



MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH-WESTERN CAR CLUBS HELD AT THE HOLIDAY INN, RUNCORN, ON TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2006.

WELCOME

The Chairman, Bob Milloy, welcomed delegates to the meeting commenting on the disappointing attendance.

ATTENDANCE

[] member clubs were represented by [] delegates as follows:

Secretary's apology – the signing on sheet was left behind at the hotel and was cleared by hotel staff !

Officials present were Bob Milloy (Chairman), Ron Hunt (Vice-Chairman), Eric Cowcill (Treasurer), John Harden (Aintree Liaison Officer), Katy Mashiter (Press Officer), Dave Thomas (Championship Secretary), Stan Appleton (General Secretary).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were recorded from Allan Dean Lewis (President), Gordon Pirie (CTRLO Cheshire & Merseyside), Nigel Bayley (Ecurie Royal Oak), Anne McCormack (Motorsport NW), Jim Spencer (BRCA).

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record on a proposal by Steve Johnson (CSMA) seconded by Steve Kenyon (Garstang and Preston).

MATTERS ARISING

Helmet Straps – Still no news from MSA. Secretary to write to John Symes as it's a scrutineering issue.

Stage Rally restarts -K31a – The Trophy Rally arrangement is too complicated to offer restarts on most events. Secretary to write to John Richardson for Rallies Committee to consider whether giving a 'stage maximum' would be more appropriate, in line with current WRC practice. This would leave crews with a competitive chance and give insurance cover.

Access issues – No further news on either the re-emergence of the DEFRA issue or the reclassification of byways etc.

Child Protection – No further news

Volunteers in Motorsport – To be formally launched in March with new training activities and including alignment of grading across disciplines. It was felt that Regional Associations were underused for recruitment, training and development. Racing had several clubs for their 3000 marshals but as there was only one rally marshals club the associations and clubs would have a bigger role.

Motorsport Development Fund –It was clarified that the fund had supported £2m worth of projects, not provided £2m of direct funding.

MSA MATTERS

MSA COUNCIL

Eric Cowcill reported on the last Council meeting which had received four presentations including Volunteers in Motorsport.

1. Guidelines are to be issued enabling event stewards to have access to a panel of experts so that they could halt potentially dangerous events. There was discussion on how to get information to and maintain standards amongst new organisers.
2. Endurance racing (Britcars) were being permitted to push the boundaries by running 24 hour events with 68 cars.
3. David Ward confirmed that the FIA Foundation has 300m Euros of funding for development of motorsport.
4. Possible review of timekeepers categories – why have NatA and NatB when only the 'top ten run-off' is NatA. Possible rallies issue.
5. New minimum medical requirements for kart events.
6. A press statement has been issued on the technical review of stage rally cars (K37). Council welcomed the new overall policy of moving towards European regulations. New proposals would go to June Rallies Committee but there could be no change until 2008 and existing vehicles would be protected until 2010.
7. Alan Gow appointed Chairman of MSA Board, introducing longer opening hours (from 0900) and moving towards credit card style licences.

MSA REGIONAL COMMITTEE

No meeting.

MSA SPEED COMMITTEE

No meeting.

MSA RALLIES COMMITTEE

Sue Sanders-Peppitt had nothing to add to Eric Cowcill's report from Council.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dayz of Funder had written about the lack of recognition and regard for marshalling activities that was causing them to reconsider whether motorsport was an appropriate way for them to continue their charity fundraising work.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Stan Appleton reported that much of his work was now internet and email based rather than using traditional correspondence so proposed that the 'correspondence' and 'secretary's reports' be integrated in future. A lot of time was being spent in giving very simple technical advice or clarification to emailers or forum contributors who should be finding the answer in the Blue Book or by asking at clubnights. It was apparent that many potential competitors never attended clubnights where they could chat to more experienced colleagues. It was vital that newcomers were made welcome at clubnights.

CHAMPIONSHIP SECRETARY

281 competitors have now signed up. More regs are available on-line and a small number of events have on-line entry. 75% of registered contenders have web access. 75 people are new registrations to the championship. Four events had been held and one member had already qualified for the all-rounders championship!

Toyo have offered sponsorship for the sprint championship. John Harden suggested this would be well-received by sprinters so should be pursued. Roundabout Tyres has offered a trophy for the Overall rally championship.

The inter-association autotest would be held on 1.4.06 at Hereford.

The marshals' draw for the period from August to January was held giving awards to Ifor Davies, Paul Cross, Ken Wilkinson, Graham Bray, Eve Fisher and Steve Cawley.

FORESTRY LIAISON OFFICER

No report. The new FLO for North Wales is John Wood of Caersws.

AINTREE LIAISON OFFICER

John Harden had agreed a series of similar dates to previous years, with the first meeting on 22 April. Spoil dumping had restarted and part of the paddock may be lost to football and golf. John Symes is satisfied so far that the dumping hasn't jeopardized the course but there is a risk that crawler tractors may damage the surface. The application for the Heritage listing of the Grand Prix circuit is now with Ministers.

OTHER VENUES

All demolition at Weeton is complete.

PRESS OFFICER

Nothing to report.

TRAINING OFFICER

Mike Farnworth reported no special issues. 16 college events were now under the wing of Myerscough. The marshals' qualification scheme was going well with 500 students involved and plans for 1000 for next year. Even old-timers found they were learning something. Sue Sanders-Peppitt said that the MSA database was being improved to track an individual through the levels, their attendance at events, training received, etc. Can something be done to support marshals for sprints and hillclimbs?

CTRL0

No reports received. Jack Romain was seriously ill following a heart attack; Phil Edwards was deputizing.

OTHER BUSINESS

It was confirmed that rallying at Trawsfynydd Ranges had not been affected by the munitions finds there and that event plans were proceeding. Nominations were required for MSA committees, which are filled on a rotation system. Delegates were asked for ideas on how to celebrate the association's 50th anniversary next year. A boat trip, navigational scatter to all club areas or a multi-event festival were initial 'off-the-cuff' ideas. It was also the 50th anniversary of the Aintree Grand Prix.

The meeting closed at 10pm. Delegates were thanked for their attendance.

AGENDA

For the Ordinary Meeting of the Association of North Western Car Clubs, to be held at Holiday Inn, Runcorn, on Tuesday 9 May 2006 at 2000 hours prompt.

Apologies for absence

Minutes of last meeting (February 2006)

Matters arising

MSA reports

Correspondence

Reports

General Secretary

Treasurer

Championships Coordinator

Forestry/Facilities Liaison Officer

Aintree Liaison Officer

Other Venue Liaison

Press Officer

Training Officer

MSA CTRL0

Any other business

Date and place of next meeting

Stan Appleton

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