

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE ACTC
SUNDAY 4TH MAY 2008 AT 2.00PM
PORTCULLIS INN, TORMARTON**

Present:

Robin Moore
Simon Woodall
Barbara Selkirk
Chris Phillips
Pete Hart
Andrew Brown
Ian Davis
John Blakeley

President
Chairman
Treasurer
Championship Secretary
Class 7 Co-ordinator
Rights of Way
Public Relations
Scrutineer

Mark Tooth
Hans Viertel
Martin Willis
(Robin Moore)
Bill Bennett
Richard Andrews
Stuart Harrold
Terry Coventry
Colin Harris
Barrie Kirton
(Barbara Selkirk)

Bristol Motor Club
Camel Vale Motor Club
Fellside Auto Club
Launceston & North Cornwall Motor Club
MG Car Club
Ross and District Motor Sports Club
Ross and District Motor Sports Club
Stroud and District Motor Club
The Morgan Three Wheeler Club
The Motor Cycling Club
Volkswagen Owners Club (GB)

17 persons present, 10 member clubs represented.

These Minutes follow the order of the Agenda, but with revised numbering:

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from: John Barthram (North Devon), Greg Dixon-Smith (Morgan), Dave Foreshow (Championship Monitor), Giles Greenslade (Vice Chairman), Neil Forrest (Ross), Alan Foster (VP), Steve Knight (North Devon), Dudley Sterry (MCC), Ian Thompson (M/C Co-ordinator), Jonathan Toulmin (MAC), Pat Toulmin (Restart Editor), Tim & Anne Whellock (Windwhistle), Jim Wood (Holsworthy), Tony Young (VWOC).

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Approved *nem con* and signed by the Chairman.

3 MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM

All are covered by the Agenda.

4 TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND TO ELECT

4.1 **President:** Robin Moore asked the Council whether they wished him to continue in the role of President. There was unanimous agreement that he should. There was a short, and inconclusive, discussion about whether Council posts, in general, should be time-limited.

4.2 **Vice-Presidents:** The existing Vice-Presidents were re-elected *nem con*.

5 TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND TO ELECT

5.1 **Secretary:** Stuart Harrold (Ross) was proposed by Ross, seconded by Bristol, and elected *nem con*.

5.2 **Chairman and other Officers:** The existing Chairman, and the other Officers, were re-elected *nem con*.

6 ACTC CLUB MEMBERSHIP

6.1 It was confirmed, again, that Torbay Motor Club was no longer a member of ACTC.

7 FINANCIAL REPORT (Barbara Selkirk)

7.1 Barbara Selkirk presented the Balance Sheet [Attachment 7A] and pointed out that this showed a profit for the first time in many years, the downside being that tax (estimated at £224.24 in the accounts) would be payable on these profits. The accounts were proposed for approval by Launceston, seconded by Fell Side, and approved *nem con*.

7.2 With healthy reserves, there was discussion on how the profits might be spent, with more colour pages in "Restart" the most likely recipient of additional funds.

Action: Barbara Selkirk/Pat Toulmin.

8 MSA TRIALS COMMITTEE REPORT (Simon Woodall)

8.1 **2009 Regulations:** Simon Woodall reported on the discussion, at the April 2008 Meeting, concerning the proposed changes to Section J of the MSA "Blue Book". These are summarised on [Attachment 8A] and are proposed for inclusion in the 2009 version, effective from 1st January 2009 onwards. The reasoning behind the proposals is to remove anomalies and discrepancies between the regulations for the three trials disciplines (Car Trials, Classic Trials, Sporting Trials). The proposed changes include:

- Clauses 13e/f/h: Changes to "tidy-up" age and seating regulations, and to reflect current laws.

- Clause 29: Changes to reflect current practice. It was confirmed that the Clerk of the Course should decide whether to round-up or round-down when "three-quarters of the total number" was not a whole number.
- Clause 37: Table expanded to include all classic trials options.
- Clause 55: The re-wording of this clause will be discussed further at the July Trials Committee Meeting.
- Clauses 72/78/79/80: Changes to clarify differing requirements for Classes 7(a), 7(b), and 7(c).

8.2 Go Motorsport: Simon Woodall reported on the MSA's Go Motorsport initiative [Attachments 8B and 8C] to be launched on the 11 June 2008. The crucial points for classic trialling are:

- MSA will be supporting the initiative with a new website - www.gomotorsport.net - as it was felt that the existing MSA website was "too stuffy".
- All three trials disciplines are currently "lumped together" although there will be links to the websites of the different organisations from the gomotorsport website.
- ACTC will be the "delivery club" for classic trials for the purposes of the gomotorsport website.

