



MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH-WESTERN CAR CLUBS HELD AT THE HOLIDAY INN, RUNCORN ON TUESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2003

WELCOME

The Chairman, Bob Milloy, welcomed delegates to the meeting and then asked for a few moments silence to remember three recently deceased friends and colleagues Dave Pitchford, Carol Pearl and Alan Silver. In contrast, the Chairman was pleased to welcome Martin Pratt to the meeting after his recent 'setback'.

ATTENDANCE

22 member clubs were represented by 28 delegates as follows:

Blackrod MC (Helen Fox, Martin Fox), Bolton-le-Moors CC (Guy Wickham), British Motorsport Marshals Club (Mike Farnworth), British Radio Car Association (Jim Spencer), Bury AC (Eve Fisher), Chester MC (Keith de Rycke, Martin Pratt), Civil Service Motoring Association (John Francis), Dayz of Funder MC (John Francis), Ecurie Royal Oak MC (Nigel Bayley, Kay Skellern), High Moor MC (Matt Dickson, Gary Heslop, Neil Moreton), Kirkby Lonsdale MC (Bob Milloy), Knutsford & DMC (Nigel Banks), Lancashire & Cheshire CC (David Bailey, Martin Nield), Liverpool MC (John Harden, Ron Hunt), Motor Sport NW (Ann McCormack, Mark Wilkinson), North Wales CC (Dave Thomas), Potteries & Newcastle MC (Sue Sanders-Peppit), Stockport MC (Mark Wilkinson), Three Castles MC (Ian Price), Wallasey (Aidan Mangan, Bill Turner), Warrington & DMC (Ann McCormack), Wigan & DMC (Helen Fox, Martin Fox)

Officials present were: Bob Milloy (Chairman), Kay Skellern (General Secretary), Dave Thomas (Championships Secretary), Martin Pratt (CTRL0/FLO) & Mike Farnworth (Training Officer). Mike Ashcroft (Aintree Liaison), Sue Sanders-Peppitt (MSA Rallies Committee member)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were recorded from Allan Dean-Lewis (President), Eric Cowcill (Treasurer), Katy Mashiter (Press Officer, Kirkby Lonsdale MC and Morecambe CC), Jack Romain (CTRL0 North Wales), Tom Dooley (BRSCC North-West), Clive Baty (Ilkley & DMC), Martin Blackburn (Manx Motor Sport Marshals Association), Richard Pearl (Wallasey MC and Motor Sport NW), Dave Read (Motor Sport NW and Warrington & DMC), Steve Johnson (Civil Service Motoring Association).

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting which had been circulated by post and e-mail were accepted on a proposal by Nigel Banks (Knutsford). seconded by Martin Nield (Lancashire & Cheshire CC).

MATTERS ARISING

The possibility of on-event fire tenders had been investigated by Mike Farnworth and Steve Johnson. The cost of 100 litres of AFFF extinguishant with lance and associated equipment proved to be cheaper than a pressure washer system but was well outside budget. FE36 extinguishant has now been homologated by the FIA.

Steve Johnson's suggestion for exceptions to Stage Rally competition licence requirements had been put before the Regional Committee where it was given a good hearing, and then passed on to the Rallies Committee.

Martin Pratt had submitted a proposal for an event for Landowners awareness, as organized by the Eastern Association of Motor Clubs. It was suggested that two events would be required to cover our area of operation. Myerscough College was suggested as a possible venue. Information on this scheme to be drawn up and published on our website.

The MSA's John Grant has been elected to the World Council.

No information has been received on either the Inter-Association RTV Trial or the Road Rally. The IA Stage Rally planned as a multi-use stage rally at Swinderby had been cancelled due to lack of support, but ANWCC had taken up the plot and the event had been run in conjunction with North Wales CC's Dee Jays Cambrian Rally. The competition had received 15 team entries, with the Welsh Association coming out as winners, only four teams having all three crews finish.

