

ASSOCIATION OF CLASSIC TRIALS CLUBS

MINUTES OF AN ACTC COUNCIL MEETING AT THE PORTCULLIS INN, TORMARTON on 16th May 1999

PRESENT:-

Roger Pole	President & Holsworthy M.C
David Alderson	Chairman
Simon Woodall	Vice Chairman & VWOC
Gerald Burridge	General Secretary
Giles Greenslade	Championship Secretary
Barbara Selkirk	Treasurer
Andrew Brown	R.O.W. Officer
Andy & Sue Webb	Championship Monitor & Woolbridge M.C.
John West	Vice President & MCC
Will Mahany	750 M.C.
Mark Tooth)	Bristol Motor Club
Pete Hart)	
Hans Viertel)	Camel Vale M.C
David Toms)	
Mike Pearson)	Falcon M.C.
Tom Goggins)	
Jim Wood	Holsworthy M.C.
Robin Moore	Launceston & N. Cornwall M.C.
Mike Furse	M.C.C.
Brian Osborn	MG Car Club
John Barthram)	North Devon M.C.
Steve Knight)	
Richard Andrews	Ross & District M. C.
T. Coventry)	Stroud & District M.C
Rich Welsh)	
Richard Dawe	Motor Cycle Representative

Before the start of official business the Chairman asked delegates to observe a minute's silence in memory of Geoff Margetts who had succumbed to serious heart problems on the previous day.

The meeting then followed the Agenda issued as a draft on 14th April 1999.

99/1 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from:- Greg Warren (Torbay), Derek Hutchings (Shenstone), Jonathan Toulmin (M.A.C.), Pat Toulmin (Restart), Colin Bird (MGCC), Alan Foster (V. Pres.), and Dennis Greenslade (Newquay).

99/2 - MINUTES OF AGM, 11th October 1998.

Were accepted as published and signed by the Chairman.

99/3 - MATTERS ARISING

97/26/2 - Simon Woodall explained that the T.R.F. had not yet been called upon to pay the legal expenses for which the fund had been set up. ACTC had forwarded a total of £3,940 provided by various clubs and individuals; any excess will be returned, in due course, when the donors will need to decide whether to claim back appropriate proportions, or to create an ACTC "Fighting Fund".

98/27 - Clubs had been unable to make any nominations, but the Chairman expressed some optimism that, following last year's excellent awards ceremony, Dennis Greenslade might be willing to help with the awards again (and again.....!).

Andrew Brown volunteered to develop further PR work, following on from the display material produced for the stand at the NEC last November. Examples were shown to delegates who welcomed Andrew's offer!

Some ideas were also tabled concerning ways to improve ACTC publications (Attachment 99/3/A)

98/28/2 - Note paper needs to be updated when the MSA finalise the logo for "Registered Groups". Barbara Selkirk will produce a suitable computer disk for users in due course, ensuring a consistent style.

ACTION: Barbara Selkirk.

99/4 ELECTION OF PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENTS.

99/4/1 - It was proposed by Robin Moore (L&N/C) that :-
"Roger Pole be elected President for the 1999/2000 year"
Seconded by John West (MCC) and carried unanimously.

99/4/2 - There were no new nominations for Vice President. However, the Chairman drew delegates' attention to the present rule (No 7) that this honour is for the life of the appointee. Should we reconsider this as some V.P's were rarely seen and circulation of paperwork to them is costly? It was agreed that the Secretary should, in the first instance, write to any that have not attended Council for 2 or 3 years to establish whether there is a continued interest in the sport.

ACTION : Gerald Burridge.

99/5 ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1999/2000.

It was proposed by Simon Woodall (VWOC) that:
"The existing officers should be re-elected en-bloc."
Seconded by Roger Pole (Holsworthy) and carried unanimously.

99/6 - FINANCIAL REPORT

99/6/1 - Barbara Selkirk presented an update of Budget, Forecast and Actual Income & Expenditure as at 30th April (Attachment 99/6/1/A).

Following previous discussions (see Minute 98/23/2) a letter had been received from the Stroud and District Motor Club, dated 19th April, 1999, expressing concern over expenditure incurred in producing Championship Cards. The Treasurer explained that controls now in place would prevent a recurrence of this problem; the Chairman further reminded delegates that the Association had, in the past, benefitted greatly from anonymous financial support in a number of areas, particularly in the production of the magazine. This had tended to disguise true costs. After clarification of a few items, discussion turned to again to the subject of a R.O.W. "Fighting Fund" and the need to formalise our records.

Brian Osborn (MGCC) proposed that:

"ACTC should clearly identify monies set aside for use in pursuing Rights of way issues by creating a 'Fighting Fund'."

Seconded by Robin Moore (L & N/C) and carried unanimously.

ACTION: Barbara Selkirk.