9 PASSENGER LICENSING

- 9.1 Those Clubs present, who had held events already this year, confirmed that the ACTC Passenger Licensing system, introduced from 1st January 2008, seemed to be working OK.
- 9.2 It was confirmed that passengers under 16 do not require an ACTC Passenger Membership Card. Clubs were reminded that the parents of passengers under 16 are required to sign the Signing-On Form on behalf of the passenger.
- 9.3 It was noted that some clubs had been accepting MSA Competition Licenses as evidence of membership. It was confirmed that this was incorrect and unacceptable. It is membership of one of the invited clubs that is the MSA requirement, and a valid membership card must be produced (Regulation J9). Holding an MSA Competition Licence is irrelevant.
- 9.4 It was noted that an ACU Licence is always required for the passenger when the rider/driver requires an ACU licence. This requirement has not changed.

10 SPONSORSHIP FOR 2009 CHAMPIONSHIP

- 10.1 A proposal by Giles Greenslade had been circulated prior to the meeting [Attachment 10A]. There was considerable discussion, key points of which included:
- Dick Andrews reminded those present that the Chester Motor Club Championship, the precursor to the ACTC Championship, had been sponsored.
 - It was confirmed that Richard Egger sponsor events/championships for other Motorsport disciplines.
 - It was agreed that, should the proposal be implemented, the exact wording of the championship titles would need careful consideration.
 - The form and size of the championship advertising stickers would need careful consideration. It was noted that some competitors would not display stickers of this nature on their trials car as a matter of principle.
 - There was general agreement that stickers suitable for competitors' everyday "road" cars might be preferable to stickers primarily intended for trials cars.
 - There was a general view that subsidising the annual Dinner Dance was a sensible use of any sponsorship funds.
 - There was an inconclusive discussion on whether sponsorship funds could be used to subsidise the £1200 sum required by the MSA as the annual cost of running an MSA Championship.
- 10.2 Delegates were requested to discuss the proposal with their clubs with a view to making a final decision at the AGM in September.
- Action: All member clubs.**

11 TECHNICAL MATTERS (Pete Hart)

- 11.1 Class 7 Certification:** Pete Hart reported, and Chris Phillips confirmed, that the current self-certification scheme for Class 7(c) vehicles is working well. Pete Hart stated that he anticipated a request, at some time in the future, from Liege owners for a change to the allowed gearboxes. There was some debate about past precedents for-and-against relaxing gearbox requirements.
- 11.2 Differential testing:** Simon Woodall reported that he had heard nothing further from Ross Norman and believed that the proposed diff-testing apparatus was still a long way from completion. There was inconclusive discussion on the reliability of both the roller test and the jack-up test.
- 11.3 Fire extinguishers:** Simon Woodall tabled an email from Dudley Sterry concerning fire extinguishers [Attachment 11A]. It was noted that 1.75 litres (minimum required by MSA) is unlikely to extinguish a fire on its own although being a non-standard size many competitors already carried one 2 litre, or two 1 litre, extinguishers. Stuart Harrold pointed out that standard "exhaust wrap" requires an oil-resistant spray finish and checking this could be a scrutineering issue. Otherwise, it was agreed that clubs should bring the issue (and the MSA's justification for 1.75 litres) to the attention of competitors.
Action: All member clubs.
- 11.4 Fire extinguishers and Morgan 3-Wheelers:** Colin Harris drew Council's attention to the particular problems of mounting fire extinguishers on Pre-War "beetle-backed" Morgans. Barrie Kirton said that the MCC had considered the status of Morgan 3-Wheelers at some length and had made a firm decision to treat them as cars subject to MSA Regulations, not three-wheeled vehicles subject to ACU Regulations. It was noted that ACTC had no jurisdiction to vary MSA rules on this matter, however unfortunate this was for the owners of Morgan 3-Wheelers. Council agreed that scrutineers should exercise discretion over the siting and mounting of fire extinguishers on Morgans.
Action: Scrutineers.

