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Minutes of the Council of the ACTC Council held at the Majors Retreat, Tormarton, on 6th May 2007

PRESENT:

Robin Moore	President
Simon Woodall	Chairman / VW OC
Chris Phillips	Championship Secretary
Barbara Selkirk	Treasurer / VW OC
Adrian Tucker-Peake	Secretary
Pete Hart	CI.7 Co-ordinator
Pat Toulmin	Restart Editor
John Blakeley	Series Scrutineer & SDMC
Alan Foster	Vice President
Martin Willis	Fell Side Auto Club
Jim Wood	Holsworthy
Brian Alexander	"
Barrie Kirton	MCC
Brian Osborn	MG Car Club
Jonathan Toulmin	Midland Automobile Club
John Barthram	North Devon Motor Club
Steve Knight	"
Richard Andrews	Ross & District Motorsports Ltd.
Barry Clarke	VSCC

However, B. Selkirk reported that Torbay MC had not paid their renewal.

Action: B. Selkirk to seek written confirmation of Torbay's withdrawal

07/7 FINANCIAL REPORT

07/7/1 Income & Exp 2006: B. Selkirk presented the document (A4. 07/7/1A). Monies for the Byways Trust is set aside, though currently is not being paid. No other queries.

R. Moore confirmed with GS that the required audit will be completed before sending accounts to Company's House.

The meeting followed the draft agenda circulated on 11th April 2007.

Reports circulated prior to the meeting are not attached to these minutes, but are listed at the end and numbered as 'AA' agenda attachments.

07/1 APOLOGIES

Received from: B.Bennett, A.Brown, G.Dixon-Smith, N.Forrest, G.Greenslade, D.Haizelden, C.Harris, S.Peel, D.Sterry, I.Thompson, M. Tooth and J. West

07/2 MINUTES OF AGM (1st October 2006)

The minutes were approved and signed.

07/3 MATTERS ARISING

Agenda items below cover all matters.

07/4 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

07/4/1 No nominations received for President.

07/4/2 No nominations received for additional Vice Presidents.

07/5 OFFICER ELECTIONS

07/5/1 S.Woodall was willing to remain in his post as chairman.

07/5/2 No nominations had been received for the post of Secretary, so a postal ballot will be organised.

Chairman reported success in locating a PR officer to take over from A.Brown: Ian Davis had recently been appointed into the role for MCC and had volunteered to extend his remit for ACTC.

07/6 ACTC CLUB MEMBERSHIP

No new applications had been received.

However, B.Selkirk reported that Torbay MC had not paid their renewal.

Action: B.Selkirk to seek written confirmation of Torbay's withdrawal

07/7 FINANCIAL REPORT

07/7/1 Income & Exp 2006: B. Selkirk presented the document (Att. 07/7/1A). Monies for the Byways Trust is set aside, though currently is not being paid. No other queries.

R.Moore confirmed with BS that the required audit will be completed before sending accounts to Company's House.

07/7/2 Limited Company: Company's House had mislaid the recent accounts, but BS advised that the matter is being resolved.

Accounts approval:	Proposed	President
	Seconded	Fell Side
	Approved	nem con

The replacement Secretary will need to sign on as a director.

07/8 MSA TRIALS COMMITTEE

07/8/1 S.Woodall summarised his report (Att 07/8/1AA).

Amongst rationalising of the Blue Book wording, Cl. 7 will be segregated into (a), (b) and (c) to distinguish kit cars from cars modified beyond permitted limits.

07/8/2 Passenger Licensing: Further to the report, discussion focussed on how ACTC should respond to the notion for some form of passenger licensing (apparently a requirement from insurers) particularly since for MCC events one category 'down' from the driver's club card is effectively nothing, and for many events passengers 'come & go'. Discussion items covered the following:

- VSCC make the passenger a Club Member for the day, though their solution was not liked by MSA. Ross & DMS had done similar (£1 fee)
- Passenger could become Life Member of ACTC, since the rules permit individual membership
- MCC require a £5 passenger license in order to get approval for an ACU license
- The notion appears to be somewhat targeted at the grass roots motorsport that is trialling
- Insurers can already identify their risk since all passengers currently do sign on
- It needs a good degree of thought by ACTC about the purpose, and a measured response before racing to meet the deadline

