

WEB COPY

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Aug 24th 2011 at The Woolmarket – Horndon on the Hill Meeting Number 9

Present:

Mrs N. Alden – Chairman
Mr A.Leslie - Secretary
Mr D.Mills -Treasurer

Mr P.Frier
Mr K.Higgins
Mr P.Maran

Mrs S.Maran
Mrs J.Price

Apologies for Absence:

Apologies were received and accepted from Messrs Fitzgerald, Langford, and Slatford who were on holiday

Minutes of Last Meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on July 27th 2011 were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising Not Covered by an Agenda Item:

Fiftieth Birthday Rally:

Because Mr Langford is on holiday, the Chairman requested that this item be held over until the next meeting

Action : Paul Langford

East Coast Leisure:

Mr Mills said that he had written to ECL approximately three weeks ago. Mr Maran said that he had spoken to ECL today and they had reported that they had received nothing from South Essex. They had requested that we send by E-Mail on headed paper, another copy of the invoice together with our BACS details. The Chairman requested that the paperwork not be sent by E-mail but instead be hand delivered so that we know that it has been delivered and received. The Chairman thanked Mr Maran for his continuing efforts with this matter.

Action : David Mills

Name for Newsletter:

Mr Frier advised that he had received samples of Caravan Cleaner from a company who were looking to advertise in our book which he felt might be used as a prize for the winning name.

Action : Item Closed

Roles & Responsibilities

The Chairman reported that she had yet to make any further progress on this item due to lack of time, - exacerbated by increased workload caused by her making preparations for the upcoming AGM.

Action : Nerina Alden.

Matters Arising Not Covered by an Agenda Item: (Cont'd)

Flagpole Duties

All rallies up to September 18th except Steeple Bay were allocated a committee member to take flagpole . The Chairman advised that she would, if necessary make arrangements to take flagpole herself at the "Copper Kettle" field and also talk to marshals at the rally not covered regarding plaque requirements etc.

Action : Nerina Alden

The 50th Birthday Rally

The Chairman said that she felt that sooner rather than later the committee should be thinking about what we needed to put on for the rally and also to come up with a price. She advised the meeting that she had approached Mrs Finn with a view to developing a stage show. Mrs Finn will put something on line.

In an ensuing discussion Mrs Price felt that some sort of flyer similar to that used for the 5C's should be prepared and also put on line.

The Chairman said that she had been very pleased with the offers of help that had already come from the membership and that it should be encouraged further. She requested all committee members to consider possible ideas ready for discussion at the next meeting.

Mr Mills suggested that the membership should be canvassed for their ideas via the flyer.

After further discussion about possible ideas for the rally it was agreed (following a suggestion from Mr Maran) that the theme for the rally should be "Carnival".

The Chairman requested the Treasurer to develop a price for discussion at the next meeting bearing in mind the need for entertainment on Friday, Saturday, & Sunday evening.

Admin Fees & Rally Plaques.

The Treasurer stated that the current Admin Fee of £1.50 had been in place since 2005 and that against a background of rising costs the committee really should give consideration to an increase

Mr Maran said that costs were increasing in all aspects of life and that we should have an increase in 2012. The Chairman stated that clearly this would require a motion to be tabled at the AGM and hence needed to be resolved at this meeting in order to meet the 35 day rule for the submission of motions.

An extended and far reaching discussion took place. The Chairman called for a vote in support of an increase from £1.50 to £2.00. This was carried unanimously. The motion will be prepared by the Secretary, proposed by Mr Mills and seconded by Mr Maran.

Action : Alan Leslie, David Mills & Paul Maran

Rally Plaques

Mr Mills advised the meeting that FM Tags had again increased their prices for plaques and proposed that the cost of a standard plaque be increased from the current £0.60 to £0.65p. This was agreed. Rally Marshal's paperwork will need to be revised to reflect the change. The Chairman requested the Treasurer to contact FM Tags to ascertain if the latest increase would have any effect on the minimum charge.

Action : David Mills

Funding For Burnham Carnival

The Treasurer advised that he had been approached by Mrs Thursby regarding funding for materials to build the Carnival float at Burnham Carnival. In the past a sum of £100 has normally been approved but Mr Mills reported that following last year's carnival the materials used (which had been recycled for a number of years) were finally consigned to the bonfire at the Bonfire rally. On this basis he felt that a sum of £100 may not be sufficient for this year's rally and that in the event that this was the case he was minded to set a limit of £150, but only if it became necessary.