12 RIGHTS OF WAY REPORT (Andrew Brown)

- 12.1** Andrew Brown stated that there had been no significant developments since the September 2007 AGM.
- 12.2** Several delegates asked about the articles which had appeared, in the national press, concerning a Courts of Appeal decision which might further restrict the use of motorised vehicles in the countryside. Andrew Brown responded that this covered a very specific situation relating to a number of the applications for Byway (BOAT) status that had been made by the TRF in the run-up to the implementation of NERC Act in 2006. It was Andrew's opinion that the ruling was unlikely to have any significant impact on classic trials. A LARA News on the case is attached as [Attachment 12A].
- 12.3** It was noted that the problems encountered by Stroud at Ferriscourt during the running of the Mechanics Trial had been due to a change of land ownership immediately before the event. It was hoped that this could be resolved to allow the running of events on this historic section in the future.
- 12.4** Robin Moore apologised that the form, referred to in item 9 of the previous minutes, had not yet been circulated to delegates as it was currently being redrafted by Cornwall County Council.

13 PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT (Ian Davis)

- 13.1** Ian Davis reported that he was emailing information to Colin Wilson's "Racedates" - <http://www.racedates.com/>. This is a free listing service which provides details of motorsport events, via email, to all MSA licence holders, journalists, photographers, etc. Ian's intention is to list information, in a consistent format, on the three main MCC trials and all ACTC Championship events. Ian asked clubs to notify him who prospective spectators should contact about spectating on events. In the absence of any specific information Ian will include the email address and telephone number of the club's ACTC delegate.
Action: All member clubs organising Championship events.

13.2 Ian reported that he had prepared, on behalf of the MCC, a media list of press contacts.

13.3 Ian reported that the Fifth Gear TV programme on the 2008 Exeter Trial had generated a lot of traffic to both the MCC and ACTC websites and had definitely brought-in new competitors. Ian suggested that ACTC clubs needed to think about Class 0 as a way of encouraging new competitors as this was working well for the MCC. Barrie Kirton stated that Class 0 was now the largest class in MCC events and an essential part of all three main trials.

It was pointed-out that the ACTC clubs that currently run a Class 0 in their events all use slightly different approaches depending on local conditions and it was considered impractical to try and impose any standardisation.

13.4 Ian reported that ACTC did not intend to attend any shows in the foreseeable future.

13.5 Ian was concerned about the increasing number of trials-related videos now available on YouTube and whether some of these showed the sport in the best light. It was suggested that clubs should remind their members to "think PR" before posting videos on YouTube.

Action: All member clubs.

14 RESTART AND WEBSITE REPORT (Pat Toulmin)

14.1 There was no report, in the absence of Pat Toulmin.

14.2 Simon Woodall reminded the meeting that Pat had now been editing Restart for 10 years. All present wished to record their thanks to Pat for her sterling service over this period.

15 TRIALS CALENDAR (Chris Phillips)

15.1 **2008 Calendar:** Chris raised the following issues on the remaining events for 2008:

Exe Valley (14 September): This was unlikely to run as the Crash Box Club had "lost interest" in running it. Roger Ugalde is still keen to be involved if can find the necessary support. Windwhistle (and Torbay) are not interested in running it. It was also noted that Dartmoor National Park do not normally allow motorsport events in the Park during September and ACTC had been "pushing it" to run this event on the 14th – the later the better as far as the Park were concerned although this did not suit the ACTC Calendar.

Tarka/Bodmin (2 November): The "normal" clash between these two events was noted. The date of the Tarka cannot be changed due to the ACU Calendar.

Mechanics: It was noted that the Stroud Mechanics Trial would now run in late March (as 2008) rather than mid November (as previous years).

15.2 **2009 Calendar (Draft 2) [Attachment 15A]:** The following changes were discussed:

Mechanics: To run on 15 March, not 7 November.

Exe Valley: May not run – see item 15.1 above.

ACU Dates: Dates are provisional after February.

Class 0: Chris was asked to amend future Calendars to show which events include a Class 0. Currently (2008) these are: Exeter, Clee Hills, Northern, Kyrle, Lands End, Bovey Down, Ilkley, Edinburgh, Tamar.

16 CHAMPIONSHIP QUALITY REPORT (Dave Foreshow)

16.1 There was no report, in the absence of Dave Foreshow. This has now been received as [Attachment 16A].

17 SEASON REPORTS (Chris Phillips)

- 17.1 Chris Phillips reported that the number of registered competitors was slightly down, in all categories, from the numbers at the end of 2007 but this was normal for this time of year. The number of "Restart Only" members was slightly up on 2007.
- 17.2 Chris reported that there is a good spread of classes at the top of both the Wheelspin and Crackington Leagues. Adrian Dommelt and Dudley Sterry are currently tied at the top of the Wheelspin League, Nicola Wainwright currently heads the Crackington League.
- 17.3 Chris reported that there had been a 57% take-up of the "e-regs". It was noted that the MCC has a 75% take-up for their "e-regs".
- 17.4 There was no motorcycle report, in the absence of Ian Thompson.