**Action: Mike Stripe to be consulted via VSCC.
BTRDA & ACTC to approach MSA's Fowler soon, to attempt resolution before the deadline.**

07/8/3 Passenger Ages: Relating to the above, it was agreed that the Blue Book ruling on passenger age should be standardised. Currently a loophole exists which enables a car driver to compete carrying solely an under age (ie. under 14 years) passenger, even one who might be a toddler in a rear child seat. J.Toulmin recommended that a competing passenger be mandated who is old enough to competently read a route card, and that any additional young persons on board be defined simply as passengers. Chairman further suggested that the requirement for a competing passenger be harmonised at 14 years for both open and closed cars. Council agreed.

Action: S.Woodall to introduce such wording to the Blue Book update

07/9 TECHNICAL MATTERS

07/9/1 (Ref. 02/9/2) Cl.7 Spec Sheets: P.Hart reported that no additional sheets were required.

07/9/2 (Ref. 04/18/3) Differential Testing: Chairman advised that Ross Norman, the builder of the testing machine, had been delayed in his delivery.

07/9/3 (Ref. 05/9/4) Fire Extinguishers: As part of the Blue Book update, the wording for fire extinguishers will make them compulsory, and require that units should be visible and accessible to either the driver, passenger and/or external marshal.

B.Osborne queried if compulsion would deter Cl. 0 entrants, but Chairman maintained that fire risk for a less trials-prepared vehicle may be higher, and that reclaimed extinguishers can be purchased a very reasonable cost from some fire stations.

Action: Club regs to state that a fire extinguisher MUST be fitted

07/9/4 (Ref. 06/27/5) M&S Tyre Marking: J.Blakeley reported seeing more budget tyres with M&S markings at scrutineering, though these did not exhibit an unacceptable pattern. Chairman replied that the Blue Book wording has now been changed to reflect the developing situation, and that ACTC can maintain control through the White List, now including references to such tyres.

Chairman recommended that organisers double check those tyres declared on entry forms, in order to forewarn scrutineers and competitors, consequently avoiding arguments on the day.

R.Andrews asked if ACTC might ban remoulds, but P.Hart responded that the M&S problem arose from budget tyres instead.

07/10 RIGHTS OF WAY REPORT

07/10/1 A.Brown's report was circulated beforehand (Att. 06/10/1AA), which included actions for all clubs in reference to the NERC bill.

07/10/2 Footpath Authorisation Form: R.Moore supplied the form in use with Cornwall County Council, one that could be adopted by all clubs if desired.

Action: AT-P to copy and distribute form (Att. 07/10/2A)

J.Wood advised that some County Councils require actual copies of landowner's permission, instead of simply asking if such has been granted, and it appeared that each Council had its own policy.

P.Hart informed that the Road Traffic Act stipulates that the Local Authority can itself grant permission, and that in S.Gloucestershire and Somerset a copy of the statutory document must be displayed at the ends of each applicable lane.

M.Willis' experience was that Lake District National Park refer to Highways Section 33 for Forestry Commission land, and require similar signage.

A final comment from J.Toulmin 'don't consult Parish Councils, simply notify them'.

Action: PH to supply, AT-P to distribute form (Att.07/10/3A)

07/11 PUBLIC RELATIONS

07/11/1 General: Nothing to report, and duties will be passed over to Ian Davis.

I. Thompson had issued a press release to several motorcycling magazines, and was approaching relevant one-make clubs. He was also issuing an article on 'how to start competing in long distance trials'.

07/11/2 HMI Show: The stand had been well received, combining organisational efforts from MCC with publicity material from Ian Davis. However, A. Foster reported J. Aley's comments that MCC would not attend in future, having experienced 'too much hassle'.

07/11/3 Chairman observed that our sport needs exposure and positive publicity, but can suffer poor returns on the efforts applied. He commended those clubs who maintain a presence at their local county shows.

