

ASSOCIATION OF CLASSIC TRIALS CLUBS

MINUTES OF THE AGM OF THE ACTC COUNCIL AT THE CROWN INN, MINCHINHAMPTON, 24th Sept., 1995

PRESENT:-

Simon Woodall	Chairman
David Alderson	Vice Chairman
Gerald Burridge	General Secretary
Janet Mattin	Treasurer
Andy & Sue Webb	Championship Monitor & Woolbridge M.C.
Alan Foster	Vice President
John West	Vice President & M.C.C.
Stephen Bailey	Class 7 Co-ordinator
Mark Tooth) Peter Hart)	Bristol Motor Club
Hans Viertel	Camel Vale M.C.
Tom Goggin	Falcon M.C.
Roger Pole) Jason Collins)	Holsworthy M.C.
Robin Moore	Launceston & N. Cornwall M.C.
Brian Osborn	M.G.C.C.
Jonathan Toulmin	Midland Automobile Club
Richard Andrews) Celia Andrews)	Ross & District M. C.
Anne Templeton	Shenstone & District M.C.
Brian Mitchell) Ron Grimwood)	Silverton M.C.
Michael Pearson	Sporting Owner Drivers Club
Nigel Moss) Terry Coventry)	Stroud & District M.C.
Greg Warren	Torbay M.C.

95/15 INAUGURATION OF NEW OFFICERS.

The Chairman welcomed Gerald Burridge to the position of General Secretary. All other Officers continue unchanged.

Anne Templeton was thanked for all the work she had undertaken as Secretary over the last 5 years.

95/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE had been received from:- Mary Jones (Sheffield & Hallamshire), Peter Coleman (Ilkley) Dick Hutchins (Minehead), John Barthram (N.Devon), Ian Tucker (Newquay) Peter Sargeant (Morgan) and Richard Dawe (Champ.Sec'ty).

95/17 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 9/4/94 were accepted and signed after corrections to the date (9th, not 4th) and Jonathan Toulmin in place of Ian Davies (MAC) under Apologies for Absence.

95/18 MATTERS ARISING

95/18/1 With reference to 95/8 Jonathan Toulmin (MAC) pointed out that several devices are available and some would undoubtedly be beneficial. Furthermore, Anti-Lock brakes probably contravene M.6.5 as written.

95/18/2 Andy Webb (Woolbridge) queried the ethics of publishing details of the Secretarial Election and whether Stephen Bailey's appointment was constitutional. The Chairman advised that it was our normal practice to publish results of ballots, even though the ballot itself was in secret. (see also minute 90/04/01) Stephen Bailey had been co-opted to assist the Technical Panel in dealing with aspects of Class 7; this action was within the mandate of the panel.

95/19 TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND TO ELECT A NEW PRESIDENT.

The Chairman noted that several nominations had been put forward, all for the same person, and asked Robin Moore (Launceston & N. Cornwall) to make a formal nomination. Robin spoke eloquently in support of Roger Pole from the adjoining Holsworthy Motor Club; the proposal was seconded by Jonathan Toulmin (MAC). There being no other nominations Roger was elected by acclaim.

95/20 TO RECEIVE THE ASSOCIATION ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE,1995

95/20/1 The Treasurer distributed the Annual Accounts (Attachment 95/20/A) and will send copies to non-attendees. She reported a generally satisfactory position and thanked the several individuals, and the few clubs, who had supported the Dinner & Dance raffle, resulting in an overall loss of only £9.00.

95/20/2 Morgan Sports Car Club is now 2 years in arrears with its subscription, for which Alan Foster apologised on behalf of the club and promised to obtain an early response.

ACTION :- Alan Foster.

95/20/3 Anne Templeton (Retiring Sec'ty) asked Council to note that approximately £560 had been spent on computer and printer equipment (see minute 95/11/ii). She felt that some financial help might be available from the RAC "Windfall Fund" to offset this investment. Gerald Burridge supported this idea and agreed to assist in making an application.

ACTION :- Anne Templeton and Gerald Burridge.

95/20/4 It was noted that postage costs for "Restart" had not yet been claimed from the main fund, as agreed last year (minute 94/21). Richard Dawe (Champ. Sec'ty) should be asked whether this transfer is needed.

ACTION :- Richard Dawe and Janet Mattin

Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Robin Moore (Launceston & N. Cornwall), seconded by John West (MCC) and carried unanimously.

95/21 REPORT ON THE RACMSA TRIALS COMMITTEE.

Simon Woodall reported little activity of direct relevance, although Traction Control devices were to be investigated and we have been tasked, like the other branches of trialling, to evaluate the present Regulations with regard to the future of our sport. He reminded delegates about the change to Index of Performance calculation which has already been implemented in P.C.T's.

Discussion followed on the dissemination of information from the RAC and our Technical Panel, with the result that Anne Templeton (Editor of "Restart") requested Simon and Alan Foster to submit all relevant information for publication.