18 ANY OTHER CHAMPIONSHIP BUSINESS

18.1 Car scrutineering:

Competition numbers: The issue of mounting competition number plates was discussed. It was generally agreed that numbers mounted under glass (i.e. on the inside of windscreens) was a problem. There was a general view that the rear competition number was more important than the front number, although Robin Moore thought the opposite for special tests. It was agreed that clubs could continue to set their own requirements for the mounting of competition numbers.

Mud flaps: There was an inconclusive discussion about mud flaps. Stuart Harrold suggested looking at the rally sections of the MSA "Blue Book" for guidance.

- 18.3 **Team championship:** Chris Phillips asked "What do we do?" (with only 4 teams in the Championship) but answer came there none.
- 18.4 **Safety policy and incident forms:** Barrie Kirtton agreed to provide the MCC form for consideration by the other ACTC clubs. [Attachment 18A].

19 ANY OTHER NON CHAMPIONSHIP BUSINESS

- 19.1 Robin Moore noted that he had not received an invitation to the Dinner Dance. Simon Woodall agreed to raise this with the organisers.
- 19.1 Bill Bennett noted that he had taken a "rambler" as his passenger on the Lands End and that the rambler was now a "convert".

20 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF 2008 AGM

- 20.1 The date was confirmed as Sunday 28th September, the time as 2.00pm, and the place as the Portcullis Inn, Tormarton.

The meeting closed at 5.45pm.

ATTACHMENTS

- 7A Balance sheet.
- 8A Proposed changes to the MSA Blue Book.
- 8B Gomotorsport presentation
- 8C Gomotorsport FAQ
- 10A Trials Series Sponsorship proposal.
- 11A Email concerning fire extinguishers.
- 12A LARA News No.41.
- 15A 2009 Calendar (Draft 2).
- 16A Championship Quality reported.
- 18A MCC Incident Form.



REF:

Balance Sheet - ACTC Classic Trials Clubs @ 31.12.2007

RETAINED EARNINGS

Balances Brought Forward from 31.12.07		
ACTC Accumulated Fund B/fd	5,310.63	
ACTC Reserves Fund B/fd	3,000.00	
		8,310.63
12 month Profit to 31.12.2007	796.94	
ACTC Reserves to 31.12.2007	0.00	796.94

Total £ 9,107.57

ASSETS

Trophies - donated	1,101.00	
General Secretary PC & printer-fully depreciated	549.90	
	=====	
Bank account	3,000.00	
- Reserves in deposit account	6,977.30	
- Deposit account	1,025.96	11,003.26 =bank statement + 100 EA
- Current accounts		
Restart Postage float paid to Editor	90.00	
Postage float paid to Championship Secretar	30.00	
Accruals	-150.00	
- Champ Secretary expens	-60.00	Byways & Lara for 4 years 60.00
- Various	0.00	
- Restart inc post Decemb	-63.45	
- Stickers	-225.00	
- Scrutineering	-224.24	
- Corporation Tax		
2008 Income in Advance	-1,348.00	
2007 Advert paid 2008	55.00	

Total £ 9,107.57

Profit & Loss - Association of Classic Trials Clubs

For The 12 month Period to 31.12.07

Income - Club Subscriptions 23 clubs x £40	920.00	Engraving	146.00
- Motorcycle subscriptions 10 x £15	150.00	Replica	475.41
- Advertising Revenue	185.00	Championship Stickers	63.45
- Championship contenders	3,398.00	Championship Secretary printing etc	86.55
		Championship Dinner & Dance 2007	500.00
Calendars (50)	9.06	Championship entry forms printing	18.00
Bank Interest	340.53	Restart, 4 issues	1,746.00
		Restart postage, 4 issues	217.14
		Webb site/PR	103.27
		ACTC Reserves	0.00
		MSA & ACU	56.00
		Limited company annual return	15.00
		Limited company Corporation tax	224.24
		PR NEC costs	0.00
		Meeting Room Hire	200.00
		General Secretary postage & photocopying	114.59
		Quality Officer postage	0.00
		Byways & Bndways trust subscription	15.00
		Scrutineering costs	225.00
Total Income	5,002.59	Total expenditure	4,205.65

Prepared by Barbara Selkirk ACM/

Profit for the year to 31.12.07 £ 796.94

Audited by Mrs J Link