John Francis reported that the Dayz of Funder MC Charity Track Day at Three Sisters (15th August) had been a resounding success, with a visit by an RAF helicopter together with rides in a BTCC saloon driven by Paul O'Neal, fairground attractions and autotest demonstration. Over £2,000 had been raised, bringing the total to over £10k for the Round Table's Children's Wish charity, along with a further £1,000 to a Children's Charity. Thanks expressed to everyone who had assisted in any way, and John also presented the Chairman with a souvenir trophy as a reward for marshalling on the event.

MSA COUNCIL NEWS

Eric Cowcill had attended the meeting on 18 September where many new regulations had been ratified – these are detailed in the Autumn edition of *Motorsports Now!* Some changes had been made from the original proposals following comments from Regional Associations, especially those regarding DSO's on Road and Historic Rallies.

MSA REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Regional Meetings have been reduced from 3 or 4 per annum to 2. The Chief Executive and Bruce Goddard had reported on the DTI competitiveness panel and support for motorsport, including funding for marshalling.

Andrew Coe reported on the Wales Rally GB, stating that IMS had bought back the rights. He praised many people involved with the event, including Sue Sanders-Peppit, Safety Officer. Sue commented that the marshals had been fantastic, spectators equally so with many spectators now wishing to become marshals.

MSA RALLIES COMMITTEE

There has been no Rallies Committee meeting since the last ANWCC meeting.

MSA SPEED COMMITTEE

There has been no Speed Committee meeting since the last ANWCC meeting.

Discussion had taken place over banning cockpit brake bias systems, with thoughts put forward on locking or sealing such systems.

Westfield air cleaners poking out through bonnets had raised the regulation of changing car profiles. It is understood that a body panel to cover the cleaner is available and fitted to some models.

CORRESPONDENCE

e-Mail application to join the Association from Sheffield & Hallamshire MC. The club will be celebrating its centenary birthday in 2004 and there will be a party! Events include a Twyford Woods Stage Rally as well as sprints and sporting car trials, whilst their bike section runs many events as well. Subject to receiving the cheque for subscription, the membership was approved.

Application to join the Association from the Formula 1000 Rally Club. Unlike the previous application this club is so new it has not yet affiliated to the MSA, although that was expected within a few days as the current membership stood at 23. The club has been formed by the team promoting the Formula 1000 Rally Challenge and will be on the lines of the Peugeot Rally Club to handle the championship and assist newcomers to the sport. It is not being promoted as a rival club to any existing member. Membership was approved, subject to payment of subscription and affiliation to the MSA.

Notification received that Blackrod MC will cease to operate from the end of 2003, their members having merged with Wigan & DMC. The fall in membership made sense to merge with a neighbouring club and hopefully strengthen it.

Martin Fox reported that his Subaru Impreza rally car had been stolen on 31 October 2003 and asked for help in finding it. The car is silver, matt black inside, with Subaru logos on the side and sign-written "Craignure Inn", registration number is M709 YSF and the car features an unusual strengthening feature in the sills, visible from inside the car. Any information to Martin on 0161 777 7042, or e-Mail Martin at martin.fox@llcag.co.uk

Tony Newsum had passed on thanks, via Bill Troughear, for the "retirement" glassware presented to him by the Regional Association committee. It was in thanks to Tony for his work and support of club and association motorsport at a real level. Associations were requested to donate £5 each towards the presentation.

Forestry Allocations for the year 2004 (April) to 2005 (March) have been received.

Dates for MSA Officials Seminars have been received. It is noted that the date most suitable for our area, Leeds on 21 February 2003, again clashes with the North-West Stages and the Secretary was to write to the MSA requesting a change of date and consideration for this change in future years. It is understood that ANCC (Association of Northern Car Clubs) have also replied in a similar manner as there is another event in their area on that date. Information has also been circulated to clubs for nomination of attendees.