After a brief discussion this was agreed on the basis that South Essex had always had considerable success at this event and that it was good publicity for the Centre. The Treasurer would advise Mrs Thursby to proceed initially on a budget of £100.

Action : David Mills

Correspondence

The Chairman read an E-Mail from an organisation called "Tweetathief" promoting widespread broadcasting of caravan theft by contacting them via a web link. She said that although no mention was made of a charge for this service she was of the opinion that this E-mail was a money making venture. After a short discussion it was agreed that the matter should not be pursued further other than to contact the originator and to ask them if they wished to advertise in our rally book. The E-Mail was passed to Mr Frier.

Action : Peter Frier

Mr Maran reported that he had received details of a potential rally site. This letter was passed to the Chairman for onward forwarding to Mr Langford

Action : Peter Frier

Mr Higgins said he had been asked to approach the committee to obtain permission to buy a ladies fishing trophy. Since trophies already exist for both men and the juniors, the Chairman said she had no problem with this – a view that was endorsed by the rest of the committee. Mr Higgins said he would obtain information regarding the cost.

A letter had been received by the Secretary from the Caravan Club advising details of advertising in 2012 rally books. This was passed to Mr Frier.

Action : Peter Frier

Any Other Urgent Business

The Treasurer reported that in a discussion with the Chairman concern had been raised about whether the current cost of £3.50 for a rally book would be sufficient in 2012 given the present poor response from advertisers, the expected increase in printing costs, and the high cost of postage. Mr Mills advised that he would review the position and report back at the next meeting.

Action : David Mills

Mr Maran asked the Treasurer whether or not the monies generated from the sale of this year's AGM Supper tickets would allow for expenditure of £300 for live entertainment on the Saturday evening. In a subsequent discussion concern was raised regarding the present low number of people booked in and the limit imposed by the number of outfits that could be accommodated at Westcliff School. In an attempt to improve numbers at the Social it was decided to offer the membership the opportunity to just attend the entertainment on Saturday without having the meal. This will be advertised on the web and at flagpoles. On this basis and given that we are still more than five weeks from the AGM, it was agreed to proceed with the live entertainment.

Action : Paul Maran

In an ancillary discussion it was agreed that the meal would be two courses (Main & Dessert), and that a decision on the amount to be spent on raffle prizes would be held over until nearer the time when more definitive numbers would be available.

Mrs Maran had been asked by a marshal of the procedure to be adopted on the Bonus ball when the winning number had not been sold i.e – should all money be given to the Centre, or should it be given to the person with the nearest number to the winning number. The ensuing discussion revealed a divided opinion within the committee which concluded that it should be left to the Marshal's discretion.

Returning to the AGM rally the Chairman asked if we had a team in place to deal with refreshments on Sunday Morning. Mrs Maran said that she believed that a team comprising of Mr & Mrs Goldspink and Mrs Harper and Mr Durant would be happy to be of service. The Chairman asked Mrs Maran to confirm this.

Action : Sue Maran

The Chairman read out a letter she had sent to the North Essex Chairman following some extremely derogatory remarks about the 5C's Rally made by a North Essex Past Chairman on the Facebook social networking site.

Mrs Alden said she had previously telephoned the North Essex Chairman and expressed her extreme disappointment that the comments made on Facebook had mentioned the South Essex Centre by name.

There was a short discussion regarding the arrangements for the Programme Presentation rally during which the Chairman requested that tea and coffee be available during the afternoon marshal's forum. For the benefit of the new Treasurer she also outlined the way in which costs for this rally are apportioned between the ralliers and the Centre. Mr Frier advised that to date 21 outfits had booked in.

Following recent events on a rally at which one of the ralliers had celebrated a birthday by inviting selected ralliers to a party behind very high windbreaks, the Chairman raised the issue of "Private Parties" on rally fields and said that she would include reference to this matter in her next piece for the Newsletter.

.This was endorsed by the rest of the Committee.

Action : Nerina Alden

Date of the Next Meeting

September 20th 2011

The Meeting closed at 10.20 p m.

Proposed by:

Signed:

Seconded by: