

## WEB COPY

### Minutes of Committee Meeting held on September 20th 2011 at The Woolmarket – Horndon on the Hill Meeting Number 10

#### Present:

Mrs N. Alden – Chairman	Mr P.Frier	Mrs S.Maran
Mr A.Leslie - Secretary	Mr K.Higgins	Mrs J.Price
Mr D.Mills -Treasurer	Mr P. Langford	Mr A.Slatford
Mr O. Fitzgerald	Mr P.Maran	

#### Apologies for Absence:

There were no apologies for absence.

#### Minutes of Last Meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on August 24th 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:

Mr Langford said he had had no contact with Mr Squier but had received a confirmatory E-Mail, and that no further action was required at this time.

**Action : Item Closed**

##### East Coast Leisure:

Mr Mills advised that he had drafted the letter to ECL but had been unable to locate the original invoice and asked that Mr Frier supply a copy.

**Action : David Mills**

#### Roles & Responsibilities

The Chairman reported that she had yet to make any further progress on this item due to lack of time, - but requested that this be an agenda item for the next meeting. She added that she had some further thoughts on the matter which she wished to discuss with the new committee

**Action : Nerina Alden.**

#### Admin Fees & Rally Plaques.

The Secretary confirmed that he had prepared the motion which had been agreed by Messrs Mills and Maran and published on the website. As an aside he added that in "ad hoc" discussions he had had with ralliers since the publication, by far the greater majority agreed that an increase was inevitable, given current economic conditions.

**Action : Item Closed**

#### Rally Plaques

Mr Mills reported that he had been in contact with FM Tags who confirmed that the minimum charge remained at £10.50, but they had commented that plaque costs will likely increase in the future.

## **Funding For Burnham Carnival**

The Treasurer advised that this matter had been completed and could be closed

**Action : Item Closed**

Mr Frier advised that to date he had received no further correspondence in answer to his E-Mail to "tweetathief"

**Action : Item Closed**

Mr Langford reported that he had received the details of a potential rally site for follow up.

**Action : Item Closed**

Mr Higgins reported that the cost of a ladies fishing trophy had been quoted at £23.95 plus engraving cost. This was agreed

**Action : Item Closed**

The Chairman advised the meeting that because of operational difficulties and contrary to a decision taken earlier this year, the typesetting of the 2012 rally book would once again be undertaken by herself and the Secretary. Because of this she requested that the letter regarding advertising by the Caravan Club in this year's book be passed to Alan Leslie.

**Action : Peter Frier**

The Treasurer reported that the expenditure for the 2011 Rally Book had been £2700 and the projected income based on advertising and book sales amounted to £2830. However, within this £2830, he was still chasing £216 in unpaid advertising from two clients – one who had not paid at all and another (LED Lighting), where the cheque had "bounced".

**Action : David Mills**

Mr Maran reported that in order to reduce costs he had decided to change the live entertainment for the AGM Dinner from a trio to a duo.

**Action : Paul Maran**

The Chairman advised that Messrs Goldspink, Harper et al. had now decided not to deal with refreshments at the AGM. As a result of this she had asked, and had agreement from, Mrs Fitzgerald to take on the task. She asked the Vice Chairman to pass on her thanks to his wife for her support in this matter.

**Action : Ollie Fitzgerald**

The Chairman read out a letter of reply from Mr Flexman (Chairman N.Essex) regarding comments made on Facebook by a North Essex Past Chairman about the 5C's Rally. In the letter Mr Flexman "regretted" the comments made and had received an apology from the person concerned if they had caused any offence.

**Action : Item Closed.**

The Chairman confirmed that she would prepare a piece for the newsletter on the subject of "private parties". A discussion followed regarding the difference between a "private party" and the "By invitation Only" Social at the Rally Marshals Rally. Mr Maran expressed the view that there was a difference insofar as the details of the mainly Marshals Rally and its social are clearly set out in the Rally Book giving all members advance choice as whether or not to attend the rally. This view was shared by the Secretary who stated that should the occasion arise he would be happy to explain it to any interested parties.

**Action : Nerina Alden, Alan Leslie**

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

Mr Slatford asked a question about premature arrivals at Burleigh Hill, because the rally book had said no arrivals before 1.00 pm, and that was the time the first vans arrived. In reply the Chairman explained that arrangements had allegedly been made between Mid Anglia and the South Essex Rally Marshals for arrivals to be later than 1.00 p.m, but clearly this information had not been passed on. She reiterated her feeling that in the future where rallies follow each other at the same venue, then they should start a day later.

### **Flagpole Duties**

All rallies up to "A Guide to the Forest" with the exception of "Nice and Easy" were allocated a committee member to take flagpole.

### **50th Birthday Rally**

The Chairman requested that this item be postponed until another meeting. She stated that there were still ralliers taking away fliers and coming up with ideas. She suggested that it be discussed at the November meeting and that partners be invited to put some ideas together ready for the Christmas newsletter. She also requested that Mr Mills develop a price for the rally so that booking forms could be produced. Once ideas were developed she proposed that early in 2012 we would then hold a meeting with all three committees.

In response to a question from Mr Langford, it was agreed that he should send invites to as many Centres as possible to ensure maximum publicity for the rally. The Chairman requested that this be done as soon as possible.

### **Committee Nominations**

The Chairman read out the list of Committee Nominations for 2012 as follows

Chairman :	Nerina Alden
Vice Chairmen :	Ollie Fitzgerald, Peter Frier, Paul Langford, & Paul Maran
Treasurer :	David Mills
Secretary:	Alan Leslie
Committee :	Barrie Bond, Terry Cant, Peter Frier, Kevin Higgins, Paul Langford, Paul Maran, Susan Maran, Janice Price
Sports Committee	Mark Carson, Gina Carson, Kevin Higgins, Pauline Higgins, David Mills, Marion Mills, Clint Price, Janice Price
Junior Committee	Bradley Clarke, Lauren Higgins, Rachel Higgins, Emma Kain, Tom King, Zoe King, Georgina Moldon, Rebekah Moldon

The Chairman stated that as a result of the above there would only be a vote for Vice Chairmen (2 Candidates) and that the Main Committee overall would be one member down on 2011.

### **Correspondence**

The Secretary read out a letter he had received from the Clubs Executive Secretary setting out guidance for reimbursement of travelling expenses which in essence stated that the mileage allowance should be between 17p - 20p per mile (i.e making no allowances for wear and tear). It continued that Centres/Regions with allowances currently above this level should consider a reduction in the allowance, or at least should "mark time" with respect to any further increase.

The Secretary said that he contacted the Regional Secretary who also had a copy and was advised that this matter would be discussed at the Regional meeting in October.

In an ensuing discussion the meeting felt that such a scenario would cause a considerable backlash, and that if enforced verbatim by Treasurers, would ultimately result in Regional Council/Centre Committee members being unwilling to attend the relevant meetings.

## **Correspondence (Cont'd)**

Mr Langford had an E-Mail from Mr & Mrs Volke expressing their regret at the cancellation of the Children's Christmas Party. They added that they understood from another member this was for financial reasons. In addition they stated that there was a matinee pantomime performance by their company "Starlight Productions" that coincided with the Mainly Marshals rally and that perhaps this may be considered as a possible excursion for the youngsters. (Costs £10 per head or £30 per family ticket).

In an ensuing discussion the Chairman pointed out that the cancellation had been because of the lack of children in the Centre – not solely for financial reasons. The Chairman said that she would respond to Mr & Mrs Volke.

### **Action : Nerina Alden**

Mr Langford reported that he had been in contact with the proposed printer for the rally book, who had advised that although still retaining an office in Dagenham, their main printing works was at Watford. Mr Langford also added that procedures were in place to enable document editing via the exchange of PDF documents on E-Mail. Turnaround time from final proof sign off was estimated at 7-10 days. In answer to a question from Mr Slatford the Secretary explained that a small reduction in the number printed has little effect on the overall price. This was confirmed by Mr Langford who said that a quote for 700 books was actually more expensive than for 800.

The Social Secretary read a letter from Abbs Court Farm detailing improvements they wished to make at their facility and requesting support for such actions in the form of a letter on Centre headed notepaper to the local planning office. The Chairman commented that she felt it would be unwise to become involved in such matters and that no further action should be taken.

The Chairman read out a letter from a member concerning the saving of spaces at normal weekend rallies. The letter had been prompted by discussion at the recent forum at the Programme Presentation Rally and sought reassurance from the committee that they would enforce rule 20 in the Rally Book until such time as it would be repealed by a motion at an AGM. She concluded that failure to do so could, in a longer term, result in the relaxation of other rules, covering for example dogs on leads, or speeding on the rally field to the ultimate detriment of ralliers.

In an extended debate, it was finally agreed that the membership should be reminded of Rule 20 at the AGM and advised that should any revision be required it can only be achieved by the proposal of a motion at the 2012 AGM. Additionally the Chairman will prepare a piece for the newsletter. Mr Maran suggested that a reminder be included with the Rally Marshals paperwork. This was agreed. The Chairman will write to the member accordingly.

## **Any Other Business**

### **Adverts**

Mr Frier reported that he had acquired two additional coloured adverts but was concerned about White Arches who currently have two pages but had yet to confirm for this year. He reported that Power Touch and Homestead have also confirmed but that he was still awaiting a reply from Stowmarket.

### **AGM**

The Chairman said that she had agreed with the marshals that the site fee would be £7.00 per outfit per weekend. The hall costs should be divided approximately half and half between the AGM itself and the function on Saturday evening.

## **AGM (Cont'd)**

The Chairman said she expected the issue of the Pony Fund and why we are currently not supporting this charity to be raised at the AGM. She explained that the juniors had expressed a preference for an alternative charity (The Dream Factory) and that their wishes should be respected – otherwise there was no point in having a junior committee at all. Similarly the book sales would be going into the equipment fund on the basis that “charity must begin at home” especially in the light of a substantial deficit this year. The Secretary commented that the membership should recognize that times are changing and that we must change with them.

## **2012 Rally Programme**

Mr Langford reported that he had only five venues left to find to fill the rally book and was confident that he would soon be in a position to supply the Chairman with a full list.

## **The Children’s Party**

The Chairman distributed a piece she had prepared for both the newsletter and the website. This was discussed by the committee and agreed. Mr Fitzgerald reported that the juniors wanted to have a Caribbean Theme.

## **Finale**

The Chairman thanked the outgoing committee for the support they had given her during her first year in office. She expressed her regret that Mr Slatford had decided to step down. However, she said she fully understood his reasons for doing so and closed by saying that she looked forward to working with everyone else in 2012 (including our tea lady Mrs June Eastman) and wished those affected by the vote “Good Luck” for the AGM.

## **Date of the Next Meeting**

**October 11th 2011**

**The Meeting closed at 10.30 p m.**

**Proposed by:**

**Signed:**

**Seconded by:**