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Minutes of Committee Meeting held on April 28th 2010 at The Woolmarket – Horndon on the Hill Meeting Number 5

Present:

Mrs L.Beal - Chairman	Mr O.Fitzgerald	Mr R. Leishman
Mr A.Leslie – Secretary	Mr P.Frier	Mr P.Maran
Mrs N. Alden - Treasurer	Mr S.Hewitt	Mr J.Welch
	Mr P.Langford	

Apologies for Absence:

There were no apologies for absence

Minutes of Last Meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on March 24th 2010 were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising Not Covered by an Agenda Item:

Mr Maran made reference to the item relating to the number of outfits out in 2009 in the previous minutes and said that it should have read “compared to 2008” and not 2009 as was reported. This was duly noted by the Secretary.

The Secretary reported the history of the inception of the Fuel Fund and stated that it had not been subject to an AGM motion, although all the membership had been notified by letter. In a subsequent discussion it was agreed that the matter of transferring fuel fund monies into another account should be presented at this year’s AGM with a strong recommendation to the membership that such action should be adopted.

Action : Nerina Alden

The Secretary wished to formally register his thanks to Mr & Mrs Wakeling for their assistance in researching the background to this matter

The Chairlady read out an E-Mail from the Executive Secretary setting out the policy of website administration and also stating that the Freedom of Information Act did not apply to the Club. He concluded therefore that the member’s complaint about the removal of a picture of his daughter from the website was invalid and that the action taken by the committee in this matter had been correct and proper. The Chairlady said she would E-Mail the member concerned with this information and advise him that should he wish to pursue the matter further he should do so directly with the Caravan Club.

Action : Linda Beal

Flagpole Duties:

The Chairlady advised that due to lack of support the “Name that Tune Rally had been cancelled.

All rallies up to and including Celebrate St George (with the exception of R U In Seine which Mr Welch said he would deal with) were allocated Committee Members to take flagpole.

Chairman's Rally

The Chairlady advised that the marquee had been booked, and that confirmation had been received from Mr Squier.

Mr Maran advised that Mr Squier had asked that SECC be responsible for the supply of water.

In reply to a question from Mr Maran, the Social Secretary advised that he had arranged to borrow a bar from South London, and had approached Past Chairmen to run it.

Mr Langford was asked to investigate the possibility and costs of hiring a generator from the Club and also check with Ernest Doe.

Mr Welch said he would consult with Mr Schofield regarding costs for generator hire

Action : Paul Langford John Welch

Mr Leslie would approach Mr Wakeling with a view to him preparing a new distribution board and also overseeing the electrical installations required. Mr Maran said he would approach Mr Squier regarding the use of a 13 amp supply.

Action : Alan Leslie, Paul Maran

The Chairlady had invited the North Essex Chairman as her guest for the weekend and requested the Secretary to write to North Essex to formally confirm the invite.

Action : Alan Leslie

Mr Hewitt suggested that the Sports Committee be given exclusive use of the Centre trailer to transport all their equipment to and from the rally. All other equipment required for the rally would be transported in a vehicle supplied by his company. It was agreed that this item would be finalised at the May 18th three committees meeting. Mrs Alden said she would contact Mr Mack regarding availability of games for the fete. Mr Hewitt also offered to build a stage.

Action: Nerina Alden

Centre Equipment Write Off

The Treasurer reported that due to other pressures she had yet to begin this task and asked that it be deferred to a later date (probably June). This was agreed

Action : Nerina Alden

Dinner Dance 2011

The Chairlady said she had received requests for the date for this event. The Rally Secretary confirmed that the venue had been booked and the date would be March 12th 2011.

Mr Welch reported that he had spoken to the North Essex Chairman who said that his Centre no longer had a Dinner Dance but would be happy to include our event in their rally book upon receipt of relevant details. The Chairlady requested that the details also be passed to East and West Kent as soon as possible and that the invite also be extended to the other Centres within the Anglia Region.

Action : Paul Maran

As an aside, the Chairlady thanked John Welch and his lady for their efforts at this year's Annual Dinner. She commented that it had been a great night and that feedback from people attending had all been very positive.

