cheshire, where they are hoping to attract 4000 units.

Once again Denise and I, after a few days at home, were on our travels again. This time a little trip to Norfolk, where we chaired the "Back to Manor Farm" rally Runcton Holme near King's Lynn. A lovely quiet site, with plenty of wildlife and a fishing lake with Swans and Geese with their young on the water. In the distant Owls flying just before dusk.

My next outing will be my own rally at Swann's Nursery, Bromeswell 14th - 18th June 2024.

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

Item 7. Other Rally Reports - Janet chaired the Bank Holiday Rally at Garnhams Field. New venue for the Centre. Ideally placed between Stowmarket and Needham Market. Well attended. Thanks to marshals and site owner given. Sadly the weekend was rather wet for most of the country as well at Needham Market.

Julian had chaired the rally at Bromeswell recently, report to be given at the July meeting.

Item 8. Treasurers Report - Will reported: I've reconciled the accounts to date. Surplus shown for Easter Bunny last time was wrong (missing formula in the complicated Excel workbook I inherited - we don't usually have BACS income and refunds).

I've compared Janet's notes on Easter Bunny income/costs, main difference is Admin fee contribution to Centre not actually offset against Rallies).

Will advised he had made contact re an outstanding invoice, hopeful this will be resolved shortly.

- I've asked Ian, Berkshire Treasurer (lead for **Centre Treasurer working practices review**) if he has any example simpler Rally Forms. Will asked Janet to forward a copy of the Rally Account Form previously used by the Centre.

Item 9. Secretary Report:

9.1. Membership - Janet reported that on Friday 7th June 2024, there were 1,132 members. There still seem to be some issues with member information on numbers after receipt of last Nominal report - next one 5 weeks' time, to check again then. 79 members initially went void for April renewals.

Majority of members have been emailed, where possible, re being able to help/committee/rally marshal in 2024.

9.2. Correspondence received:

a. Guidance from the Club on purchasing a defib following approach from Centre member. Information passed to committee. This was due to a member offering to crowdfund a defib for the Centre. Need to look at all aspects. Club guidance due to be issued to all Centres. To put on July agenda to discuss further. Points raised: training not needed. Battery life not a problem. Club refers us to BHF website. Cost effectiveness of hire v purchase.

9.3. Attendance - Updated as they come in.

Defaulter on Kings Lynn Rally - discussed - committee advised to write to those involved.

Defaulter on Bromeswell Rally - discussed - committee advised to write to those involved.

Item 10. Rally Secretary Report: Very little progress or movement on rallies. Still no response from marshals. He had asked Janet to draw up list of response so far for a change in handbook, sent round committee. Some members fell into couple columns, disappointed but not surprised in the no replies - they had been messaged twice. From those questioned following answers:

Emails sent:	175
No reply/Committee:	88
No email address:	15
Wish to change to PDF:	16
Willing to pay towards a folder:	42
Would buy own folder:	12
No preference/Other:	12

After discussion agreed to move forward with folders, to write to those who have not answered advising PDF by default unless they request otherwise.

Alan to look at providing venues with most of the work done, just to find marshals. Diane to follow up on a venue when they are back from holiday. Several ideas talked about. To follow up with members interested in marshalling.

With regards to AGM 2025 - Ron to look at dates and pricing for Trinity Park. With regards to Seasonal Launch (N&C) Ron to follow up with marshals as looking to put back alongside a rally.

Rally envelopes have been collected from printers.

Item 11. Publicity - Trevor had supplied copies of 2 flyers he has put together. Committee felt they were really good - to put on Agenda for July.

Item 12. Rally Equipment - Paul had nothing to report. Ron to look at price for the pole for the spare flag we have. Some juggling round to do with equipment between a couple of the rallies.

Item 13. Webmaster - Some updates done. Minutes are now on the website, May ones to be passed to Julian now they have been signed off.

Item 14. Newsletter - Diane to look at next edition end of July. Need content/photos/articles. Can advertise the next set of rallies.

Item 15. Regional Meeting -.Next one in September.

Item 16. Other Committee / Any Other Business -

As we are now a few months to the AGM, and as Ron's last year, indications were asked for about standing for the 2025. Not promising. Members need to understand the Centre may find itself in a position where it cannot continue, and the consequences. To put on the July Agenda. Ron was asked to prepare a Chairmans Statement for the Website/Facebook/Newsletter to get this message across to the members.

Janet advised she had received details in from Club on the Constitution of the Regions and changes to be made. Committee advised. From their AGM's 2024 they will be known under Divisions. Committee will become Teams. All roles, plus the Media Rep, will have to be elected. All roles can only serve for 3 years maximum. Centre committee members cannot undertake a role on both at the same time. Centres to liaise with them, instead of Club, on Centre issues. Understand a Centre Review is underway.

Paul and Diane head off to France tomorrow to marshal a rally for the Centre in France. Committee wished them safe journey and an enjoyable holiday/rally.

July meeting - Due Wednesday 10th July at Hintlesham

No meeting in August.

Janet advised that both her and Alan will not be back from holiday in time for the scheduled meeting in September.

Meeting closed at 20.47

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