07/11/4 Trees for Trials: A. Foster had prepared a 'green paper' for discussion (Att 07/11/4AA) focussing on some form of carbon offset initiative. Discussion covered the following items:

- the sport must be seen to be pro-active
- many clubs already support local activities, such as sapling planting
- perhaps we should be separate from political views, and as such make any payment a voluntary one
- a suggested £2 per competitor per event could generate in excess of £5k annually: such a sum should be wisely allocated
- it must be a simple plan, avoiding disparate dealings with 30-odd parish councils for example
- some objection to any co-operation with conservation groups who do not want anything to happen to their holdings
- we must ensure that both parties have mutual agendas

Action: Clubs to generate ideas in preparation for responses at AGM

07/12 RESTART & WEBSITE

Website: nothing to report

07/12/1 (Ref. 06/12/2) Electronic Mailing Pilot: P. Toulmin said that no feedback had been received, and that recipients numbered 30 as last year. Chairman noted that the initiative should only continue if it entailed no additional effort for the editor, and the scheme will continue through 2007.

07/12/2 Archiving: R. Dawe will supply early copies of Restart to PT.

07/12/3 (Ref. 06/12/3) Complimentary Copies: Provision for those who contribute to be discussed later.

Action: Secretary to include item on AGM agenda

07/13 TRIALS CALENDAR

07/13/1 2007: All as Calendar Issue 2.

07/13/2 2008: See Draft 3 (Att 07/13/2A).

07/14 CHAMPIONSHIP QUALITY

07/14/1 D.Haizelden had submitted his report prior to the meeting, but software glitches precluded its timely distribution (Att. 07/14/1A)

DH had stepped down from this position, and B.Selkirk proposed a vote of thanks for Dave's services to date.

Action: SW to locate a replacement Quality Monitor

Arrangements had been made for Ilkley's trial to be monitored w.r.t. potential inclusion in the 2008 championship.

07/15 SEASON REPORTS

07/15/1 Cars: C.Phillips reported a decline in the number of competitors from 146 to 133, and passengers from 25 to 19.

Crackington Cup – Cl.8 was represented remarkably well down in the tables, for a change

Wheelspin Trophy – a pleasingly wide spread of classes and a few new competitors

07/15/2 Motorcycles: I.Thompson reported that the championship and tables were progressing well.

07/16 ANY OTHER CHAMPIONSHIP BUSINESS

07/16/1 Car Scrutineering: See M&S tyres.

B.Osborne clarified with J.Blakeley that once a competitor has shown his valid MOT to the scrutineers, and its expiry date is noted, the form does not have to be presented again during the season.

07/16/2 M/Cycle Scrutineering: On/off scrutineering cards are applicable here.

Action: SW to get JB supplied with suitable cards for the Autumn season

B.Kirton advised that 3 particular tyres had not been accepted by MCC, even though they were fitted as original equipment to certain machines, ie:

- Continental KC 160
- Pirelli MT21
- Bridgestone Gritty ED661

Action: IT to notify motorcycle competitors and advise caution

07/16/3 (Ref 03/26/1) Team Championship: 4 teams were currently registered, and C.Phillips reminded that teams can still score points with 3 runners: however, there remained little enthusiasm amongst competitors for this championship and the situation may need to be reviewed.

07/16/4 (Ref. 06/33/3) Safety Policy: Nothing to report, but the matter will be more fully discussed at the AGM.

Action: Secretary to highlight as AGM agenda item

07/16/5 Prior Selection of Regs: M.Tooth had submitted a proposal prior to the meeting whereby competitors might select their intentions to enter particular events at the outset of the season. Consequently, regs could be better targeted, and organisers' workload could be significantly reduced.

The idea was developed further through P.Hart and C.Phillips, towards stepping up the electronic distribution of regs. The concept was encouraged by the remarks of B.Kirton that 60% of Lands End regs were taken by this method.

Action: CP to summarise the next steps (Att. 07/16/5A) and to introduce the membership to the idea through Restart

07/17 TROPHIES

G.Greenslade reported that all items were now in very good condition, though he was still having to 'chase' a few returns.

07/18 ANY OTHER NON-CHAMPIONSHIP BUSINESS

07/18/1 Awards Event: GG had received 30 bookings, but needed 80 for a viable event: he asked that any additional bookings be made a.s.a.p.

07/18/2 (Ref. 06/35/3) Calendars: last year 100 had been printed and were well received. It was agreed to expand the initiative, and to publicise their availability more widely next time. Many noted that they were useful for goodwill 'hand outs'.

Action: P.Toulmin to repeat the exercise, and to widen awareness

07/18/3 Child Protection: One MSA stipulation was that regs should include contact details including mobile phone numbers for the club's CP officer.