Regional Committee Meeting Feedback

The Chairlady summarised the salient points of the March 6th meeting which were as follows :

- The Regional Treasurer presented the Regional accounts for approval. The SECC Chairlady said she would be writing to the Regional Secretary complaining about the way they had been presented – especially insofar that no copies of the accounts were available for Council Members to look at whilst the Treasurer made his presentation.
- The region had requested that Centres should provide a two year running diary of key events so as to avoid clashes between Centres. Mrs Alden commented that she disagreed – this was for Centres to arrange and as such was not Regional business.
- Invitations would be sent to Centre Committees for the Forum on May 8th. Mrs Beal said she would chase Mrs Wade to make sure that invites were sent out in a timely manner.

Action : Linda Beal

- Mid Anglia are hosting a rally close to Sandringham on September 23rd – 25th 2011. Coaches will take ralliers from the Digley Caravan Park Snettisham to Sandringham for a private tour of the the house. The Chairlady requested that this event be included in the 2011 Rally Book

Action : Paul Maran

- Following a fire in an SECC members van at the NEC campsite, and representation by a Mid Anglia member regarding caravan spacing it seems likely that the Club will shortly enforce a six metre spacing between vans rather than issue it “for guidance only”. It was agreed that this would have a significant effect on many of our rallies. It was also stated in the Regional meeting that if the rule was breached and a problem occurs then the rally marshal would be held responsible. The Treasurer suggested that a piece be prepared for the next newsletter. The Chairlady said she would include it in her newsletter address.

Action : Lind Beal

- Information was requested from each Centre regarding events being held in their area during 2011 and that they be submitted for inclusion in the “Whats On” brochure. This was discussed and the SECC Committee felt that the Region was further attempting to dictate what in reality should be Centre policy.

Correspondence

The Treasurer reported that the Centre had received its annual grant of £1400 from the Club. However the Club had deducted from it the pre 1992 unpaid corporation tax which amounted to £605. She went on, that this action had been taken against all Centres – not just South Essex. She also reported that the Club had paid the £100 owing for the Club’s advert in our Rally Book and had reimbursed the monies spent on mailing our rally book to other Centres..

Mr Frier advised that three advertisers had already written to him confirming their intention to readvertise in 2011.

Action : Nerina Alden

In reply to a question from the Chairlady Mr Leishman confirmed that all copies of the Easter All Members Newsletter had been sent out.

Mr Langford advised the meeting that he had written to Ifor Williams registering the trailer to SECC in order to ensure proof of ownership in the event that anyone towing it is ever challenged.

Mr Welch said he had received a telephone call from Mr Southgate (Suffolk Centre) advising that both he and Mr Gommersall would be attending the AGM dinner.

The Secretary had received a letter from Mr & Mrs Page (Caravan Club Executive Member) thanking South Essex for the "wonderful weekend" they had enjoyed as our guests at the Annual Dinner.

Any Other Business

The Treasurer reminded all that nominations for new committee members should be actively pursued amongst the membership especially as this is a change year and that as an example she will be standing down as Treasurer. Following a discussion it was agreed that the Secretary would prepare a piece for the next newsletter encouraging people to consider standing for committee.

Action : Alan Leslie

Mr Leishman reported that English Heritage had advised him that currently they still planned to run the Audley End concert, but had not yet released any details. A new rally site would need to be found if the event goes ahead. He also reported that he had written to Writtle Agricultural College as a possible venue for his Alpine View Rally. The Chairlady requested that he and Mr Maran liaise to finalise these matters

Action : Robert Leishman, Paul Maran

Mr Langford asked the Secretary to contact Mr Wakeling regarding the requirements for accreditation to become a PAT tester. Mr Leishman offered to loan the centre the necessary testing equipment.

Action : Alan Leslie

Any Other Business

Mr Langford said that £40 was needed to repair/update the marquees to bring them up to standard. This was agreed. He went on to say he had also found a bag of spare corner pieces for the marquees which currently do not fit but would need only a small amount of work to make them do so. He would investigate the cost of hiring the necessary equipment to complete the work.

Action : Paul Langford

The Centre Generator is now repaired and ready for use.

The Treasurer asked if it would be possible to keep a record of the usage of the newly acquired audio equipment so that members could be advised of whether we were getting value for money on the purchase. Mr Langford will prepare a piece for the next newsletter.

Action : Paul Langford

Date of the Next Meeting

May 18th 2010

The Meeting closed at 10.51 p m.

Proposed by:

Signed:

Seconded by:

April 28th 2010