Letter received from the MSA to request nominations for the Alexander Forbes MSA Club of the Year award. The date for submission had already been passed (31 October 2003), and ANWCC have submitted the names of Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC, Knutsford & DMC and Rhyl & DMC as the three nominees, these being the top three clubs in the Club Championship 2003. The criteria has changed to previous years, and will focus on the competitiveness of the clubs.

Letter received from the MSA requesting one nomination for the Alexander Forbes Marshal of the Year Award. It was suggested that the person should be someone whose duties are of marshalling rather than organizing and the delegates agreed that ANWCC should nominate the person in the ANWCC Marshals Championship 2003 who has scored the most points under the criteria suggested.

Letter received from Knutsford & DMC for one of their members to be nominated for the MSA Marshal of the Year award. See above item.

Letter received from the Border Ecosse Car Club for donations towards the restoration of Charterhall as a motorsport venue, asking for donations of £25.

Letter received from Alan Johnstone giving details of various services carried out by his company – including commentators for rallies, car shows, races, etc. and public speakers covering all sorts of motoring subjects, also wedding speeches written!

Updated list of MSA approved Rescue and Recovery vehicles received. Copy held by the ANWCC Secretary and Championship Secretary.

Details received of the Roger Albert Clark Rally, scheduled for 20-24 November 2004.

Brochure received outlining the Three Castles Welsh Classic Trial, based in Llandudno and running from 3-6 June 2004. Much help will be required and offers should be made initially to Ian Price. Donations to clubs running tests or sections will be made.

Letter from Allan Dean-Lewis, our President, informing us of a change to his role within motorsport, having been appointed the FIA Training Working Group Co-Ordinator, with an office in Paris! Congratulations to be sent to Allan on this appointment.

Letter received from Paul Hynes and Peter Riley of Longton & DMC regarding unacceptable noise levels at motorsport venues from motor-cycle events, and requesting that such information be passed to Colin Hilton at the MSA, for him to address the problem with the ACU. This particularly affects such venues as Anglesey Circuit, Aintree, Three Sisters and Oulton Park, plus others. Ian Price and Martin Pratt both stated that they have complained to the ACU for years, and outlined the criteria which they are given by the ACU when noise-testing motor-cycle events. Noise levels for car motorsport are being reduced, with wider implications for drive-by noise levels and transmission. It is deemed essential that the MSA act with the ACU to ensure that venues are not lost to motorsport.

Our nomination of Neil Bye for the MSA Rallies Specialist Committee 2004 had not been successful.

www.rallyusedparts.co.uk had approached the ANWCC with a view to including their flyers in our end of year bulletin, in return for a donation towards postage. This had been accepted.

Various invitations to events, including the Astra Stages on 3 April 2004 which will incorporate a National, Clubmans and Historic event in the forests of Clocaenog, Penmachno, Aberhirnant and Dyfnant.

Various minutes of other Association's meetings received.

REPORTS

GENERAL SECRETARY

Nothing to report other than noted elsewhere in these minutes.

TREASURER

Eric had tendered his apologies due to being in Macau, but had stated that the accounts were healthy.

There are only four clubs that had not renewed their subscriptions for 2004 and these would be sent a final reminder. Clubs unpaid for 2004 as at the date of the meeting are Aberystwyth, Keighley, Sixty & Worcs and Warrington. Severn Valley and Three Shires have not paid for 2003 so are deemed to have lapsed.

CHAMPIONSHIPS SECRETARY

Dave Thomas reported that the championships were coming to an end for 2003 with all events submitting results promptly, often by e-mail which is excellent. Most championships have gone down to the wire.

Only one complaint had been received during the year, relating to a Road Rally but the issues have been resolved from the championship point of view.

Dave reported that the source of glassware used for many years is no longer available, as Caryl Jones of Looking Glass has retired from the work. Alternative sources are being investigated. This could mean an increase in the cost of awards, currently around the £2,500 to £3,000 level for about 300 trophies. Cost of engraving would be the big issue.

