

THE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME CLUB - SUFFOLK CENTRE
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2025
HINTLESHAM VILLAGE HALL

Meeting opened at 7.38 p.m.

Those taking part in the committee meeting were:

Chairman	Ron King
Vice Chairman / Webmaster	Julian Fincham-Jacques
Secretary	Janet Dobson
Treasurer	Will James
Rally Secretary	Alan Dobson
Centre Equipment	Denise King
Committee	Martin Combes

Item 1. Apologies for Absence – Dave Sanders, Chris Stammers.

Item 2. Corrections to Previous Minutes – None noted.

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

Item 4. Matters Arising on minutes from last Meeting – Cards with QR codes have now been collected and will be distributed on rallies.

Item 5. Chairmans Report – I start my report with the sad news that on 27th May 2025, Wendy Noye passed away, after suffering from ill health for quite some time. Graham and Wendy have been strong supporters of Suffolk Centre for fifty plus years, as Chairman and Lady from 1989-1991, running many rallies and they always attended the Suffolk Centre AGM every year, lately as senior Past Chairman, speaking on behalf of the members attending.

Since the last committee meeting, myself and Denise have attended three rallies and fitting a week's holiday in North Yorkshire. Weather in the main has been fairly kind to us while away.

The start of the break I chaired, Bank Holiday at Garnham's Field, Needham Market over the May Bank Holiday weekend. It was my first of attending the rally, as I am normally involved with ClubFest on behalf of the Anglia Division. The rally attracted some visitors and one of the couples signed up to Suffolk Centre. I presented Martin and Vanessa Brooks with their First Suffolk Centre Rally plaque.

When Garnham's Field rally closed we moved on to the follow-on rally at Runton Holme to the Relax at Manor Farm III run by Garry Pyett. The numbers were very disappointing with only eight units attending including marshals. A Fish and Chip supper was organised and

picked up from the shop in the village on the Thursday night. I couldn't stay for all the rally, as I had a week's holiday booked near Pickering, North Yorkshire.

On the way home from the Yorkshire holiday, Myself and Denise attended the Apple Pie and Cider rally at Homestead Lake, Weeley. A popular place for hosting rallies. The weather tested those who attended the get-together on Saturday night. As the apple pie and cider was about to be served the heavens opened up. The marshals had previously erected three Event Shelters, so some protection was achieved from the elements. Umbrellas were seen to be raised, as one of the shelters was allowing the rain to penetrate like a sieve. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves despite the rain which incidentally stopped as people started leaving the get-together. I have been informed that the rally is in the proposed programme for next year.

Item 6. Vice Chairmans Report – Attended Apple Pie & Cider rally, excellent weekend despite the rain trying to out a dampener on proceedings Saturday evening.

Decided to trial the Sum-up machine for Clare next weekend, had a few teething issues (user error) and those booked on having reacted well with positive comments from those that have used it. So far 7 of the 13 attending have paid via this method. Note to learn though, need a way to differentiate between people with same surname on one rally to know which one has/has not paid.

Also, I now carry a defibrillator in my car, happy for this to be shared with rally marshals in case ever needed in a rally. You never know!!

Item 7. Other Rally Reports – None.

Item 8. Treasurers Report – Will reported that various account forms have been received. One refund for the Cliff Top Thorpeness rally has been made. One advertiser to follow up – Alan offered to contact them. Will is still waiting on confirmation date for the proposed Treasurer meeting. Ron advised some centre equipment has been sold, money will be transferred over in due course.

At this point Julian Fincham-Jacques joined meeting – apologies/reports had been received earlier in the day.

Item 9. Secretary Report:

9.1. Membership – Janet reported that on Friday 6th June there were 1,020 For April renewals we had 80 non-renewals. For May at this point there are 78 members to renew.

9.2. Correspondence received:

The Centre Guidance Handbook (2025) has been issued, all previous documents to be destroyed. Copies to Chairman/V Chairman/ Treasurer and Rally Secretary. Alongside the copy for Secretary are the Annexes to the Handbook. Janet to forward copies to Chairman/Treasurer/V Chairman and Rally Sec. One point noted from the new Guidance is that the Club request Centres to use the term "Rally Officer" and not "Rally Marshal" with advice as to why under H&S law.

New copies of the Rally Contract, Accident and Incident Report and Rally Risk Assessment now received.

Message from Club re Cybersecurity giving key points to be kept in mind.

New list of Club sites and dates available for rallying in 2026.

9.3. Attendance – Reports in from Garnham's Field rally and Weeley, Homestead rally on members late cancel/not arriving. Discussed with committee re circumstances etc., Janet to write to members re the £10 request.

Item 10. Rally Secretary Report: Alan reported some rallies now coming in with offer of invites from North Essex Centre expected shortly. The Centre rallies at Trinity Park for 2026 (Easter / AGM) are still being followed up by Ron King due to difficulties contacting the site. Alan was asked to follow up other venues for the AGM in 2026 as possible alternatives. 3 day rally w/e of 16th October if possible.

Alan indicated he intended writing to all the marshals listed for this year (some have put their rallies in) advising new Risk Assessment forms, accident and Incident Report forms available and that the entry form for the 2026 book would be sent out shortly.

Item 11. Publicity – No report received.

Item 12. Rally Equipment – Denise advised that the pegs in the shelter bags were reported missing, so they needed to be restocked. The bags had been checked previously. The shelters did fall foul of the torrential rain at the last rally and an offer had been made to get them re-proofed as soon as possible. She reported that the urn used sustained some damage to the plug – agreed to take the urn for professional assessment and repair.

Item 13. Webmaster – Julian advised that hopefully all updates have been done on website, please tell me if you identify anything incorrect, just waiting on funeral details for Wendy Noye.

Item 14. Newsletter – Nothing further. Agreed later in the year to send out, where possible, emails giving updates on Centre events/issues.

Item 15. Anglia Division Report (Ron King, Representative) – Next meeting is due 3rd September, nothing further to report at present.

Item 16. Other Committee / Any Other Business –

An email had been received just prior to the meeting which was discussed within committee. Janet to follow up and advise committee of outcome.

Ron King went through some of the rallies needing cover as Chair of rally, agreed Martin Combes would take on the role for the Woolverstone rally. Marshals to be advised.

Ron asked those present if they had any thoughts re nominations for the committee for 2026. Mixed responses so far. Some indicated they would carry on, rest either indicated no or undecided.

Meeting closed at: 9.46 p.m.

Next meeting is due at Hintlesham Village Hall on Wednesday 9th July to commence at 7.30 p.m.

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