Action: Clubs to include relevant details in future event regs.

07/19 DATE, TIME & PLACE OF 2007 AGM

14.00 on Sunday 28th September at the Majors Retreat (Portcullis Inn), unless another venue is advised.

Signed.....

Dated.....



Profit & Loss - Association of Classic Trials Clubs

For The 12 month Period to 31.12.06

Income - Club Subscriptions 23 clubs x £40	920.00	Engraving & replicas 2 years	694.92
- Motorcycle subscriptions 8 x £15	120.00	Replica replacement	200.00
- Advertising Revenue	307.13	Championship Printing & Photocopying	0.00
- Championship contenders	3,365.00	Championship Secretary printing etc	118.46
- NEC Income	0.00	Championship Dinner & Dance 2006	500.00
Bank Interest	34.21	Restart, 4 issues	1,784.03
		Restart postage, 4 issues	170.57
		Webb site/PR	105.74
		Historic Car Show	0.00
		ACTC Promotional materials	470.00
		MSA & ACU	56.00
		Limited company annual return	15.00
		PR NEC costs	0.00
		Meeting Room Hire	200.00
		General Secretary postage & photocopying	49.45
		Quality Officer postage	0.00
		Motorcycle coordinator postage & printing	0.00
		Byways & Brideways trust subscription	15.00
		Scruitineering costs	184.00
Total Income	4,746.34	Total expenditure	4,563.17
Prepared by Barbara Selkirk ACMA		Profit for the year to 31.12.06	183.17

Audited by Mrs J Link

Audit Exemption Statement -

For the year ended 31 December 2005 the company was entitled to exemption under section 249a(1) of the Companies Act 1985

No Members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 249b(2)

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:

- ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 2221; and
- Preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year, and of its profit or loss for the financial year, in accordance with the requirements of section 226, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions in Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

Directors Signature

Directors Name

Date

Mr S P Woodall



Balance Sheet - ACTC Classic Trials Clubs @ 31.12.2006

RETAINED EARNINGS

Balances Brought Forward from 31.12.06.		
ACTC Accumulated Fund B/fd	5,127.46	
ACTC Reserves Fund B/fd	3,000.00	
		8,127.46
12 month Profit to 31.12.2006	183.17	
ACTC Reserves to 31.12.2005	0.00	183.17

Total £ **8,310.63**

ASSETS

Trophies - donated	1,101.00
General Secretary PC & printer-fully depreciated	549.90
	=====
Bank account	
- Reserves in deposit account	3,000.00
- Deposit account	6,638.28
- Current accounts	2,015.81
Restart Postage float paid to Editor	90.00
Postage float paid to Championship Secretary	30.00
Accruals	
- Secretary expenses	-118.46
- ACTC Promotional materials	-470.00
- Byways & Bridleways & various	-105.00
- Restart inc post Nov/December	-805.00
- Dinner & dance 2006 trophy	-200.00
2007 Income in Advance	-1,665.00
2006 Advert Income in Advance	-100.00
Total	£ 8,310.63

Prepared by Barbara Selkirk ACMA

Audited by Mrs J Link

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Directors Signature

Directors Name

Date

Mr S P Woodall

A summary for the ACTC Championship 06/07

Taw & Torridge, 17th September 2006

After a very long and hot summer the Taw & Torridge was always going to be a very dry event. The organizers did an excellent in managing to stop the field of runners. With such difficult conditions for the club, restarts for lower class vehicles could be used as a tool to help.

78 entrants, class 8 overall.

Exe Valley, 24th September 2006

Rodger and Greg have managed to toughen up this event from previous years as proven by no competitor going clear. The observers were very impressed with the root markings. The farmer at Upper Kingswell is fast becoming a friend of our sport. The road mileage still seemed a long way.

70 entrants, class 3 overall.

Exmoor Clouds, 22nd October 2006

With the worst weather in ages and the course opening car getting stuck on the first section, things were not looking to good. But once again Dick and his team pulled off a stunning event. Everybody I spoke to at the finish had a thoroughly good days sport, if not a little damp.

68 entrants, class 8 overall.

Tamar, 29th October 2006

Worryingly the class 8 entry is disappearing fast, possibly time to re-introduce restarts. For some reason class 0 is not taking off despite the organisers best efforts. The loss of park imposible is a blow.