99/6/2 - Delegates were reminded of the outstanding need to agree the previous year's accounts.

It was proposed by Roger Pole (Holsworthy M.C.) that:

"The data circulated under 98/23/1/A should be accepted as the Accounts for 1997/98"

Seconded by A. Webb (Woolbridge MC) and carried unanimously.

99/6/3 - Further investigation is required before forming the Association into a Company Limited by Guarantee. (Clearly a subject for an Officer's meeting! - see below).

ACTION: Barbara Selkirk.

99/7- REPORT ON THE MSA TRIALS COMMITTEE.

David Alderson reported that meetings had been held on 19th January and 11th May; MSA were actively trying to lower the permitted age of passengers in order to encourage youngsters to participate in motor sport. It was noted that Torbay M.C. had proposed a requirement for their trial that all passengers should be over 14, but had rescinded this when it was pointed out that this was not in line with ACTC Policy (and M.3.2.7).

After discussion Richard Andrews (Ross) proposed that:

"ACTC should support the reduction in minimum age of passengers from 16 to 14 years in the appropriate MSA regulations."

Seconded by Andy Webb (Woolbridge) and carried. (For 11, Against 1, Abstention 1).

"Blue Book Experts" confirmed that there is no regulation specifically requiring a saloon car to carry a passenger other than one over 2 years of age.

Attention was drawn to MCC SSR's (see item M on Page 8 of the 1998 edition) and that ACU have a 16 years rule for motorcycles, but can issue dispensations.

Organisers should ensure that they obtain the required signatures of parents/guardians on entry forms and letters of consent per M.3.2.8.

David Alderson reported that the MSA would like to delete "unless otherwise stated in SR's" from M.6.1. This would not be acceptable to some clubs (e.g. MGCC who run their Kimber Classic with a special class structure), so it was agreed to leave as is.

Brian Osborn (MGCC) asked for clarification of the Club Sport categories defined in Regulations B.3.1.1 & B.4 and why Classic Trials should not be included.

ACTION: Technical Panel.

99/8- TECHNICAL MATTERS

99/8/1 - There had been no meeting of the Technical Panel since 11th October 1998.

99/8/2 - Andy Webb (Woolbridge) asked whether the capacity split for motor cycle classes could be reduced to 225, or 250cc. Richard Dawe (motor cycle representative) explained the history of the present structure, but agreed that 225cc would be better - a view strongly supported by John Barthram (N. Devon); see also Minutes 98/13/3 & 98/25/3. Richard agreed to contact interested parties and come back with a proposal.

ACTION - Richard Dawe.

Giles Greenslade (Championship Secretary) reported some difficulty and confusion in maintaining Championship tables if clubs run events in a different class structure. Results must be presented in the ACTC specified classes!

ACTION - Clubs.

99/8/3 - Andy Webb reported that the Scrutineering Control system was generally working well, although not all clubs were cooperating fully. His data base has listed a total of 72 vehicles since commencement, with 48 still shown as outstanding. Some problems are being encountered with differential tests (pages 16/17 of Organisers Guidelines); suspect vehicles are being recorded for future checks.

99/9- RIGHTS OF WAY REPORT

Andrew Brown's report dated 31st March 1999 had been circulated on 14th April (Attachment 99/9/A); he advised that some 530 sections were now listed on his data base, but several clubs have not yet actioned item 1.3.

ACTION - Clubs.

Attention was also drawn to notes about the LARA Heritage Motorsport Directory under section 2.3; the hills listed will be published without specific location details.

99/10 - DATES OF TRIALS IN 2000

Giles Greenslade tabled a provisional calendar for next year (Attachment 99/10/A) and thus provoked a number of changes and a great deal of discussion.

For the second year in succession Stroud insisted that the Cotswold Clouds should be moved to wk 6, so clashing with the Launceston Trial. Robin Moore kindly agreed to suggest to L&N.C. that they move to wk 7 for next year and attempt to reach a longer term agreement with Stroud.

A revised calendar is to be issued (hopefully enclosed - otherwise to be sent out shortly).

99/11 RESTART REPORT.

99/11/1 - In her absence Pat Toulmin had submitted a written report (Attachment 99/11/1/A). Council was pleased to note that significant savings are being made by changing to a new printer and taking advantage of new technology.

99/11/2 - Details of the proposed ACTC Web site were tabled (Attachment 99/11/2/A), together with samples of print-outs illustrating the format. It was noted that the cost of hosting the site would be £176.25 p/a, which will be covered by the Restart savings.

It was proposed by Roger Pole (Holsworthy) that:-

"Pat Toulmin be authorised to launch the ACTC Web site as proposed".
Seconded by Brian Osborn (MGCC) and carried. (For 10, Against 0, Abstention 3).