For 2004 it is proposed that all championship regulations remain the same as for 2003 except that the “Standard Production Car” awards in the Road Rally Championship be discontinued due to problems in establishing who qualifies and who does not.

Dave stated that the proposed “Formula 1000 Rally Challenge” has attracted such tremendous interest that it will stand in its’ own right and become a Closed-to-Club Championship. It is predicted that over 30 crews and cars will enter each event, so the formation of a club will allow clubsport events for 1000cc cars only. The remaining rounds will be encompassed within ANWCC Championship events.

The winning Marshals drawn out by the Chairman were for August, Christopher Coman of Morecambe CC, for September Anwen Hopewell of North Wales CC and for October Matt Dickson of High Moor MC, Matt winning for a second time! Prizes for the Championship are being negotiated and it is hoped that a trip to an event in Ireland or the Isle of Man would be available.

The 2004 calendar can be viewed on the ANWCC website and the full list will be compiled into Championships by the time of issuing the end-of-year bulletin. There are a few date clashes to be resolved.

INTER-ASSOCIATION EVENTS

No information received regarding the Production Car Trial, Off-Road Trial or Road Rally events.

The Inter-Association Stage Rally Challenge planned for Swinderby as a multi-use event had been cancelled due to a lack of entries. Instead, ANWCC had taken up the opportunity to run the Challenge as part of North Wales CC’s Dee-Jays Cambrian Rally run on 1 November and the final round of the ANWCC, BTRDA and WAMC Championships. This had resulted in a total of 16 teams being entered, with the Welsh Association “B” team emerging as winners, to the embarrassment of Dave Thomas who had made up this team from the Welsh reserves entered! Only four teams finished intact, all being the “B” teams from WAMC, AWMMC, ANCC and ANWCC.

FORESTRY LIAISON OFFICER

Martin Pratt has received the Forestry Allocations for 2004/2005. The only forest event submitted through him is the Midland Manor MC event.

Martin had written to state that he wished to relinquish the FLO/CTRLO job at the end of 2003, due to health problems.

Route liaison within the Cheshire/Merseyside area was working well, with no problems reported.

Ian Price was nominated to take over Martin’s role, such nomination being put forward to the MSA for approval. Events within the area included New Brighton rallies and sprints, Three Sisters rallies and sprints, North-West Stages, LE-JOG and the Rally of the Tests. For 2004 there is the addition of the Tour of Cheshire Historic Rally.

Martin thanked everyone who had worked with him in this role over the years, and assured everyone that he would give full support to his successor. The Chairman thanked Martin

for all the hard work undertaken. Martin stated that he would continue with noise scrutineering duties.

It was also stated that Arnold Middleton of Stoke Rescue had previously offered to look after the Staffordshire area.

AINTREE LIAISON OFFICER

Mike Ashcroft reported that John Harden has taken over as unofficial Secretary for Aintree Liaison. Mike Fitzjohn of Sport England has taken early retirement, so we no longer have direct contact.

Meeting had been held with Aintree on 22 October – various issues of general operating matters, proposed that the gold course will be extended, adding three greens on “our” side and six on the other side of the Melling Road. The Motor-cycle club was also concerned over the effects on their sport. The project has not yet received funding from the Jockey Club, or planning permission, this is scheduled for 2005.

It is suggested that there may be less motorsport events at Aintree but bigger events – utilizing the whole weekend with possibility a sprint on one day and a motor-cycle race on the other. Charles Barnett of Aintree realizes that motorsport is a valuable source of income. Aintree has had a good motorsport season in 2003.

OTHER VENUE LIAISON

Events at Weeton have run successfully with no problems reported. The revised layout for the Clitheroe event was well received, giving extra stage mileage.

Warcop Ranges had seen the Pendragon Stage Rally run successfully, with many commenting what a fantastic venue it is. The venue has not been used for ten years but future developments are encouraging. Next event is scheduled for 11 July 2004.