73 entrants, class 8 overall.

The Hardy, 19th November

With the paper work arriving late, this was probably the reason for a small entry. The observers were very impressed with the low road mileage, and also would like to see the re-introduction of the old sections I.E Green Lane and Hell Lane. It was also noted that the new clerk of the course (Vick Fancy) was very enthusiastic about the event.

23 entrants, class 8 overall.

The Allen, 26th November 2006

Once again Pete and Carlie put on a top event and for the first time took the trial to Ubley Woods which took them out of there comfort zone. With the weather gods throwing everything at them, Ubley Woods became very difficult. The uphill special test was unfair, as it suited the more competitive car and not the quickest driver.

76 entrants, class 8 overall

The Camel, 10th December 2006

Hans and his team used a relief scoring system as first used on the presidents trial. This proved to be very popular amongst the lower classes and nearly resulted in a class 4 winning the event! Thumbs up! The Camel was a very big hit with all the observers.

48 entrants, class 8 overall.

The Clee Hills, 21st January 2007

Once again The Clee provided one of the biggest fields of the year. A healthy class O entry found the going a bit tough for there liking. The return of Round Oak was very welcome for all except the low slung escorts. 85 entrants, class 8 overall.

Exmoor Trial, 29th January 2007

This event always seems to attract quite a few novices, possibly the club should look at introducing a novice start line to encourage the competitors to come back again. This trial has all the right ingredients of a good start an finish venue and challenging sections which the M.C.C have started to use. 85 entrants, class2 overall.

Cotswold Clouds, 3rd February 2007

Stroud motor club put on some of the best events in the country weather its P.C.T's or trials the back up of the club is immense and the support they can call upon from member clubs is a credit to them. The only thing standing between The Clouds and the best trial of the year is the weather! 76 entrants, class8 overall.

The Northern, 17th February 2007

The warm welcome the competitors receive from Fell Side is worth the long haul up the motorway. The stunning views along the event is 2nd to none. The hills are very challenging and as quoted by Hans of Camel Vale "it was like doing the Camel but only prettier." 80 entrants class8 overall.

Kyrle, 22nd April 2007

With dry conditions underfoot, the clerk of the course had to use all of his aces to stop the competitors from going clean. Very surprisingly Ross put on a class O. This proved to be very successful and boosted the number of competitors. 83 entrants, class5 overall.

Summary

With climate change all the rage at the moment, organizers will have to use all there tricks to work out how to stop the ever advancing competitive machinery on our events. Weather its tyre pressures, route deviations, localised rain showers or off the track placed markers they all seem fair game in these times off drier conditions.

The cost of our events is on a upward curve and the thought of member clubs sending out 300 plus entry forms is mind blowing. The internet and email is here and more use should be made off to help lower cost.

Electronic Regs

During the course of the May ACTC Council Meeting a discussion took place on the possibility using the e-mail system to send out Supplementary Regulations and Entry Forms for one-day trials to ACTC competitors.

This clearly has the advantage of saving the organising clubs considerable cost both for printing and postage.

I was asked to set out a method by which this could be implemented so that competitors and organisers could consider the matter before the ACTC AGM in October.

So how would the scheme work? My thoughts on how it should be set up and run are listed below.

- * The facility would be available to all events which are 'ACTC Invite'
- * Both Drivers and Riders would be able to participate in the scheme
- * Drivers and Riders would be asked to register their wish to receive electronic regs with the Championship Secretary (CS) on their ACTC Entry Form for the entire season and would supply a suitable e-mail address.
- * The CS would record the wishes of the competitors and set up a series of e-mailing lists
- * If an organising club wished to use the electronic method, then when they send in their request for labels the CS would print and send only those labels for ACTC contenders who had NOT elected to have the electronic version.
- * The organising club would send an electronic copy of the SRs and Entry Form to the CS who would send it by e-mail to all those competitors electing to receive this service.
- * The CS would send an electronic list of the current competitors on the e-mail list to the organising club so that they would be able to collate their lists of competitors.

I think that provides a good framework to instigate an electronic distribution method for SRs and Entry forms.. However, if anyone out there has any ideas for improving such a system, then I'll more than happy to hear about it.