(NOTE: Site will now be found at:-

<http://www.ukmotorsport.com/actc>

This is what clever people call our URL, but since this stands for "Universal Resource Locator" - I'll settle for Address!)

99/12 - ANY OTHER NON-CHAMPIONSHIP BUSINESS

99/12/1 - David Alderson broached the subject of revising our meetings structure in order to make the Association more effective. He had sent a letter to Clubs in January following a suggestion from Ross & District Motor Sports Ltd that we should hold a third full Council meeting each year. Only 7 responses had been received, generally insisting that decisions must be made by club delegates at full Council meetings and containing a variety of alternative ideas.

A possible solution which may achieve the desired result would be to arrange meetings of the Technical Panel and Officers mid-way between full meetings; subsequently circulating any proposals to clubs for their consideration. Delegates would then be already empowered by their clubs to agree (or otherwise) any resulting policies at the next Council.

Both Robin Moore (L&N.C.) and Richard Andrews (Ross), whose clubs had found the earlier proposal unacceptable felt that this arrangement would be supported.

It was proposed by Robin Moore (L&N.C.) that:-

"Member clubs should consider a proposal that the ACTC Technical Panel and Officers should meet in approximately July and January, list and circulate any issues requiring debate and decision in good time to allow delegates to be empowered to put views succinctly to Council and vote on proposals without the need to make further reference to their clubs."

Seconded by John West (MCC) and carried. (For 10, Against 0, Abstention 3).

99/12/2 - Giles Greenslade raised a concern voiced by some motor cycle competitors that re-starts are not always clearly or consistently marked. Clubs must specify their requirements in documentation, must use clear "R" boards and ensure that marshals are properly briefed. (See Guidelines pages 19/20).

ACTION :- Clubs.

99/12/3 - Newquay Auto Club Ltd. had written to the Chairman, resigning from ACTC following the failure of the Kernow Conquest Trial. It was felt that they should be reminded that continuation of their membership would still entitle their individual members to participate in the ACTC Championships and receive regulations for all events - and is not conditional on running a Trial.

ACTION :- David Alderson.

99/12/4 - Barbara Selkirk drew attention to the fact that current subscriptions had not been received from:-

- Sporting Owners D. C, Torbay M. C, and Sheffield & Hallamshire M. C.

ACTION:- Appropriate delegates please remind Treasurers.

99/12/5 - John West (MCC) advised that another "Countryside Bill" is likely to be presented in the next session of Parliament - we should be vigilant. Andrew Brown promised to be so.

99/12/6 - Will Mahany (750 M.C. - who were welcomed after a long absence) told Council that the 750 Motor Club would be celebrating 60 years of existence with a major event at Silverstone on 14/15th August. ACTC were invited to take a stand to publicise our sport.

It was also under consideration that 750 M.C. could link with Shenstone to help re-establish the Chase Clouds event.

99/12/7 - Following last year's success it was hoped that ACTC would again be represented at the NEC Classic car Show on 6/7th November. Andrew Brown would be willing to coordinate, with support from Brian Osborn.

It was proposed by Roger Pole (Holsworthy) that:-

"ACTC should sponsor a stand at the NEC on 6/7th November to promote Classic Trialling"

Seconded by Mark Tooth (Bristol) and carried unanimously.

99/13- CHAMPIONSHIP REPORTS

99/13/1 - Giles Greenslade presented a status report (Attachment 99/13/1/A), showing a total of 217 registrations (including 32 Navigators and 6 Restart only), and reminded delegates that the league tables are now published regularly in Restart.

Consideration is being given to the creating of a motor cycle team championship for next year.

99/13/2 - Andy Webb presented a comprehensive summary (Attachment 99/13/2/A) covering the 12 events held since his last report. There were no significant criticisms of any event, although organisers still often fail to assist our Quality Controller.

Major criticism this year relates to inconsiderate blocking of exit routes and public roads by competitors.

ACTION:- Clubs please send entry lists to Andy Webb.

- Position marshals beyond "Section Ends" when appropriate.

99/14 - ANY OTHER CHAMPIONSHIP BUSINESS

99/14/1 - John Barthram (N. Devon) questioned whether clubs, and ACTC, need to be affiliated to the ACU. Holsworthy and L&N.C. clubs stated that they were registered with the AMCA rather than the ACU
Noting that we pay £100 p.a. to the ACU this needs to be investigated.

ACTION:- Richard Dawe

99/14/2 - Barbara Selkirk suggested that registers of potential marshals and passengers (or vacancies for) could be generated by adding appropriate spaces to the championship registration form - and creating new data bases.

ACTION:- Giles Greenslade to investigate

99/15 - NEXT MEETING

Provisionally arranged for 26th September 1999 at the Portcullis, Tormartin.

SIGNED.....

DATE.....