Regrettably, Binbrook will no longer host motorsport, despite valiant efforts by the Binbrook Motor Sports Group.

Wilbarston is now back in use, with ERO running an event there later in the month.

It is hoped that Caernarfon Airparc will be able to host motorsport events in late 2004, although there is nothing definite yet.

PRESS OFFICER

Katy Mashiter was not present, but help is available if required.

TRAINING OFFICER

Mike Farnworth reported that the Rally Marshals Training will take place at Myerscough College, Preston on 24 January 2004.

Mike is now the British Motorsport Marshals Club National Training Co-Ordinator and will be working around the country in this role.

Club training evenings are ongoing, the next being Knutsford on 24 November 2003. Any clubs wishing to arrange such training sessions should contact Mike.

Mike reported that clubs can apply for a maximum £50 grant towards Rally Introduction and Basic Training evenings. Applications to be made to the MSA.

Katy Mashiter will be assisting in the Myerscough training session and will be asking for the use of some rally cars, and crews, for the training of marshals in mock stage controls.

An article on how to upgrade Marshals Licences from Group 2 to Group 1 should have been included in the latest issue of *The Marshal*.

RALLY LIAISON OFFICER

For Martin Pratt's report see under Forestry Liaison Officer.

Jack Romain of North Wales had tendered his apologies and reported that clubs in North Wales were running excellent events, but care had to be exercised on Map 116, where the clubs had formed a study group.

The purpose of the group is to ensure close liaison between road rally organizers, and also to oversee other events that use the map and ensure that Jack, as RLO, has full support with regard to the use of PR problem areas.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Martin Fox asked, on behalf of Wigan & DMC, of the possibility and cost involved in running a stage rally at Aintree. Mike Ashcroft agreed to find out any possible dates that may be available, and inform Wigan & DMC. Any contact has to be between the organizing club and Aintree Racecourse company. There is the possibility of a Sunday event when a motor-cycle event is on the Saturday, although this may create some problem in setting up the stages.

Nigel Bayley reported that he had heard talk of selling Oulton Park for housing. It was stated by Ian Price that this will not happen, although there are currently five bidders for the venue, none of whom are property developers.

John Francis reported on the Dayz of Funder MC Charity Track Day held in August, and thanked clubs and individuals who had assisted in the running of the successful day, the highlight being the visit by a RAF helicopter. The scheduled date for the next event is 6 August 2004. John stated that he would like the event to be taken over by a club or clubs to run in 2005.

John Francis reported that the "Cocomobile" has now been registered as a road vehicle and there are plans to "drive" it from John O'Groats to Land's End (the JOGLE?) visiting celebrities for guest runs en route as well as gaining a lot of publicity and raising a few quid for charity. Further details will be revealed as plans unfold.

Gary Heslop asked if the Formula 1000 Championship points scoring would be separate to the Association Championship. Dave Thomas stated that the F1000 series would be a separate challenge, with different scoring including a bonus points system.

Ideas for prizes for the Marshals Championship were requested. The Chairman was working on a visit to a major event, whilst visits to preparation companies were also being considered. All ideas will be welcomed.

It was suggested that perhaps the Annual Awards Presentation and the AGM be combined. Although there was some discussion regarding the timescale due to the setting up of the presentation, ideas and thoughts would be welcomed for the 2005 events.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 1001 hours, representatives being thanked for their attendance.

AGENDA ...

... for the Ordinary Meeting of the Association of North-Western Car Clubs, which will be held at Holiday Inn Runcorn, on Tuesday 10 February 2004, commencing immediately after the Annual General Meeting

Apologies for absence

Minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting

Matters arising

MSA matters

Correspondence

Reports

General Secretary

Treasurer

Championships Secretary

Forestry / Facilities Liaison Officer

Aintree Liaison Officer

Other Venue Liaison

Press Officer

Training Officer

MSA CTRLLO

Any other business

Date and place of next meeting

Kay Skellern

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