ACTION :- Simon Woodall, Alan Foster, & Anne Templeton.

95/22 CLASS STRUCTURES AND OTHER TECHNICAL SUBJECTS - LETTER FROM ALAN FOSTER DATED 14th JULY 1995 (Attachment 95/22/A)

95/22/1 Alan Foster explained that in response to the RAC request noted in 95/21, joint meetings of the ACTC Technical Panel and the MCC Car Regulations Sub Committee had been held on 9th July, 1995 and 24th September, 1995, with Terms of Reference "To Review the Technical Regulations for the 21st Century". A long list of items has been identified for change, correction or simplification; the latter may best be achieved by segregating the Regulations for the different branches. Items already recognised as contentious include G.R.P. panels, plastic windows for tailgates and the enforcement of Class 2 Regulations.

Reservations about isolating Classic Trials were expressed by Andy Webb (Woolbridge), but he was reassured by the representatives that members of the RAC Trials Committee were now working well together. The long timescale and normal consultation processes should ensure a satisfactory outcome.

The panel would welcome any constructive input from delegates and clubs. (!) This was also part of the motivation for Simon Woodall's letter issued during the summer of 1995. Anne Templeton (Shenstone) said a response is forthcoming from her club proposing, inter alia, the acceptance of modern components in Class 2 to enhance reliability, a view supported by Hans Viertel (Camel Vale) - as long as reliability could be distinguished from performance!

Brian Osborn (MGCC) raised the subject of non-authentic cars in Class 2, which should be transferred to Class 7, or 8. Alan Foster confirmed an awareness of this dilemma, particularly by the MCC, and an intention by the Technical Panel to establish the freedom to re-classify anomalous vehicles in a flexible manner, in due course.

95/22/2 CLASS 2. At this point Anne Templeton (Shenstone) drew attention to the fact that most organisers are ignoring the revised definition of Class 2 agreed by Council (Minutes 94/9, 94/25 and 95/2).

As an aide-memoire, the agreed definition was:-

"CLASS 2 : Production Cars originally manufactured prior to 1941, and the following :- MG TC; Morgan 4.4 Series 1; HRG 1100 and 1500; and Ford Models (upright models to 1959) E04A, E494A, E4930A/B, E93A, E493A and 103E."

Richard Dawe (Champ. Sec'ty) and Andy Webb (Champ. Monitor) would be reminded to check event regulations for compliance (see also minute 95/3).

ACTION:- Richard Dawe and Andy Webb.

95/22/3 RAC YEAR BOOK. As a point of information Alan Foster told delegated that the RAC Yearbook would, from 1996, be simplified (!) by being divided into two volumes:- a "Blue" book for competitors and a "Red" book for organisers. This caused a number of cynical comments about the long term intentions of the RAC MSA.

95/22/4 CLASS 8. A document entitled "A PROPOSAL FOR A NATIONAL CLASSIC TRIALS SPORTS CAR FORMULA (CLASS 8)" had been circulated with the letter of 14th July, 1995. A variety of responses have resulted and clubs are at various stages of consultation with their memberships.

Delegates were reminded by David Alderson (Vice Chairman) that we are looking only at a proposal which is subject to normal consultation and approval procedures, and that the authors were motivated in several areas by aesthetic considerations relevant to public perception.

Debate on the need for such a document ensued, with Launceston & N. Cornwall and Shenstone speaking against such restrictions; ultimately Jonathan Toulmin (MAC) proposed that "The document should go forward and be developed", John West (MCC) seconded and the proposal was carried (For 9; Against 4; Abstention 1).

The means by which the proposal should be circulated to a wider audience was considered at length. Whilst some clubs have already published it in their magazines, alternatives, such as issuing with Championship Regulations - proposed by Anne Templeton (Shenstone) or not publishing at all - proposed by Robin Moore (Launceston & N. Cornwall) were not supported. Eventually it was agreed in principle to insert the document in both "Restart" and "Triple", emphasising that it is a proposal and seeking comments back to David Alderson..

ACTION :- Anne Templeton and Alan Foster to arrange.

95/22/5 OTHER RULE CHANGES.

ACTC was asked to follow the MCC lead by supporting the proposed rule changes in Part B of the 14th July, 1995 letter.

Brian Osborn (MGCC) queried the logic of withdrawing optional L.S.D's which affected, for example MGBGT V8 models being brought into line with the RV8. It was explained that vehicles so equipped could still compete (in higher classes), but clubs were free to allow variations in their S.R.'s if they were confident about scrutineering and enforcement.

Anne Templeton (Shenstone) queried the noise test methods as being unrealistic - a view supported by other delegates. This was accepted in principle, but the method used is consistent with other motor sports and is relatively convenient to apply.

It was proposed by John West (MCC) that "The ACTC supports moving all trials vehicles from section C to section D of Regulation E.13.17". Seconded by Brian Osborn (MGCC) and carried, (For 10, Against 0, Abstentions 4).

It was proposed by Andy Webb (Woolbridge) that "changes to M.6.1 & M.6.8.2, M.6.7.2, M.6.10.5 proposed by the MCC would be supported by ACTC". Seconded by Anne Templeton (Shenstone) and carried (For 11, Against 0, Abstentions 3).

The addition of "Traction Control" F.W.D. cars to Class 3 in MCC events would be monitored as an experiment for the time being.

95/23 R.O.W. MATTERS.

Roger Pole is still collecting lists of sections, but many clubs are still delinquent in providing data. Delegates were reminded of the need to seek a R.O.W. co-ordinator, as a matter of importance. Membership of LARA was raised again, but the subscription (£2,000 or so) is prohibitive. A number of names were put forward to assist with the general subject including J. Arrowsmith (Rover Club), by Brian Osborn (MGCC), and Jim Templeton who is willing to attend LARA Conferences. (Reference should also be made to the list in previous minute no. 92/20).

The Chairman volunteered to talk to Peter Coleman about the role of co-ordinator and to enquire of Ian Davies what he could do to help us by virtue of the RAC's LARA membership.

ACTION :- Clubs and Simon Woodall.

95/24 ANY OTHER NON CHAMPIONSHIP BUSINESS

95/24/1 The Chairman asked clubs whether they could give more attention to the prompt distribution of awards; one possibility suggested by Roger Pole (President) is to use the annual ceremony after the Exeter Trial.

ACTION :- Slow Clubs!

95/24/2 Robin Moore (Launceston & N. Cornwall) drew attention to the late issue of Permits by the RAC; other clubs reported similar problems. The Chairman will take this up officially if specific examples are submitted to him.

ACTION :- Clubs and Simon Woodall

95/25 TO RECEIVE THE CHAMPIONSHIP ACCOUNTS FOR THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR.

Richard Dawe had submitted a written report, together with the accounts which were circulated to those present (attachment 95/25/A).

Subject to the action noted under 95/20/4, Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Anne Templeton (Shenstone), seconded by Roger Pole (Holsworthy) and carried unanimously.

95/26 CHAMPIONSHIP REPORTS.

95/26/1 Championship Review.

Richard Dawe's letter reports 145 Drivers and 31 Navigators registered, a small decrease on 1994;

Current Championship Leaders are:-

Wheelspin:- Paul Bartleman, Mike Chatwin

Crackington:- Julian Dommett, Jason Collins

Navigators:- Antonia Ashby, John Collins

95/26/2 Championship Quality Controller.

Andy Webb presented an update of his report (attachment 95/26/2/A), covering the Chase Clouds, Exe Valley and Kyrle; some minor criticisms had been passed back to the organisers.

Summarising the last year Andy drew attention to the need to brief marshals properly and to improve the organisation of scrutineering and signing-on areas. He advised that note should be taken of observers comments, particularly by those responsible for the Tamar, Hardy and Camel Classic events.

Council was asked to clarify the "Trial of the Year" award selection process and to ensure that Championship Registration was dealt with more promptly this year.

95/27 ANY OTHER CHAMPIONSHIP BUSINESS.

95/27/1 Brian Osborn (MGCC) queried whether it would be a good idea to amend the Championship year to coincide with "the season".

95/27/2 Anne Templeton (Shenstone) suggested that the method of selecting running order for events could be standardised, and preferably arranged by ballot. A few competitors felt that they were being handicapped by some organisers. A debate ensued, culminating in a recommendation to clubs to specify the selection procedure in Regulations.

ACTION :- Clubs

95/27/3 Council was advised that Peter James has taken over the responsibility for organising the ACTC Annual Awards. Anne Templeton will remind him about the customary collection arrangement at the Allen Trial.

ACTION :- Anne Templeton

95/27/4 Jonathan Toulmin (MAC) asked for a status report on the re-issue of the ACTC Organisers Guidelines. Roger Pole has the matter well in hand and expects completion shortly.

ACTION :- Roger Pole

95/27/5 Hans Viertel (Camel Vale) apologised to Council and asked us to note that the dates for the Camel Vale Trial had been changed to 10th December, 1995 and 8th December, 1996.

ACTION :- Richard Dawe, please note.

95/27/6 Brian Osborn (MGCC) would like a copy of the agreed 1996 dates.

ACTION :- Gerald Burridge

95/27/7 Nigel Moss (Stroud) advised that The Crown Inn at Minchinhampton would be changing hands early next year. This could affect our meeting venue. Janet Mattin will make the normal booking, but confirm again in February 1996.

ACTION :- Janet Mattin

95/28 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING.

Sunday 28th April 1996, 2.00pm, at The Crown Inn, Minchinhampton. (Unless otherwise advised).

SIGNED.....DATE.....